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LETTER DATED 22 FEBRUARY 1983 FROM THE CHARGE D'AFFAIRES A. I.
OF THE PERMANENT MISSION OF BENIN TO THE UNITED NATIONS
ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

I have the honour to transmit herewith the text of the message addressed by His Excellency Mr. Mathieu Kerekou, President of the People's Republic of Benin and Chairman of the Central Committee of the Benin People's Revolutionary Party to His Excellency Colonel M. Qaddafi, President of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, on the subject of the deterioration in the situation off the Libyan coast.

"Mr. President and dear brother,

"The news which has just reached us concerning the military manoeuvres now in progress in the Mediterranean and in the regions adjoining the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya is a matter of great concern to us.

"There can now be no doubt that these military manoeuvres constitute a threat to the security, peace and stability of the peoples and States of the region.

"In that connection we should like, on behalf of the Beninese people, of their leading party, the Benin People's Revolutionary Party, of their National Executive Council, and on our own behalf to assure you of our total support and our active solidarity in your determination to defend the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya and the achievements of its revolution.

"We reiterate our unfailing dedication to the ideals of peace, equality and social justice so dear to our two peoples.

"Now and in the future, as in the past, the Beninese people will militantly support any action designed to safeguard peace, cohesion and good understanding in all corners of Africa so that the peoples of these regions may devote themselves wholeheartedly to the national tasks of construction and development.

"Highest and fraternal consideration.

Mathieu Kerekou"

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I should be grateful if you would have the text of this communication issued as a Security Council document.

(Signed) Saturnin K. SGOLO
Charge d'Affaires a.i.
