Thirty-sixth session

THE SITUATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST

ESTABLISHMENT OF A NUCLEAR-WEAPON-FREE ZONE IN THE
REGION OF THE MIDDLE EAST

Letter dated 24 December 1980 from the Chargé d'Affaires a.i. of the
Permanent Mission of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya to the United Nations
addressed to the Secretary-General

I wish to refer to the letter from the representative of the Zionist entity
dated 10 December 1980, addressed to the Secretary-General and circulated as an
official document of the General Assembly (A/35/750), in which he assailed my
country.

I wish to inform you of the following:

1. The Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya signed on 19 July 1968 the
   Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons.

2. The Libyan Arab Jamahiriya signed on 30 July 1980 an agreement with the
   International Atomic Energy Agency on the application of safeguards in Libya
   in connexion with the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons.

3. Several statements have been made by Libyan officials, including the
   one made by Colonel Muammar Al-Qathafi, leader of the First of September
   Revolution, to Mr. Alberto Marina Antoni, the correspondent of the Italian
   magazine Panorama, on 30 June 1980. Mr. Antoni asked Colonel Qathafi about
   reports from Europe claiming that Libya had already obtained an atomic bomb.
   Colonel Qathafi's answer was that he had several times asserted that this
   was a totally reactionary attempt to obstruct developing nations and deprive
   them of the ability to utilize the atom for peaceful purposes and progress.
   He added that Libya absolutely does not think of nuclear armament, but
   seriously thinks of and works, like the rest of the world, for the utilization
   of the atom for peaceful purposes. In another statement to the Italian
   magazine Epoca on 25 October 1980, Colonel Qathafi asserted once more that
   the Jamahiriya does not possess an atomic bomb.

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4. The Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya is a State that cherishes peace established on justice and respect for people's freedom, dignity, territorial integrity and independence.

As for the Zionist entity, "Israel", it has been established on the basis of aggression, terror and racism. Its Government is headed by a well-known terrorist, the leader of the extremist Zionist Argon gang and the planner of the most infamous terrorist operations. It is also well known that "Israel" does not have established borders. It has occupied the lands of the Palestinians and of some neighbouring countries by the force of arms and with the assistance of Western countries, primarily the United States of America which supplies it with finance, arms, men and economic aid, provides it with intelligence data and supports it politically in international quarters and in the Security Council in particular. It also persists in its practices against the Palestinian people, refuses to recognize their inalienable rights, continues its repeated aggressions against Lebanon and declines to comply with the resolutions of international organizations, thus defying all international covenants and laws and violating all human rights. It has been condemned by the international community represented in the United Nations and other international agencies such as the Commission on Human Rights and Amnesty International. But instead of responding to the calls of peace and complying with public opinion, the Zionist entity, on the contrary, persists in its tyranny, a behaviour which exposes its terrorist, racist and aggressive nature.

Furthermore, the Zionist entity has not signed the nuclear non-proliferation treaty and has not allowed the International Atomic Energy Agency to inspect its nuclear facilities. It is very well known to the whole world that the Zionist entity has been, in fact, developing its nuclear potential, exploiting in so doing American data, technology and human and material capabilities.

It is well known, too, how the Zionist entity obtains uranium employing whatever means, including smuggling it from depots in the United States, France and the Federal Republic of Germany. We mention, as an example, the case in 1968 of the German freighter Scheersberg which was loaded with 200 tons of uranium "yellow cake" destined for Italy and which disappeared for several days in the Mediterranean, then showed up, but without the uranium. The Washington Post, in its 2 January 1978 edition, reported that, by prior arrangements, Israeli commandos carried out a piracy act whereby they commandeered the ship to Israel and unloaded its shipment, and it was reported later that Israel paid $3.7 million to the Federal Republic of Germany.

There is, however, plenty of information on this subject covered by newspapers and other media. There is, furthermore, co-operation between the racist Zionist entity and the racist entity in South Africa in the nuclear field and other areas. In this respect, it is no secret to anyone that the Zionist entity has agents and many Zionist organizations which seek by all means to spread poisonous propaganda against some Arab, Islamic and African countries which take a stand against Zionist aggression. Thus, the Zionist entity employs its agents and organizations to spread these lies in a desperate attempt at distortion and at terrorizing all those who stand up against injustice and racism.

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I would kindly request that this letter be circulated as an official document of the General Assembly under the agenda items entitled "The situation in the Middle East" and "Establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East".

(Signed) Awad S. BURWIN
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