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REPORT OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

Letter dated 3 July 1989 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the
Permanent Mission of China to the United Nations addressed to
the Secretary-General

I have the honour to refer to the press release of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of El Salvador on the recent developments in China as conveyed to you in a letter by Mr. Guillermo Melendez, Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of El Salvador to the United Nations, dated 14 June, the text of which has been circulated at his request as an official document of the General Assembly under item 12 of the preliminary list (A/44/325). I deplore the groundless comments of the press release of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of El Salvador on what is entirely an internal affair of China and its unwarranted attack on the Chinese Government. In order to clarify the facts so as to set the record straight, I enclose herewith a brief account of the facts during the recent incident in Beijing.

On 3 and 4 June of this year, there occurred in Beijing a grave counterrevolutionary rebellion. A small number of rioters incited some people unclear about the truth of the matter to, together with them, besiege, beat, kidnap and brutally kill the officers and men of the People's Liberation Army, the armed police and the public security personnel who were instructed to enforce the martial law. They torched military vehicles, seized weapons and ammunition, stormed party and government offices, looted stores, erected road-blocks and set buildings on fire. In the course of the rebellion, some 1,280 military and police vehicles, public buses and trolleys were damaged by burning or smashing, a batch of firearms and ammunition were snatched away, and more than 6,000 martial law enforcement troops, armed police and public security personnel were wounded and several dozens of them killed. The purpose of this handful of people instigating this rebellion

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is to topple the Government, overthrow the socialist system and subvert the People's Republic of China. By wanton use of violence to undermine public order and social stability, to jeopardize the life and property of the people and to endanger the security of the State, these people have committed serious criminal offences. In order to maintain the Constitution, law and public order of the country, and to defend the safety of the people, the martial law enforcement troops had no alternative but to take drastic measures to put down the rebellion. This is entirely justified and necessary. There is no such question of repression against the pro-democracy movement or violation of human rights, as alleged by the press release of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of El Salvador.

The quelling of the rebellion and the punishment of the handful of lawbreakers according to law are the internal affairs of China, and no foreign country or international organization has the right to interfere. Now, the rebellion has been put down, and the public order returned to normal. The Chinese Government will lead the people of the whole country to unswervingly carry out the socialist reconstruction, and continue to implement the policies of reform and opening to the outside world. It will be unwise, as well as futile, to attempt to bring pressure to bear on the Chinese Government.

I would be very grateful if you would arrange for the text of the present letter to be circulated as an official document of the General Assembly under item 12 of the preliminary list.

(Signed) DING Yuanhong
Acting Permanent Representative of
the People's Republic of China
to the United Nations
