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TELEGRAM DATED 7 JUNE 1983 FROM THE PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF BELIZE ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

I have the honour to draw Your Excellency's attention to the following communication which I have today addressed to His Excellency Sr. Edwardo Castillo Arriola, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Guatemala City.

"Your Excellency,

"On the morning of Sunday, 5 June, in the village of Arenal, which is situated on the Belize/Guatemala border some six miles south of Benque Viejo del Carmen, a Guatemalan civilian, Pedro Barrera, was murdered by gunmen in civilian clothes who had crossed into Belize with the apparent intention of abducting him. This incident was observed from the Guatemalan side of the border by a number of uniformed members of the Guatemalan armed forces, with whom the gunmen had arrived, and whom they subsequently rejoined. The same men made subsequent unsuccessful attempts to remove the body of the deceased to Guatemala.

"The Government of Belize wish hereby to manifest their abhorrence of this callous and barbarous act, which constitutes a flagrant violation of Belizean territory and Belizean sovereignty and, while registering the strongest possible protest, request the Guatemalan Government to take all the necessary steps which the situation demands."

I have the honour to request Your Excellency to arrange circulation of this communication as a document of the Security Council.

Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs, Belize

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