



President: Mr. Jorge E. ILLUECA (Panama).

AGENDA ITEM 142

The situation in Central America: threats to international peace and security and peace initiatives (continued)

1. The PRESIDENT (*interpretation from Spanish*): I draw the attention of the General Assembly to the draft resolution in document A/38/L.13.

2. Mr. OTUNNU (Uganda): The people and Government of Uganda cannot remain indifferent to the grave developments unfolding in Central America. We are concerned because those developments pose a danger to international peace and security, compromise the national independence of the countries of the region and have unleashed intolerable suffering on the peoples of Central America.

3. The international community as a whole has a duty to act to ease tension in the region and establish genuine peace. As regards the construction of that peace, we wish to emphasize the following basic elements.

4. First, we must underline the obligation of all States, within and outside the region, to respect the principles of the Charter of the United Nations, and in particular the principle of non-interference in the internal affairs of States, the principle of self-determination for all peoples, and the principle of respect for the territorial integrity and political independence of all States.

5. Secondly, we wish to reaffirm the right of all the countries of Central America to determine their own destinies without outside interference. We cannot accept any attempts to impose a particular social system or political preference on the countries of Central America. The peoples of Central America must be left to make their own political choices in complete freedom.

6. Thirdly, we urge all the parties concerned to pursue the path of negotiations and peace. In this context, we support and applaud the framework for dialogue which has been so carefully constructed by the Contadora Group. We wish to pay a particular tribute to the four countries—Colombia, Mexico, Panama and Venezuela—which constitute the Contadora Group for their bold efforts in favour of peace in Central America. We welcome the Document of Objectives,¹ which has been accepted by the Governments of Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua, and which provides useful bases for the commencement of negotiations. We encourage the Contadora Group to continue its efforts until the achievement of genuine peace in Central America through the process of dialogue.

7. Fourthly, it is clear to us that the source of much political unrest within the countries of Central America lies in the economic and social conditions prevailing in that region. Those conditions need to be redressed through a process of fundamental democratic transformations.

8. Finally, I want to stress that what the people of Central America need more than anything else is a period of peace during which to devote all their energies to the urgent tasks of economic and social development.

9. The people and Government of Uganda take this opportunity to reaffirm their continued solidarity with the peoples of Central America in their just struggle for freedom and social justice. In that struggle may victory be theirs, and may that victory come soon.

10. Mr. LEE (Canada): Canada is very concerned over the deplorable violence affecting Central America and all the suffering it has caused to the people of the region, the more so as we are a part of the hemisphere. We are dismayed to see that international law has become part of the rhetoric used by parties on each side to bolster their case both domestically and internationally.

11. One cannot understand the political turmoil in the region or hope to resolve it simply by blaming it on a clash of ideologies or of great-Power interests. We believe that the tragic situation in Central America is the result of a long history of political, economic and social problems. The current situation is a product of poverty, the unequal distribution of wealth and social injustice. Instability and political disruption feed on poverty and injustice. East-West rivalries can flow in their wake.

12. So when we look at Central America today we should not view that region exclusively through the prism of East-West rivalries, because this is not the root of the problem but rather a symptom; nor can we now view it uniquely through the prism of social and humanitarian concerns, because it is clear that East-West and other political rivalries have implanted themselves in the region. This is an unfortunate fact to which we cannot close our eyes. It should also provide us with a sense of urgency concerning what can be done now to prevent this situation from deteriorating further.

13. The internal systems adopted by countries of Latin America and the Caribbean, whatever those systems may be, do not in themselves pose a security threat to this hemisphere. It is only when countries adopt systems that deliberately link them to outside forces or seek to promote objectives outside their sovereign territory to destabilize their neighbours that a threat is posed. Canada has of course not changed its aid programmes or support because a regime has shifted its political ideology.

14. The escalation of violence offers no true hope to the people of Nicaragua, the proposer of the item under discussion, nor to the other neighbouring countries which stand to suffer from the flow of violence across international borders.

15. The Government of Canada recognizes that Nicaragua is a sovereign State with the right to choose its form of Government. At the same time, we are dismayed by the increasing tendency towards authoritarianism. The threat to the welfare of the Nicaraguan people and to the stability of the region, however, extends beyond the domestic effects of authoritarianism. Departures from professed non-alignment and support for insurgencies in neighbouring countries only add to the risks of violence

and impede progress towards peaceful change. For Canada, no ideology justifies the export of violence or the use of violence to promote or prevent change.

16. Social change and economic progress in Central America cannot be achieved in an atmosphere of military confrontation. Canada therefore has fully endorsed the regional peace initiatives sponsored by the Contadora Group since its very beginning and continues to do so. This attempt made by Colombia, Mexico, Panama and Venezuela to find regional solutions to regional problems deserves the support of all concerned and is in full conformity with the Charter of the United Nations. We think that at the appropriate stage the Contadora process should be supplemented by direct dialogue among the parties concerned.

17. In spite of the progress achieved recently by the Contadora Group and the five Central American countries with the adoption of the Document of Objectives produced in Panama last September,¹ the situation in Central America remains a matter for serious concern.

18. We believe that escalation can be reversed, that the crisis in Central America need not move inexorably towards greater political danger. We believe that military responses and the export of violence will not serve the interests of the peoples of Central America, no matter what the political orientations of their leaders may be. By the same token, foreign intervention by any party will not assist the objectives of peace, stability and social and economic progress. If serious efforts are not made to open political dialogue within and among States, if military solutions are pursued at the expense of accommodating social and economic change, the results within States will be politic¹ oppression, increased violence and deepening misery. A long States the result will be dangerous confrontation.

19. Canada is ready to assist the parties to promote or facilitate political dialogue. Although we do not seek to involve ourselves directly unless requested to do so, our message to all who seek to restore peace in the region is to reverse the pattern of military escalation so that social change, economic progress and the exercise of freedom will not be stifled. We believe that a lasting peaceful solution can be based only on an acceptance by all concerned of the principles of respect for sovereignty, non-interference in the domestic affairs of States and non-use of force in international relations, as well as acceptance of the need to withdraw all foreign military forces.

20. In conclusion I wish to reiterate my country's strong support for the efforts of the Contadora Group and express our sincere hope for a negotiated political solution to the turmoil from which Central America has been suffering for already far too long.

21. Mr. FONSEKA (Sri Lanka): At the outset, let me acknowledge and express our appreciation of the willingness shown by all concerned to have a debate in the Assembly on the situation in Central America. The inclusion of the item in our agenda is in itself a recognition that developments in the Central American region have been a cause for more than ordinary concern for the best part of the last 18 months or more. The particular concerns of Nicaragua have resulted in the Central American question coming up before the Security Council on three occasions this year, and may I add that the note of the Secretary-General of 13 October this year¹ confirms the gravity of the prolonged tension persisting in the area, which has led the Secretary-General to the conclusion that it constitutes a threat to international peace and security.

22. My own delegation has not been one that has chosen to speak to or pronounce upon the subject whenever it

came up in United Nations forums. We have been reluctant to do so partly because by virtue of geography and distance we could hardly claim to be among the most expert on Central American issues. Perhaps we were also reluctant to engage ourselves in debates which, due partly to rhetoric and recrimination, do not always lend themselves to advancing solutions. However, we speak today because we believe that developments in the Central American region continue to be aggravated by a recurring disregard of basic principles written in the Charter of the United Nations which, though reaffirmed like incantations, continue to be ignored.

23. These principles are those of the sovereign equality of States, refraining from the threat or use of force, acceptance of the principle of political pluralism or the right of States to develop institutions according to their own needs, and non-intervention in the internal affairs of States. Those principles and rights need to be respected not only by extraregional States but also by the States within the region, irrespective of their size. I should add here that any attempt to modify or qualify those principles according to circumstances or to place them in a variable context will have the inevitable result of subjective considerations being invoked whenever there is a breach or violation of those principles.

24. It was our expectation, perhaps optimistic, that with the intervention of the Contadora Group, namely, the Governments of Colombia, Mexico, Panama and Venezuela—all countries of the region—there had commenced a significant initiative to bring about a defusion of the tension if not a more durable solution to the situation in Central America. From time to time doubts have been cast on the feasibility of their efforts and other events have aggravated those doubts. Nevertheless, we were heartened by the repeated references by practically every speaker in the current debate to the initiative of the Contadora Group and in support of the advances that it has made to restore a measure of peace and security in the region.

25. Those efforts, which have received the approval of the countries involved—namely, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua—have been set out comprehensively and in detail in the Document of Objectives which the representatives of the Contadora Group transmitted to the Secretary-General just a month ago.¹ The issues which that document covers, including the economic and social problems of the people of Central America, could well serve as a guide for other regions and States which are not without similar, if not identical, problems. As the Secretary-General's note asserts, while the immediate task is to resolve the political differences and the resulting strife among those Central American States, what is no less urgent is to afford their people some relief from the social and economic deprivation that has long been their lot. That relief would go a long way towards hastening the political solutions that are now being pursued with unending violence.

26. We have asked to be allowed to speak in the current debate not only to urge a return to the principles to which I have just referred but even more to make a plea to the countries of Central America, their neighbours and friends, both near and far, that a genuine effort be made to allow the Contadora initiative to make some headway. Consideration of this item will of course conclude with a resolution which, as we all know, will only be the conclusion of another debate. Neither the carefully constructed language nor the terms of that resolution nor even the tally of votes cast for it is likely to have a significant impact on the parties directly concerned. The solution lies eventually with the countries of Central

America themselves and the tolerance and accommodation that they will extend to each other in order to end their present travail. Contadora and its Document of Objectives, in addition to being a regional initiative, come as a desirable attempt at detaching Central America from the wider East-West conflict. For my delegation, it remains the preferred approach.

27. Mr. KARRAN (Guyana): Recent developments in the Latin American and Caribbean region must give rise to serious concern, and Guyana as a State of the region welcomes this opportunity to participate in the current debate.

28. It was in January this year that the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of member States of the Co-ordinating Bureau of the Non-Aligned Countries met at Managua to address the situation in Latin America and the Caribbean. The concerns expressed by the Ministers were sustained by our Heads of State or Government who subsequently met at New Delhi in March this year. They "took note with great concern of the continuing tension in Central America" and "having analysed the situation in the region, they considered that Central America faced a serious political, social and economic crisis . . ." [A/38/132 and Corr.1 and 2, annex, sect. I, para. 134].

29. Conditions in the region continue to deteriorate with the aggravation of tensions and conflicts and the increase of foreign interference and aggression which threaten international peace and security. It is therefore most appropriate that the Assembly should at this time be considering the situation in Central America. The moment becomes all the more opportune in view of the recent invasion of Grenada. That invasion demonstrates with brutal clarity the extent to which the super-Power in our region is prepared to go when the ideological character of a Government in our region displeases it. What started out ostensibly as a mission to save innocent lives later produced the destruction of the whole army of a country, the occupation of its territory, the removal of its Government and the installation of another.

30. The problems facing Central America do not begin with the foreign interference and aggression of which the subregion is now the victim; they are only exacerbated by such outside interference. Those problems have their roots in decades of social, economic and political imbalances. The solution of those problems must be based on the wishes and needs of the people of the region; any proposed solution that is not so based lacks legitimacy and will fail. Solutions must be worked out by the States concerned. There cannot therefore be imposition of a solution from outside.

31. The refusal to recognize these simple truths has led to much of the suffering which the people of Central America have endured and continue to endure. Not only are those truths not respected, but that failure is compounded by the application to the problems of Central America of an approach that places those problems within the context of an East-West ideological struggle. Such an approach is singularly unhelpful and is leading to even more death and greater suffering in Central America. Those who adopt such an approach are enemies of the people of Central America.

32. As we consider the situation in Central America our attention naturally turns immediately to Nicaragua, whose people are heroically resisting acts of aggression and attempts at destabilization organized and financed from outside and involving the use of the territory of neighbouring States. Our attention likewise turns to El Salvador, whose problems also have their roots in internal factors and where outside intervention continues and

intensifies, exacerbating armed conflict within that country. Our minds also turn to Belize, which continues to be under the threat of total physical absorption by a neighbour.

33. There is an urgent need in Central America for the abandonment of the politics of force, of policies of confrontation and war. If we were to dedicate to the promotion of peaceful relations and stability among the States of the subregion one half of the energy and resources now being dedicated to provoking war and to inciting States to destabilize their neighbours, there would hardly be need for the current debate.

34. My delegation would like to appeal to all States concerned to give peace a chance in Central America. We would also appeal to States in Central America to show the fullest respect for the independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of all States in the subregion. Such respect would involve denial of the use of their territory as springboards for aggression and intervention against other States. As my delegation has stated elsewhere, in relations between States these principles must be scrupulously respected and must be inviolate. That is our only guarantee of peaceful and stable inter-State relations. It is not enough to mouth the rhetoric of commitment to these principles. It is only through their practical application to the behaviour of States that they can result in the enhancement of State security and in meeting the need for stable inter-State relations.

35. From the subregion itself come voices crying, so far in vain, for the strict observance of those principles. Ideas are emerging which, if looked at positively and constructively and with a true and genuine desire for peace, could point the way towards a restoration of conditions of peace and stability. In my delegation's view the Contadora Group of countries symbolizes the deepest longings of the people of Central America for a regime of peace and stability and for solutions to their problems through negotiations and without resort to the use of force. It is time that States heeded those longings of the peoples of the region and refrained from actions which could impede or frustrate the attainment of the objectives which those countries have so clearly set.

36. The Document of Objectives, which was endorsed by the Central American States some two months ago, emerged from a round of talks characterized by constructive dialogue and an interest in negotiations by all sides. That document should form the basis of negotiations on a peaceful solution of the problems of the region.

37. In this context also, the proposals submitted by Nicaragua—a draft treaty between the Republic of Nicaragua and the United States to guarantee mutual respect, peace and security; a draft treaty of peace, friendship and co-operation between the Republic of Honduras and Nicaragua; a draft treaty between the Republic of Nicaragua and the United States of America to contribute to the peaceful solution of the armed conflict in the Republic of El Salvador; and a draft general treaty concerning the maintenance of peace and security and relations of friendship and co-operation between the Republics of Central America—are all serious action-oriented proposals which deserve careful consideration. These documents should be considered as a whole and as a genuine effort on the part of Nicaragua in the search for a peaceful solution of the complex problems that beset that region. They demand attention, understanding and the co-operation of all the States involved.

38. My delegation encourages the Contadora Group to pursue its efforts designed to bring about a peaceful solution through dialogue and negotiation. Time is not on the side of the Central American countries. We

look forward to concrete results at an early date—the de-escalation of tension between Nicaragua and its neighbours, the abandonment of the use of force to seek solutions, a negotiated solution in El Salvador, without which there will be no peace in Central America, and the explicit commitment to respect for the sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity of all the States of Central America.

39. It is the sacred right of all the States of the region to live in peace and to determine their own future and system of government free of all foreign interference and intervention from within and outside the region. It is for the people of the Central American region to determine what economic and social transformations are necessary for them, and this should be allowed to take place in an atmosphere of peace and tranquillity.

40. The States of the region must be allowed to give expression to the legitimate right and aspiration of their peoples to be free from relations of subordination and dependence and to shape their own destinies in accordance with their national aims and objectives.

41. Draft resolution A/38/L.13 is a serious effort to grapple with the problems of the region. My delegation is a sponsor of that draft resolution and supports it.

42. Mr. RAJAIE-KHORASSANI (Islamic Republic of Iran): I should like to begin my statement with some words from the Koran, which my delegation considers to be very relevant and necessary. These verses are selected from the Sura Al-Fajr.

“Seest thou not how thy Lord dealt with the Ad (people); of the (city of) Iram with lofty pillars,”

Those who walk in the streets of New York and can remember this verse will easily identify those “lofty pillars”. The verse continues:

“the like of which were not produced in (all) the land? And with the Tamoud (people), who cut out (huge) rocks in the valley?”

which means they had a very advanced technology. The verse goes on:

“And with Pharaoh, Lord of Stakes? (All) those transgressed beyond bounds in the lands. And heaped therein mischief (on mischief). Therefore did thy Lord pour on them a scourge of diverse chastisements: for thy Lord is (as a Guardian) on a watchtower.” [Sura LXXXIX, verses 6-14.]

43. Perverts who deviate from the path of submission to the divine order arrogate to themselves a divine road. Through some inner satanic misgiving, they strive for domination, control, omnipresence and achievement of eccentric, abnormal feats, to demonstrate superhuman qualities. The lust for power, the lust for domination, which are characteristic of both imperialist blocs, are the symptoms of a satanic malady. From our point of view, it is an illness, a social illness, which can be treated only by the restoration of faith in and fear of God, by the restoration of faith and the fear of God in the cultural and social norms of those societies.

44. I am sure that all representatives are quite familiar with the term “modern mythology”. Mythology is one of the avenues which enable mankind to communicate with the future generations through history. Man communicates among other things his aspirations and ideals. Those myths, the myths of the ancient Greeks, for instance, the ancient Persians, Indians and Chinese, are all channels of communication through which each of those nations conveyed its cosmological perspectives, as well as the pattern according to which they conceived events would take place. The gods worshipped by the Greeks indicate

that the ruling culture was polytheistic, but they also show how the ancient Greeks conceived that the events in the universe would take place.

45. The perennial struggle between good and evil, or darkness and light, and the ultimate victory of light over darkness in the Persian mythology, too, indicate the profound desire of the ancient Persians for the final supremacy and victory of goodness, virtue and beauty over evil, vice, defects and ugliness.

46. Modern man has many other channels of communication to convey his deep aspirations, but he has not given up—and may never do so—the function of myth-making, mythology, which is still a practical avenue for communication.

47. But today’s mythology has a different language. A study of science fiction and some of the famous novels clearly shows how the creative imagination of many writers reveals the inner aspirations and ideals of contemporary man, alienated and astray, who finds himself a stranger in his own homeland.

48. In this context, some television programmes which are meant to be primarily entertaining also serve as examples of modern mythology, which convey the message of the people of a given country in its particular cultural context and texture. A mythological analysis of those programmes reveals a lot about the historical aspirations and the ideals and perceptions of the societies we are living in and with, and sometimes illuminates the future perspective that is anticipated by the ruling norms of a certain society or by a certain cultural stratum.

49. I should like to quote a few sentences from a story by Joseph Conrad, the author of *Heart of Darkness* and *The Secret Sharer*. This story and other pieces of literature like it indicate the ruling values and aspirations of civilized man in this part of the world and what he is visualizing and planning for himself. The passage I shall read to you is a dialogue between a white man and a slave, not necessarily a negro, a servant, let us say, and it is the description of the impression gained by the white man about a piece of literature. He says:

“It was a beautiful piece of writing. The opening paragraph, however, in the light of later information, strikes me now as ominous. He began with the argument that we whites, from the point of development we have arrived at, ‘must necessarily’ appear to them, to the savages, in the nature of supernatural beings. We approach them with the might as of a deity . . . By this simple exercise of our will, we can exert a power for good practically unbounded . . .”

50. Exerting power and approaching others in the cloak of the Deity: that is the principle of all aggressors. Imperialism still approaches the rest of the world in the cloak of an invincible, supreme deity. Self-deification is the classical aspiration of the materialist philosophies that are now predominant in both the great oppressive Power blocs. Their contention is that small countries must surrender to the deity of the oppressive Powers because they have helicopter gunships and fleets.

51. In private consultations at the United Nations, a friend among the members here in the Assembly recently told me that the permanent members of the Security Council have come to the conclusion that the continuation of the Iran-Iraq war is no longer in their interests, and he said that we should take advantage of this situation to come to some sort of improvised peace. That is a very threatening message. I repeat that I was told that the permanent members of the Security Council have come to the conclusion that the continuation of the Iran-Iraq war no longer serves their interests and, therefore,

this is an opportune time for us to work out some sort of peace acceptable to both parties. My answer was that we are not here to serve the interests of the permanent members of the Security Council.

52. The imperialist Powers approach us with might—to use Joseph Conrad's words—as if they were deities. I wonder if members here have ever considered the *Six Million Dollar Man* and *Mission Impossible*—the television programmes—from the point of view of the message that those programmes conveyed at the level of subliminal perception, not blatantly and explicitly. I am sure everyone here knows what sort of heroes—that is to say, what sort of ideals—those programmes inculcated in the minds of children. Many of those children are now grown up and they have to pass judgement about the invasion of Grenada; or they are deeply engaged in the policy-making of the machinery of invasion.

53. The invasion is presented to the public as if it were a record of honour and a source of pride for the Administration that is conducting this “mission impossible” so courageously or carrying out the “six million dollar man” rescue mission so fascinatingly.

54. I should now like to read out another passage from the Holy Koran:

“Truly Pharaoh elated himself in the land and broke up its people into sections,” [*Sura XXVIII, verse 4.*]

Divide and rule: the policy of imperialism. We are all divided. Do we not represent a small country in some small corner of the world in favour of imperialism? I now continue the passage from the Holy Koran:

“Depressing a small group among them: their sons he slew,”

—just as the sons of many persons are being killed now—
“but he kept alive their females: for he was indeed a maker of mischief.”

55. Thus, this legend of contemporary imperialism is not something new in the history of mankind. Before the imperialists came the Pharaohs and the Nimrods and others who played the same game—but they failed.

56. That is the creative art of imperialism that has been demonstrated so boldly in the General Assembly. Let those concerned rest assured that the trick of invading the countries of others and then justifying that invasion—no matter what terms are used—is not going to work. It is not going to work in Afghanistan; it is not going to work in Grenada; and it is not going to work elsewhere. They had better go back to honesty, sincerity, modesty, contentment and keep away from aggression, intimidation and oppression. This temptation to indulge in self-deification is not a healthy sign. Please go back to modesty and humility.

57. We all know that some have strong fire-power. But that too is a sign of weakness. They are terribly weak because without their fire-power they just could not survive. And this fire-power will finally burn them as well. The oppressed people of Central America and the Caribbean have already awakened, and they are becoming more and more awake each day. The imperialist aggressors must reconsider their strategy, therefore—but this time in terms of more humane and more moral grounds.

58. Such acts of aggression and invasions become disgusting and are strongly condemned when they are perpetrated just for the sake of internal consumption or internal policies, and as far as the proceedings of propaganda programmes indicate, this seems to be the case. Tension in the region of Central America and the Caribbean is very high indeed; some people are busy with their heroism and hero-making games, but millions of others

remain bereft of tranquillity and comfort; they are terribly disturbed. The hysteria of the United States aggression does not serve the interests of the American people. We do not know why the United States Administration seeks pleasure in being feared. Does it not think that it is much better to be respected and loved than to be hated and dreaded? My delegation wishes to assume that the life of the aggressors and super-terrorists will soon become very uneasy, with the advent of the further unity and solidarity of oppressed people all over the world. So they had better behave themselves before it becomes too late.

59. This model of threats and intimidation nowadays seems to be spreading to other parts of the world. Some naval forces and fleets are increasing in the Mediterranean. The unpredictable character of some administrations might result in further crises. It is very wise and prudent to advise the great oppressive forces to come to their senses and reduce tension throughout the world, just by withdrawing their troops, fleets and forces to their own homeland. The rest of the world can be quite happy without them.

60. The invalid argument that if one party withdraws the other will do so is not acceptable. It is only a cover-up for justifying invasion and aggression by both parties. Each justifies its own aggression in terms of aggression by the other. This is a fallacy which must be stopped in the United Nations. Each act of aggression must be considered on its own merits and not in terms of a reciprocal act of aggression or invasion by somebody else.

61. Years of efforts to declare the Indian Ocean a zone of peace have come to a deadlock, just because some have argued that only if the Russian aggression ends in Afghanistan will they be ready to reconsider their deadly presence in the Indian Ocean. This is a malicious argument which must not be repeated.

62. We have always been accused of intending to export our revolution to the rest of the world and we have recently learned that only American democracy can be exported to other countries, under the banner of gunships, fleets and naval forces. Others do not have the right to transmit the message of the Holy Koran, not even in their television programmes. I personally have received this objection; in a television interview I was asked: “Do you not have certain religious programmes on your radios?” This is exactly what I was asked.

63. We believe that morality has come to an end in some parts of the world. We believe—and historical evidence shows—that the entire materialistic culture of this part of the world is based on the premise: God is dead. Therefore others are assuming the role of God and playing at being deities. When the demise of morality and decency is celebrated in a society in the name of human freedom, when the slogan of human rights is taken as a pretext for acts of invasion and super-terrorism, then the alarming situation of our world—the world of today—prevails.

64. It is therefore time for the international body to appeal to the media—we have no other way and no other means; resolutions have been tried and they have proved failures—and to the press all over the world, and indeed, in the United Nations, in the United States, everywhere, to discharge their heavy responsibility, because only the awareness of the masses can prevent and control—or better say, bridle—the Godlike characters of this sinister game. Awareness by the masses is the only remedy.

65. In the Islamic Republic of Iran the affairs of the Latin American, Central American and Caribbean countries are followed very meticulously and our people show

deep interest in the events of that part of the world. We believe that if we, as representatives of those people who are supposed to be represented here, want to do a service to the cause of peace and to the restoration of tranquillity and happiness to different parts of the world, we have to go back to the press and media. The item in one of the Committees concerning information becomes extremely vital and very important. We believe that records of invasions must appear in all the papers all over the world, in all countries, and there must be some sort of device by which the United Nations can ask all Member States to publish and broadcast some of the programmes and some of the resolutions of the international body and then we shall be in a position to speak of democracy.

66. The manipulation and fabrication of news and international developments of course prevents the masses of the world—which this international body is supposed to represent—from arriving at a correct understanding of the situation, and this results in the total paralysis of

the international Organization. That is the gist of my proposal with regard to events in Central America and the Caribbean.

67. As for developments in the Middle East, I reiterate that the Moslem peoples of the Middle East are very modest and very reasonable peoples. If intimidation and threats are used against them, they modestly welcome them and they will not surrender to them. If, on the other hand, reasonableness prevails, they will welcome it with the same modesty.

The meeting rose at 12.25 p.m.

NOTE

¹ *Official Records of the Security Council, Thirty-eighth Year, Supplement for October, November and December 1983, document S/16041.*