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SECURITY COUNCIL Thirty-eighth year

Letter dated 16 March 1983 from the Chargé d'Affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Upon the instruction from my Government, I have the honour to enclose the text of a communiqué issued by the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran on the occasion of the recent attempt by Zionist mercenaries to destroy Al-Aqsa Mosque.

It will be highly appreciated if the note would be distributed as a document of the General Assembly, under item 33 of the preliminary list, and of the Security Council.

> (Signed) Seyed Ahmad SERAJZADEH Chargé d'Affaires a.i.

* A/38/50.

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A/38/118 S/15646 English Page 2

ANNEX

"The Islamic Republic of Iran condemns Zionist attempt at destroying Al-Aqsa Mosque"

In the Name of Allah, the Compassionate, the Merciful

And who does greater evil than he who bars God's places of worship, so that His name not be rehearsed in them, and strives to destroy them? Such men might never enter them, save in fear; for them is degradation in the present world, and in the world to come, a mighty chastisement.

Once again, the usurper zionist regime in continuation of its expansionist policy, geared towards spreading its domination, confiscation and ultimate destruction of Islamic sacred places, has undertaken initial steps for the destruction of the Al-Aqsa Mosque. The zionist regimeusing its mercenaries, under the guise of so-called anti-Camp David activists, equipped with Israeli military weapons and ammunition, attempted to demolish the mosque- is testing the reaction of the Arab regimes. Such an attempt, giving the zionist regime the opportunity to evaluate any possible reaction, is the preface to the final destruction of the holy shrines, particularly the Al-Aqsa Mosque, by the zionist non-entity.

The Zionist regime must be aware that although the reactionary governments of the region choose as a matter of course, to either remain silent or solely suffice to passive rhetoric in the face of zionist atrocities, the oppressed Palestinian people and the Islamic Ummah (community) shall under no circumstances, allow the zionist regime to continue its inhuman and anti-Islamic crimes.

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A/38/118 S/15646 English Page 3

While condemning the expansionist nature and subsequent atrocities of the Zionist regime, the Islamic Republic of Iran reiterates that the Islamic sacred places in the occupied Palestine, belong to the Islamic Ummah and calls upon all Muslim countries and international organizations to take effective and resolute measures concerning the on-going Zionist crimes.