Twelfth special session
AD HOC COMMITTEE OF THE TWELFTH
SPECIAL SESSION
Agenda item 9

REVIEW OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS AND DECISIONS
ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY AT ITS TENTH SPECIAL SESSION

Letter dated 25 June 1982 from the Permanent Representative of Liberia
to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit herewith a special message from Commander-in-
Chief Samuel Kanyon Doe, Head of State and Chairman of the People's Redemption
Council of the Republic of Liberia, addressed to the special session of the General
Assembly devoted to disarmament.

I would be grateful if this message could be circulated as an official
document of the twelfth special session of the General Assembly under agenda item 9.

(Signed)  Abeodu B. JONES
Ambassador
ANNEX

Message from the Head of State and Chairman of the People's Redemption Council of the Republic of Liberia to the second special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament

1. As you convene in this second special session on disarmament, the Government and people of Liberia join me in sending you warm felicitations and in wishing you success in your deliberations.

2. That you have gathered here a second time after four years to consider disarmament issues is, in our view, a reflection of two conditions. The first is the growing universal concern over and dissatisfaction with the slow progress of disarmament, and the second is the conviction that it is only by working together, in a manner exemplified by this session, that we can bring the insights of many nations into our common efforts to halt and reverse the arms race.

3. We have no illusions about the inevitable long and difficult path to disarmament. It is a subject that has always been seen and is still seen in the context of perceived security interests, jealously guided by all States.

4. One of the main challenges before you, therefore, is to find ways to guarantee the security of all States in order to remove the need for the constant increase in military expenditures and rivalry between States.

5. We believe that the United Nations itself is an appropriate answer to the security needs of States. The great Charter of this Organization lays down the basic precepts and fundamental principles which, if adhered to, should make the arms race unnecessary.

6. We are convinced that through the goodwill of all nations, coupled with mutual trust, confidence, understanding and co-operation, conditions which form the foundation of the United Nations Charter, the stability and security so urgently needed in the world can be achieved.

7. In a world of limited resources, we cannot fail to see the close relationship between expenditures on armaments and economic and social development.

8. The financial and manpower resources, the raw materials and technical skills converted to military purposes, now approaching almost 600 billion dollars a year, could be utilized for the improvement of social and economic conditions of mankind everywhere.

9. Another challenge before you, therefore, must be to strive to realize the overwhelming urge of modern times for peaceful economic and social development as a key incentive towards disarmament.

10. Taking up the challenge of disarmament must not only ensure that mankind will be free from self-destruction but will also be provided the means to fight misery, disease and ignorance.
11. It is our hope that the political reality of disarmament will lead to our goal of a more secure, prosperous, humane, just and co-operative world.

12. We have no doubt that you will prove worthy of the task now and in the years ahead.