



Security Council

Distr.  
GENERAL

S/16088\*  
28 October 1983  
ENGLISH  
ORIGINAL: FRENCH

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LETTER DATED 27 OCTOBER 1983 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE  
OF MADAGASCAR TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE  
SECRETARY-GENERAL

Upon instructions from my Government, I have the honour to transmit herewith a message dated 26 October 1983, addressed to you by His Excellency Mr. Didier Ratsiraka, President of the Democratic Republic of Madagascar, concerning the situation in Grenada.

I should be grateful if you would have this message circulated as a Security Council document.

(Signed) Blaise RABETAFIKA  
Ambassador  
Permanent Representative

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\* Reissued for technical reasons.

Annex

Letter dated 26 October 1983 from the President of Madagascar,  
Mr. Didier Ratsiraka, addressed to the Secretary-General

We learned with consternation of the overthrow and assassination of our comrade, Prime Minister Bishop of Grenada. We therefore strongly condemn this assassination on the strength of the principle that we have always defended and applied, whereby dialogue and democratic procedures, and not political assassination, are the only valid and viable means of resolving contradictions and settling internal and external conflicts.

But we no less strongly condemn the military intervention of the United States and certain Caribbean States on the strength of the principle, accepted by the international community, of non-interference in the internal affairs of other States. Indeed, if such practices were to become a habit, no small independent State would any longer be able to establish the régime of its choice or exercise its inalienable right to self-determination.

We therefore consider it a matter of urgency that you should use your moral authority to exert pressure on the international community and especially on the great Powers, in order to prevent a repetition of such highly condemnable acts and demand the withdrawal of the foreign intervention forces from Grenada.

(Signed) Didier RATSIRAKA  
President of the Democratic  
Republic of Madagascar

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