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QUESTION OF PALESTINE
THE SITUATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST

SECURITY COUNCIL
Thirty-seventh year

Letter dated 11 August 1982 from the Chargé d'Affaires a.i. of the
Permanent Mission of the German Democratic Republic to the United
Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit to you the text of a message sent by Erich Honecker, General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany and Chairman of the Council of State of the German Democratic Republic, to Yasser Arafat, Chairman of the Executive Committee of the Palestine Liberation Organization and Commander-in-Chief of the Forces of the Palestine Revolution.

I would be grateful if you would arrange for this message to be circulated as an official document of the General Assembly, under items 31 and 34 of the provisional agenda, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Siegfried ZACHMANN
Ambassador Extraordinary
and Plenipotentiary

Deputy Permanent Representative
to the United Nations

Chargé d'Affaires a.i. of the
Permanent Mission of the
German Democratic Republic
to the United Nations

* A/37/150.

ANNEX

Message dated 6 August 1982 from the General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany and Chairman of the Council of State of the German Democratic Republic to the Chairman of the Executive Committee of the Palestine Liberation Organization and Commander in Chief of the Forces of the Palestine Revolution

In view of the continuing escalation of Israel's bloody aggression against Lebanon, the Palestinian people and its only legitimate representative, the Palestine Liberation Organization, an aggression that is trampling upon what are the most elementary rules of international law, I assure you, dear Comrade Arafat, the courageous and staunch fighters of the Palestine Liberation Organization and the entire Palestinian people of the consistent support of the Central Committee of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany, the Council of State and the people of the German Democratic Republic. The people of the German Democratic Republic are following with admiration the heroic struggle of the Palestine Liberation Organization and the Lebanese patriots for their profoundly just cause. The defence measures taken by the Lebanese and Palestinian side against Israel's aggression command the German Democratic Republic's full solidarity.

Reaffirming the position it has taken since that criminal aggression began, the German Democratic Republic condemns in the strongest terms the murderous extermination war against the Palestinian and Lebanese peoples which Israel and the most aggressive circles of US imperialism had planned for a long time.

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As it has done so far, the German Democratic Republic will provide every political support within its capabilities, be it at the United Nations, in international organizations or through bilateral activities vis-à-vis other States, as well as increased material solidarity assistance for the Palestinian and Lebanese peoples. It is calling for the implementation of the UN Security Council resolutions urging the immediate and unconditional withdrawal of the Israeli aggressor from Lebanon.

The German Democratic Republic once again reiterates its unswerving and principled stand for a comprehensive, just and lasting settlement of the Middle East problem, convinced more than ever that nothing but implementation of the inalienable national rights of the Palestinian people, including its right to a State of its own, can guarantee peace and security for all peoples of the region. It is time that the paths suggested especially by the USSR for such a solution were followed.

I am sure that those who have been causing that immense suffering to your people and the Lebanese will not be able to escape their responsibility before history.

Erich Honecker

General Secretary of the Central Committee
of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany
and Chairman of the Council of State of
the German Democratic Republic
