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LETTER DATED 20 JULY 1982 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF ETHIOPIA
TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

I have the honour to forward herewith the text of a statement issued on
10 July 1982 by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Socialist Ethiopia concerning
Israel's invasion and continued occupation of Lebanon.

I should be grateful if you could have the statement circulated as a document
of the Security Council.

(Signed) Mohamed Hamid IBRAHIM
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

Annex

Text of a statement issued on 10 July 1982 by the Ministry of Foreign
Affairs of Socialist Ethiopia concerning Israel's invasion and
continued occupation of Lebanon

A spokesman for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Socialist Ethiopia today strongly condemned the brazen aggression and genocide which has been launched against Lebanon and the people of Palestine to which the Republic of Lebanon has given refuge and shelter. While the occupation of a sovereign country by force is inadmissible under international law, Israel has, nonetheless, mounted an unprecedented and unprovoked aggression which has inflicted an enormous loss of life and destruction of property.

The spokesman noted that the people and Government of Socialist Ethiopia, which have always supported, and will continue to support, the legitimate struggle of the Palestinian people, had hoped and expected that the United Nations would promptly take effective measures to halt urgently this arrogant Zionist aggression which has rendered hundreds of thousands of peaceful civilians homeless. Although the United Nations has strongly condemned this brazen aggression, the persistence by Israel in its acts of devastation of numerous Lebanese towns, including the city of Beirut, and its barbarous drive to exterminate the peoples of Lebanon and Palestine is cause for anguish, distress and serious concern for the people and Government of Revolutionary Ethiopia.

The spokesman further noted that the action of an arrogant aggressor launching an unprovoked invasion against an independent country with utter impunity and with the least concern of being checked is fraught with incalculable consequences for international peace and security as well as the rule of law.

Accordingly, Revolutionary Ethiopia strongly condemns this unwarranted and blatant Zionist aggression and demands the prompt and unconditional withdrawal of the invading Israeli forces from Lebanon and the full respect for the sovereignty, independence, territorial integrity and non-aligned status of the Lebanese Republic. Socialist Ethiopia also reaffirms its full support of the legitimate struggle of the people of Palestine, the spokesman concluded.
