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AFFAIRS OF DOMINICA ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

It would be appreciated if the Secretary-General would cause the following statement of position by the Prime Minister of the Commonwealth of Dominica to be circulated as a document of the Security Council:

"Given the geographical and economic closeness of Afghanistan to both China and the USSR, it is not difficult to understand the ever-present temptation of one party or the other to interfere directly or otherwise in the affairs of Afghanistan. The situation in neighbouring Iran, where students have been holding some forty-nine Americans hostage in the American Embassy for two months, coupled with threatened uprisings and cession in a certain part of Iran, which are supposed to have been inspired by the Americans, does not appear to minimize that temptation, particularly for the Russians. Indeed, the patience of the American President and people in the Iranian crisis and the concentration of American energy and attention on that crisis might have been read by the Russians as a sign of weakness and provided the occasion for the recent invasion of Afghanistan by the Soviet Union. In the heart of Asia, Afghanistan appears to have been trapped in the whirlpool of international big Power, super-Power politics. Whatever the dynamics and the excuse for the invasion of Afghanistan, my Government wishes most forcefully to condemn such invasion of Afghanistan and to call for the immediate withdrawal of all Russian troops from Afghanistan. Such military adventurism by a super-Power against a small, poor neighbouring independent State, or any independent State for that matter, cannot be condoned. It is against the spirit of the Charter of the United Nations, and utterly inconsistent with the position of neutrality that characterized Afghanistan during the World Wars I and II and that of non-alignment since these two wars.

"My Government wishes to reiterate its outright condemnation of the unprovoked invasion of Afghanistan and the aggression against the people by the Soviet Union. It strongly deprecates the violation of the independence and territorial integrity of Afghanistan by the Soviet Union, and it repeats its call for the immediate withdrawal of all Russian troops from Afghanistan."
