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THE SITUATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST

SECURITY COUNCIL
Thirty-eighth year

Letter dated 8 November 1983 from the Permanent Representative of
the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics to the United Nations
addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit to you herewith the text of a TASS statement of 4 November 1983.

I request you, Sir, to distribute the text of this statement as an official document of the General Assembly, under item 34, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) O. TROYANOVSKY

ANNEX

TASS statement

Utterances by United States officials, including the President, the Secretary of State and the Secretary of Defense, bear out the fact that the United States is intending to conduct a large-scale military operation in Lebanon for the purpose of delivering a massive blow against the national patriotic forces of that country. The fact that preparations are being made for such an operation is confirmed by information coming from various sources.

By brusquely intervening in the internal affairs of the Lebanese people, the United States Government is blatantly violating the sovereignty and independence of the Lebanese Republic and is showing utter contempt for the generally accepted rules of international law, the Charter and the principles on which the United Nations is founded.

Hypocritically maintaining that the United States is engaged in "peace-making" in Lebanon, Washington is utilizing the tension that has arisen as a result of the American-supported Israeli aggression against Lebanon and the subsequent introduction of American troops into that country for the further expansion and strengthening of the United States military presence both in Lebanon and in the Middle East as a whole.

Having foisted on the Lebanese Government a one-sided, anti-Arab agreement with Israel which is firmly rejected by the majority of Lebanese and by the Arab countries, the United States would now like to finish off the national patriotic forces of Lebanon, which are resisting the occupation of the country by Israeli and American troops.

The "peacemaker role" which Washington has taken upon itself to play is turning into a real tragedy both for the Lebanese people and for Lebanon as a State. The State has in fact been dismembered. Its existence as an independent sovereign Arab country is placed in doubt. The United States interventionist actions in Lebanon - both those which have been carried out and those being planned - are part of the general aggressive, militaristic course embarked upon by the present Washington administration, which has raised international terrorism and subversive operations to the level of State policy. The full predatory nature of that policy was also apparent in the unprovoked attack on the small, peace-loving non-aligned State of Grenada.

The universal condemnation of the United States for its aggression against Grenada and the ensuing isolation in which it apparently now finds itself should serve as a serious warning to Washington.

The pretensions of the United States at establishing, in countries whose social system is not to its liking, structures along American lines, its aspiration

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to place itself and its narrow interests above international law and above the general interests of humanity, and its effort to make force the criterion of justice and legality - all these endeavours will undoubtedly have serious consequences not only for others but for the United States itself.

Among the Soviet leadership it is considered essential to warn the United States Government in all seriousness about this situation and about the plans being drawn up in Washington to expand its armed intervention in the affairs of Lebanon.
