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SECURITY COUNCIL
Thirty-sixth year

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Thirty-sixth session

Agenda item 58 (b)

REVIEW OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE

DECLARATION ON THE STRENGTHENING OF

INTERNATIONAL SECURITY:

NON-INTERFERENCE IN THE INTERNAL

AFFAIRS OF STATES

UN/SA COLLECTION

Letter dated 2 November 1981 from the Permanent Representative of
Cuba to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

On the instructions of my Government, I have the honour to request that the attached statement issued by the Revolutionary Government of Cuba on 28 October 1981 be circulated as an official document of the General Assembly under agenda item 58 (b) and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Raul ROA KOURI
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of Cuba

ANNEX

STATEMENT BY THE REVOLUTIONARY GOVERNMENT OF CUBA

Challenge to Mr. Haig:

On 24 October 1981, at the closing meeting of the Congress of Committees for the Defence of the Revolution, Fidel Castro strongly denounced the latest wholesale lie to be thought up in the United States regarding Cuba, Central America and El Salvador, as published in an article in the Washington Post signed by United States journalists Rowland Evans and Robert Novak. International press agency cables had reported on this article on 19 October.

The article asserted in the most truculent, insidious and shamelessly untrue terms that Cuba had sent between 500 and 600 crack troops to Nicaragua in the second half of September, with the intention of taking over El Salvador and setting up a revolutionary Marxist Government in the eastern part of that country.

As an EFE cable indicated, articles by those journalists appear daily in hundreds of newspapers.

According to an Agence France Presse cable dated 19 October, the United States Department of State refused to confirm or deny the report.

This coarse manoeuvre could deceive no one in our country.

On 24 October, Fidel Castro made it quite clear that the Washington Post article was not a chance occurrence but part of a new tactic on the part of the United States Government which, embarrassed by Cuba's resounding denials of earlier false and of course totally unsubstantiated statements by some of its spokesmen, had shamelessly manipulated the United States press into making such assertions. He also pointed out this was done with the obvious imperialist intention of justifying the United States Government's intervention in El Salvador and its gross threats and aggressive moves against Cuba.

By refusing to confirm or deny the news, Mr. Haig, like the cat in the story, threw a stone and did not own up to it.

The Government of Cuba asserted categorically through the President of the Council of State that this was a wholesale lie, fabricated from beginning to end by United States imperialism. Cuba had not sent a single member of a crack regiment or any other kind of troops to Nicaragua; Cuba had never sent troops to Nicaragua.

Before now, this matter might have assumed no more importance than any other United States fabrication.

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What is serious, as the Government of Cuba has seen beyond a shadow of doubt, is that Mr. Haig transmitted the slanderous reports first published in the press to other major Governments, asserting that the United States Government had detected the landing of 500 soldiers in Nicaragua, that it had the necessary proof and that the soldiers were possibly to be sent to El Salvador. Haig accompanied these reports with threats against Cuba.

In making these totally untrue and cynical assertions, adding that it has proof and officially transmitting the reports to other Governments in all apparent seriousness, together with threats against our country, the United States Government is clearly preparing a criminal provocation against the peoples of Central America and Cuba. To this end, it is trying to prepare the ground in the most unscrupulous manner.

We have caught them out in another wholesale lie.

We must expose them utterly.

The Government of Cuba challenges Mr. Haig to state without hesitation, subterfuge or vacillation:

Whether he seriously contends that Cuba landed between 500 and 600 soldiers in Nicaragua;

Whether or not it is true that the United States has proof to back up its contention;

Whether or not it is true that it transmitted these reports to other Governments, adding that it could substantiate them and accompanying its lies with its well known, gross threats.

Let Mr. Haig tell us on what day, at what time, in what aeroplanes these men he claims to know about landed in Nicaragua.

Let Mr. Haig give us proof.

REVOLUTIONARY GOVERNMENT OF CUBA

28 October 1981