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LETTER DATED 29 SEPTEMBER 1975 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE
OF SPAIN TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

The letter addressed to you by the representative of Mexico has come to my attention. This communication, worded in terms which are intolerably insulting to the Government of a State Member of the United Nations, constitutes a flagrant and deliberate violation of Article 2, paragraph 7, of the Charter of the United Nations, since it is an attempt to intervene in matters which are essentially within the domestic jurisdiction of a State.

This is not the first time that the Mexican Government has decided to interfere in Spain's domestic affairs. It is well known that one of the most flagrant examples of such interference is the recognition of a so-called Government-in-exile which has no legal basis and no popular support or representation whatsoever, especially in view of the fact that its members left the territory of Spain 36 years ago.

In addition, President Luis Echeverría lacks the necessary moral stature to level accusations at any Government of a State Member of the United Nations. Mr. Echeverría was Minister of the Interior in the Mexican Government which took the decision to set the army on some students who were trying to demonstrate in the Plaza Central of Tlatelolco on 21 and 22 September and 2 October 1968. It is well known that this action resulted in a very large number of casualties and evoked world-wide indignation.

A brief description is provided by the following quotation from page 23115 of Keesing's Contemporary Archives, which is based on reports and commentaries in The New York Times, Le Monde, The Times and The Daily Telegraph:

"The entire plaza became a battlefield and at certain places the fighting moved into the blocks of flats. A night of bloodshed - known in Mexico as The Noche Triste ('Night of Sorrow') - resulted in a toll officially announced as 28 dead and 200 wounded. Foreign correspondents, however, stated that the casualty figures were in fact much higher, the 'New York Times' correspondent saying that it was 'virtually certain' that at least 49 persons had been killed and 500 wounded. Many of those killed and wounded were civilians, among them women and children, who had been trapped in the fighting, a number of students were also reported killed, and over 1,000 arrested."

When in 1972 the Mexican Government of President Echeverría was accused of premeditated crime in the events which took place at Lecumberri prison, the President of Mexico himself, referring to those accusations and to what Mr. J. Edgar Hoover had said before a Committee of the United States Senate, stated:

"Any observation from abroad is, in my view, necessarily an oversimplification. Many elements of information, thorough, detailed and direct observation, personal knowledge and weighing of the factors involved, and an appraisal of many details are required in order to reach accurate and realistic conclusions. In other words, any analysis by a foreigner - and particularly one made from abroad - is necessarily simple in the face of complex phenomena."

President Echeverría seems now to have forgotten that statement.

Perhaps President Echeverría should also remember another branch of his alleged activities. In this connexion, Mr. Philip Agee, in his work Inside the Company - CIA Diary, says about Mr. Echeverría:

"Echeverría, Luis, Mexican Minister of Government (Internal Security) and later President. Close liaison collaborator of the Mexico City station. Cryptonym: Litempo-14."

I do not believe that any Member of the United Nations General Assembly can accept the false assertions of the President of Mexico. My Government demands that the President of Mexico be reminded of Article 2, paragraph 7, of the United Nations Charter.

I request you to arrange for this letter to be circulated as an official Security Council document.

(Signed) Jaime de PINIES
