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LETTER DATED 22 NOVEMBER 1989 FROM THE CHARGE D'AFFAIRES A.I.  
OF THE PERMANENT MISSION OF PANAMA TO THE UNITED NATIONS  
ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

I have the honour to enclose the text of the communiqué issued by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Panama on 21 November 1989, in which the Panamanian Government denounces the latest military actions, consisting of intimidation, provocation and the threat to use military force, carried out by the Government of the United States of America on 20 and 21 November 1989 against the sovereignty, territorial integrity and security of the Republic of Panama.

I should be grateful if you would have the text of the communiqué circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Oscar CEVILLE  
Ambassador  
Deputy Permanent Representative  
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

Annex

Communiqué dated 21 November 1989 issued by the Ministry of  
Foreign Affairs of Panama

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs hereby informs the national and international public that yesterday, Monday, 20, and today, Tuesday, 21 November, the United States army has been carrying out intimidatory military manoeuvres against the Panamanian nation and people, occupying the grounds of Gorgas Hospital with light tanks, rocket launchers, bazookas and infantry personnel in combat gear, and blockading public offices of the Ministry of Health, the Judiciary and the Public Prosecutor's Department.

These manoeuvres constitute brazen disregard for our territorial sovereignty, a flagrant violation of the Torrijos-Carter treaties, and an insolent challenge to the recent resolution of the General Assembly of the Organization of American States (OAS), which reaffirms the principles of respect for self-determination and non-interference in the internal affairs of our country; urges all Member States to refrain from unilateral actions that might hamper a just and negotiated solution to our problems; and reiterates the importance attached by OAS to strict compliance with the Torrijos-Carter treaties.

The Panamanian Foreign Ministry considers that these manoeuvres constitute an extremely serious military provocation, whose manifest objective is to create the circumstances that would justify the unjustifiable, namely, armed intervention for the purpose of bending our sovereign will and preventing the full attainment of our nation's independence.

In the face of such intentions, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs urges citizens to maintain calm and to transform our territory into one enormous flag proclaiming to the aggressor our indomitable will to be, and always to remain, Panamanians.

The Foreign Ministry draws the attention of the international community to the fact that these bellicose actions pose an imminent danger of generalized aggression that may cause further grief and suffering in the Central American isthmus.

