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LETTER DATED 13 SEPTEMBER 1983 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE
OF CANADA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE
SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to transmit herewith the text of a resolution unanimously adopted by the Canadian House of Commons on 12 September 1983 during an emergency debate concerning the destruction by Soviet military aircraft on 31 August of a Korean 747 passenger airliner. I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its attachment circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Gérard PELLETIER
Ambassador and
Permanent Representative

Annex

Resolution approved unanimously on 12 September 1983 by the
Canadian House of Commons concerning the destruction of a
Korean 747 passenger airliner

[Original: English and French]

It was resolved,

That the attack on the Korean Airlines passenger plane on 31 August 1983 by Soviet military aircraft resulted directly in the loss of two hundred and sixty-nine lives, including ten Canadians;

That this utterly unjustifiable resort to the use of weapons of war in the interception of defenceless civil aircraft contravenes universally held standards of civilized international behaviour and international law governing civil aviation;

That the Soviet Government has provided neither a credible explanation of the circumstances nor any full acknowledgement of responsibility, appears unrepentant and unwilling to co-operate in international efforts to prevent a repetition of this tragedy;

THEREFORE THIS HOUSE:

Expresses its profound sympathy to the bereaved families of the victims;

Condemns the unwarranted attack on and destruction of the Korean airliner on the orders of Soviet authorities;

Demands a full and truthful explanation of this brutal act from the Soviet Government;

Demands that the Soviet Government co-operate fully in any impartial investigation under the auspices of the United Nations and of the International Civil Aviation Organization to prevent any repetition of such a tragedy;

Demands that the Soviet authorities immediately offer full and generous compensation to the families of all victims, including Canadians; and

Directs the Speaker to convey the text of this motion to the Chairman of the Presidium of the U.S.S.R. Supreme Soviet.
