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REGION

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Fortieth year

Letter dated 12 December 1985 from the Permanent Representative of
Egypt to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to enclose herewith a message addressed to you from Dr. A. Esmat Abdel Meguid, Deputy Premier and Minister for Foreign Affairs of Egypt, in relation to the statement issued by the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya on 29 November 1985 (see annex).

I kindly request you to circulate the attached message as an official document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 71, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Ahmed T. KHALIL
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

ANNEX

Message from the Deputy Premier and Minister for
Foreign Affairs of Egypt

Once again, the propaganda organs of the Libyan régime are resorting to the repetition of a series of periodic, customary allegations, using everything available in the way of slogans lacking any political or intellectual content and illusions which they seek strenuously to cast in solid form as alleged aggression or imminent danger of attack. Giving currency to such allegations, even in international forums, has become a simple expedient resorted to by the organs of the Libyan régime whenever they are confronted by an internal or external predicament and beset by proofs of charges of conspiracy against the safety and security of States and the peaceful citizens residing there because of that régime's widespread dubious actions and reckless adventures.

The Libyan terrorist plots directed against Egypt in the past years have emphasized the degree of the Libyan régime's insistence on utilizing methods of provocation and flagrant violation of the norms of international law and custom and of the principles of the Charter of the United Nations.

In this connection, mention must be made of some examples of Libyan terrorist operations directed against the internal stability of Egypt and the security of citizens and residents in its territory, in order to demonstrate the extent of Libyan violation of international legality and Egyptian sovereignty. These include the following:

1. During 1976, the Libyan intelligence service carried out an uninterrupted series of terrorist sabotage operations inside Egypt, which resulted in the killing and wounding of a number of innocent civilian citizens and extensive damage and overwhelming losses to Egyptian public utilities and Government installations. On the basis of the confessions of those accused of involvement in these operations and the reasons on which the judgements handed down against them after their public trial were founded, the Egyptian judiciary handed down judgements against Libyan agents in a number of criminal cases, including case No. 543/76 (Supreme Court for State Security), case No. 588/76 (Supreme Court for State Security), case No. 12473/76 (Dammanhur Criminal Court), case No. 759/76 (Matruh Criminal Court), case No. 6/76 (Dab'ah Criminal Court for State Security), case No. 8/76 (Supreme Court for State Security) and case No. 335/76 (East Alexandria Criminal Court for State Security).

2. During 1977, the Libyan intelligence service carried out some terrorist operations, and tried to carry out others, inside Egypt, including an attempt to blow up the Mudrus and Nile River hotels in the city of Alexandria in order to kill the occupants. The suspects were arrested while carrying out the operation (see case No. 9/77, Office of the Public Prosecutor at the Appellate Court, Alexandria).

3. During 1984-1985, three Libyan terrorist operations were thwarted. They were aimed at assassinating some Libyan citizens resident in Egypt and creating the impression of a disturbed situation in the country. They include the abortive

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attempt to assassinate Mr. Abdul Hamid Bakkush, the former Prime Minister of Libya, and the abortive attempt to assassinate Ghaith Sa'id al-Mabruk of Libyan nationality, through the infiltration of Libyan intelligence agents across the Egyptian frontier. The most recent attempt was aimed at breaking into the home of a Libyan resident in Egypt and liquidating a whole group of eminent Libyans. The Libyan régime infiltrated four Libyan military elements belonging to the security service staff of the Jamahiriya across the western frontier of the Arab Republic of Egypt in order to carry out this operation.

These examples of the Libyan régime's impossible practices against States and peaceful, innocent individuals, which are contrary to international law and incompatible with values, morals and religious codes, constitute a flagrant violation of all principles and practices and an urgent threat to security and stability in the region. They are also entirely incompatible with the principles of international relations and good-neighbourliness. They go against all efforts to strengthen security and co-operation in the Mediterranean region. The course adopted by the Libyan régime therefore makes it necessary that all should exercise the greatest care, caution and vigilance, should oppose with determination any attempts to intervene in the internal affairs of States, and should take all legitimate measures to ensure the prevention of operations of infiltration and sabotage.

The dangers of Libyan practices have reached alarming proportions and have become so much a matter of reality that no further evidence is required to confirm them in the form of articles and newspaper reports, as the organs of the Libyan régime attempted to do in their statement. The situation requires that the international community should stand firm in countering these practices. Egypt, which is determined to defend every inch of its territory and to provide secure living conditions for its citizens both at home and abroad, affirms that its basic policy of principle is one of coexistence in security and good-neighbourliness with all neighbouring States and peoples. It harbours no ill will and desires only peace and stability for the fraternal people of Libya and for all Arab peoples.

At the same time, the people and Government of Egypt will not relinquish their legitimate right to repel attempts to destabilize the country or to detract from the security of its population, or their right to thwart terrorist conspiracies and violence. Nor will they neglect their national responsibilities to deal with terrorists who violate the law both at home and abroad.

The responsibility of defending Egyptian soil and the country's extensive borders is a right, and indeed a sacred duty, which is exercised by the Egyptian armed forces in the face of every threat or attack, from whatever source or whatever direction. Egypt will not hesitate to exercise this legitimate right, which is guaranteed by international laws and covenants and by the Charter of the United Nations, if it perceives a threat to its national security.
