



Security Council

PROVISIONAL

S/PV.2672
12 April 1986

ENGLISH

PROVISIONAL VERBALLY TRANSLATED RECORD OF THE TWO THOUSAND SIX HUNDRED
AND SEVENTY-SECOND MEETING

Held at Headquarters, New York,
on Saturday, 12 April 1986, at 8.15 p.m.

President: Mr. de KEMOULARIA (France)

<u>Members:</u>	Australia	Mr. HOGUE
	Bulgaria	Mr. GARVALOV
	China	Mr. LIANG Yufan
	Congo	Mr. GAYAMA
	Denmark	Mr. BIERRING
	Ghana	Mr. DUMEVI
	Madagascar	Mr. RAKOTONDRAHBOA
	Thailand	Mr. KASEMSRI
	Trinidad and Tobago	Mr. MOHAMMED
	Union of Soviet Socialist Republics	Mr. DUBININ
	United Arab Emirates	Mr. AL-SHAALI
	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	Mr. WATT
	United States of America	Mr. OKUN
	Venezuela	Mr. AGUILAR

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The meeting was called to order at 9.20 p.m.

EXPRESSION OF THANKS TO THE RETIRING PRESIDENT

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from French): Since this is the Security Council's first meeting in April, I wish to pay tribute on behalf of the Security Council to His Excellency Mr. Ole Bierring, Permanent Representative of Denmark to the United Nations, who served as President of the Council in March. I am sure that I speak for all members of the Council in conveying to Ambassador Bierring our warm thanks for the great diplomatic skill with which he guided the work of the Council last month.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

The agenda was adopted.

LETTER DATED 12 APRIL 1986 FROM THE CHARGE D'AFFAIRES A.I. OF THE PERMANENT MISSION OF MALTA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL (S/17982)

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from French): I should like to inform members of the Council that I have received letters from the representatives of Malta and the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya in which they request to be invited to participate in the discussion of the item on the Council's agenda. In conformity with the usual practice, and with the consent of the Council, I propose to invite those representatives to participate in the discussion, without the right to vote, in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Charter and rule 37 of the Council's provisional rules of procedure.

There being no objection, it is so decided.

At the invitation of the President, Mr. BORG (Malta) took a place at the Council table; Mr. Azzarouk (Libyan Arab Jamahiriya) took the place reserved for him at the side of the Council Chamber.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from French): The Security Council will now begin its consideration of the item on its agenda.

The Security Council is meeting today in response to the request submitted in a letter dated 12 April 1986 from the Chargé d'Affaires ad interim of the Permanent Mission of Malta to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/17982). Members of the Council have received a photocopy of a letter dated 12 April 1986 from the Chargé d'Affaires ad interim of the Permanent Mission of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General. That letter will be issued as document S/17983.

The first speaker is the representative of Malta, on whom I now call.

Mr. BORG (Malta): First of all, Sir, let me congratulate you on your assumption of the presidency of the Council for this month. France has fostered excellent and warm relations with Malta for many years, which augurs well for further intensification of co-operation and collaboration between our two Governments. The Maltese delegation is certain that, under your leadership and given your well known diplomatic skill and experience, the Council will be able to carry out its duties in an efficient and satisfactory manner.

I should like to take this opportunity also to thank your predecessor, the Permanent Representative of Denmark, Ambassador Bierring, for the exemplary and dedicated manner in which he conducted the proceedings of the Council last month.

I should like finally to express my delegation's appreciation to all the members of the Security Council for acceding to the request of my Government to consider immediately this important question.

For the second time in less than a fortnight, my Government has considered it necessary to request the convening of the Security Council to give urgent consideration to the grave and dangerous situation which has arisen in the central Mediterranean. In its statement before the Council on 26 March, the Maltese

(Mr. Borg, Malta)

delegation conveyed its Government's appeal for reason and prudence to prevail. It also underlined the belief of the Maltese Government that all disputes between States should be settled by the peaceful means envisaged in Chapter VI of the Charter - namely negotiation, enquiry, mediation, conciliation, arbitration, judicial settlement, resort to regional agencies or arrangements, or other peaceful means of their own choice - and not by resort to the threat or use of force.

Reports over the last 24 hours give us reason to believe that a real risk of imminent resort to the use of force in the central Mediterranean has again arisen. My Government once again appeals to all parties concerned to exercise the utmost restraint and prudence in their actions, to act in full conformity with the principles and purposes of the United Nations Charter, and to ensure that they undertake no measure which would create a threat to peace and security in the central Mediterranean and beyond.

My Government also considers that the present situation calls for immediate action by the Security Council under Articles 33 and 34 of the United Nations Charter. For that purpose, the Maltese Delegation is submitting a draft resolution for urgent, and favourable, consideration by the Council. The objective of the draft resolution is to put an immediate stop to any further action likely to lead to the resort to the use of force, and to entrust the Secretary-General with full powers to take whatever action is necessary to ensure the maintenance of peace in the central Mediterranean.

We urge that, while the Security Council is seized of the subject, there be a complete cessation of all forms of action which could further aggravate the situation. The Government of the Republic of Malta places its full trust in the Secretary-General's role for peace, and expects that all Member States of the United Nations, and in particular the members of this Council, will act in a manner which will permit the Secretary-General to fulfil his functions under the Charter.

(Mr. Borg, Malta)

Accordingly, after this meeting I shall be submitting that draft resolution to the Secretariat for circulation and any necessary action.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from French): I thank the representative of Malta for the kind words he addressed to me.

There are no further speakers for this meeting. The next meeting of the Security Council to continue its consideration of the item on its agenda will take place on Monday, 14 April 1986, at 11 a.m.

The meeting rose at 8.30 p.m.

