MISTER PRESIDENT,

THE DELEGATION OF THE PEOPLE'S SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF ALBANIA, JUST AS AT THE PRECEDING SESSION OF THE UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY, WILL NOW, TOO, EXPRESS WITHOUT RESERVATIONS THE OPINIONS OF ITS GOVERNMENT ABOUT THE PRESENT INTERNATIONAL EVENTS AND POLITICAL SITUATION, CONVINced THAT IN SO DOING IT WILL MAKE ITS MODEST CONTRIBUTION TO THE CAUSE OF PEACE AND SECURITY. WE THINK THAT ONLY AN OPEN AND ILLUSIONLESS DEBATE WILL BE USEFUL TO THE CAUSE OF THE FREEDOM-LOVING PEOPLES AND COUNTRIES.

The international political situation has in no way improved compared with the preceding year. On the contrary, it is more turbulent, more complicated and very tense. Because of the policy of aggression, oppression and dictate pursued by the superpowers and the other imperialist powers, many peoples and countries have had to face strong economic, political and military pressure, endure innumerable privations and even live with situations of war.

This situation is further aggravated by the world economic crisis which is going on for many years now. The world economy remains in a state of stagnation; in some countries there has been a further decline of production, or only some imperceptible growth. The shrinking of markets has caused exports on a world scale to fall. The colossal debts, which the monopolies and the governments of the big capitalist powers used to advertise as the way of salvation and indeed enrichment, have now turned into chains which imperialism has thrown onto different peoples and countries. All this situation has led to record levels of unemployment, constant price rises and to further deterioration in living standards. In many countries of Africa, Asia and Latin America people live under subsistence level, and true human dramas are unfolded. Today it is becoming clearer than ever that the idea of a «new international economic order», in spite of the good intentions which some people might have proceeded from, remains a utopia, because the imperialists and neo-colonialists never renounce their privileges and dominant positions. A fresh example in this direction is provided by the recent UNCTAD conference in Belgrade, which ended without any result, and this because the industrialized countries, with the United States of America at the head, openly opposed the demands of the developing countries. So, it was proved once again that one can never rely on the moralizing preachings of the imperialist powers. We think that the correct path is the resolute opposition to neo-colonialist plunder, the take-over and independent management of national assets. The developing countries have the possibility to impose on the industrialized powers their just demands for equal exchange in the economic field and for cooperation of mutual benefit.

The international political situation, which continues to deteriorate and be ridden with fresh conflicts, objectively is the result of the stepping up of the militarist and aggressive course of the United States of America and the Soviet Union and their rivalry for domination and hegemony. In any major event of the world today, in any regional conflict, we come up against either superpower or both of them. In one way or another, to this or that degree, all the peoples are faced with their interference and are threatened by the aggressive policy of US imperialism and Soviet social-imperialism. In many regions and zones of the world, like Afghanistan, Lebanon, the whole Near East, Central America, South Africa and Southeast Asia, etc., local conflicts and wars are causing the peoples' sufferings and misery.

The development of events in Europe shows that tension and insecurity on this continent have become even greater. It is a fact that for its security many institutions have been set up which keep on growing, innumerable meetings are held and there is plenty of talk about it. A big fuss was made when the Final Act was signed in Helsinki, the same happened at the Belgrade meeting and more recently with the Madrid compromise. However, apart from demagogical propaganda, the peoples are seeing no concrete measure which would justify, no matter how little, the «optimism» of the Marathon meetings of «European security».

What is the worth of all these meetings, documents, acts and resolution when Europe has been turned into a real depot of conventional and strategic weapons when the US imperialists are adding to Europe their CRUISE and PERSHING-2 missiles and when the Soviet social-imperialists have tar-
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gated their SS-20 missiles against the European countries. Vain illusions are created and spread about the talks being held in Geneva on these nuclear weapons. But the European peoples cannot expect their security to come from some mathematical calculations that are offered to public opinion every day by the propaganda inspired and controlled by the superpowers, such as the proposals and counter-proposals about the number of the missiles to be deployed on this continent. To accept such sophism means to fall into the trap of the theory of the balance of power between the United States and the Soviet Union, consequently it means to submit to their dictate.

Peace and security in Europe and in the world are safeguarded and strengthened by opposing the aggressive policies of the superpowers, giving them no possibility to exploit the political and economic links they have with different states in order to harm and attack the peoples of other countries, to threaten their freedom and independence.

Expressing the view of socialist Albania, the leader of our people, Comrade Enver Hoxha, has said: «Neither the Atlantic Pact, the Warsaw Treaty, the military bases established in various countries, nor the superpowers' atomic weapons guarantee the defence of the European countries, their free and independent development, their sovereignty and territorial integrity. They are secured by breaking up these pacts and sending the American and Soviet soldiers back to their homes and smashing the political, economic and military chains with which Washington and Moscow have bound Europe.»

For a long time now we are hearing statements and theorizations about the threat posed by the military blocs and their activities, but all this is empty talk if it is not accompanied with concrete deeds. These preachings become all the more worthless and, indeed, harmful when their authors grant facilities and make favours to the soldiers of the United States and the Soviet Union, which create for the imperialist powers favourable ground for their further penetration, thus posing a threat to other countries and to peace, in general.

For its part, the People’s Socialist Republic of Albania has carried out into effect what it has stated. It will never allow the establishment of foreign military bases on its territory, nor will it allow anybody to infringe on or threaten from its territory the interests, the freedom and national independence of the neighbouring peoples and states.

The opposition of millions and millions of people in Europe and everywhere in the world to the superpowers’ arms race and the threat of war is followed with sympathy and understanding by the Albanian people. We join in this because it is only through the determined efforts of the peoples that the war-mongering plans of the imperialists can be foiled.

We think that in the Balkans, too, the superpowers have stepped up their attempts at interfering, at stirring up the dark forces and misunderstandings in order to keep the spirit of confrontation alive and to undermine the good neighbourliness among the peoples and countries of the region.

The Albanian government rightly understands the sincere concerns and efforts aimed at ensuring peace in the Balkans, and any constructive and realistic step in this direction that would serve this aim, will find its support. It adheres to the view that for peace to be strengthened in the Balkans, it is necessary to oppose the policy of interference of the USA and the Soviet Union in the internal affairs of any country of the peninsula, to take concrete steps for the dismantling of foreign military bases, not to give facilities to the superpowers’ naval and air forces and to cut all links with the aggressive pacts led by them. Such steps would respond to the true aspirations of the peoples of the Balkans to live in peace and friendship among themselves. Socialist Albania has been and will always be a factor of peace and stability in the Balkans. In the future, too, it will not fail to render its contribution to building a lasting collaboration on the basis of the policy of good neighbourliness and the principles regulating relations between sovereign states.

European developments are also linked with the situation in the Mediterranean. The peoples of this area see with legitimate concern the superpowers' activities who have militarized this sea and are practising the gunboat policy. Even when a small country dares to raise its voice about the extremely insecure situation in the Mediterranean, all sorts of accusations are levelled at and even threats made against it. There is much talk today about the pollution of the environment in this sea and the measures which should be taken for cleaning it. But we think that its cleansing must begin with doing away with the more dangerous and deadly pollution — that is, the naval fleets of US imperialism and Soviet social-imperialism.

Much has been said about the situation in the Middle East here at the UN; a great number of resolutions ha-
ve been adopted, the policy of Israel has been condemned, yet it continues for decades on end pursuing the road of aggression, expansion and colonization of the Arab territories, driving the Palestinians from their own land, and committing monstrous crimes against them. The martyred Palestinian people, in particular, have become, the target of the criminal attacks of Zionism and imperialism. The policy of Israel in the occupied territories is the policy of genocide, of denying the Palestinian people their national identity. A year ago, Israel attacked Lebanon and is actually carrying out its de facto partitioning. All this aggressive and expansionist activity on the part of Israel has been directly instigated and supported by US imperialism. Moreover, today we are witnesses of the fact that US marines have planted themselves firmly in Lebanon. The stationing of US military troops in Lebanon and, along with them, of some other European countries is a precedent fraught with very dangerous consequences. In fact, this is tantamount to legalizing an act which, in one form or another, paves the way to the return to the old policy of the imperialist powers, which, under the pretext of "restoring order", dispatched their armed forces to various countries in order to establish their domination there.

The present-day development in the Middle East go to show clearly about a further escalation of the imperialist Zionist plot against the Arab peoples. After Camp David, Israel attacked and occupied a great part of Lebanon and hit hard the Palestinian movement. Now it is concocting plans for the submission of Jordan and seriously threatens Syria with war. The US and Israeli military staffs plan and work on how to attack and submit other Arab countries, one after another.

The activity of Israel against the Arab peoples is incited and favoured by the policy of the Soviet Union, too, by its plots and deals with the USA. It is a known fact that, besides clashes and conflicts that occur between them, efforts are also made to come to agreement to the detriment of the peoples. This is obvious in the mutual concern which they demand from and make to each other so that each can act undisturbed in Afghanistan and Poland, in the Middle East and in Central America. In spite of mutual declarations and attacks exchanged between Moscow and Washington, the theory of the spheres of influence is in action.

The development of events in the Near East is also part of a plot hatched up by the West and the East in order to put it between two fires and suffocate the anti-imperialist revolution of the valiant Iranian people who, with their resolute struggle, toppled Shah's regime and drove the US imperialists out of their country.

We are confident that the Arab peoples and the other peoples of this region will not allow the imperialists and the Zionists to act to their detriment. They will find the strength to unite and to stay the criminal hand of the aggressors. Experience has shown that when the peoples of the Arab countries close their ranks and strengthen their unity, they have the forces and means to compel the aggressors to "reason". There is no doubt that the cessation of the Iraqi-Iran armed conflict, the settling of disagreements between them through negotiations, would serve the interests of these peoples themselves and those of the Middle East. In general, and would avoid further superpower interference in this nerve-agllopping spot.

The Albanian people and their government will always support the struggle of the valiant Palestinian people to gain their indisputable national rights, the struggle of the other fraternal Arab peoples for the liberation of the territories occupied by Israel, and their struggle to oppose and foil the Intrigue and plots of the superpowers.

The Albanian people also support the just struggle of the people of Afghanistan for the liberation of their country from the Soviet occupiers.

The imperialist doctrine of the enclavement of local wars, feuds and rivalries, as a means of domination and hegemony on the peoples, is seen clearly on the African continent, too, where conflicts are fanned up almost with periodic regularity. Chad is the most recent example of imperialist intervention. The people of this country are killed and destroyed while others profit from this. The Albanian delegation is of the opinion that the people of Chad have the possibilities and must be allowed to solve their own problems by themselves in harmony with their national interests, without any interference, from abroad, under no pretext whatsoever.

The imperialist powers do their utmost to keep Africa subjugated, undeveloped, divided, so as to ensure the continuation of their neo-colonial exploitation of this continent. They do not even hesitate to support such regimes as the racial regime of South Africa, which is but another Israel in the hands of imperialism in Africa. Without the support of the USA, in the first place, South Africa would not have dared to continue to keep Namibia still under occupation, and to use fascist methods to suppress the people of South Africa, who continue to live in segregation and deprived of all their rights. The African peoples have never reconciled themselves to this situation, but have fought and continue to fight against imperialist interference, against racism and racial discrimination. The Albanian people and government have powerfully supported and backed up the just struggle of the Namibian people for freedom and national independence, the struggle of the African peoples for uprooting colonialism.

A very grave situation has been created in Central America, where the United States of America has stepped up pressure and open military interference against the freedom-loving people of Nicaragua, and is financing and dispatching mercenary troops in order to suppress the struggle of the peoples of this region. The events in Central America prove that the USA can in no way reconcile itself to the situation created in its "back yard", where the peoples have risen against oppression, plunder and exploitation. The Latin-American peoples are facing pressure and direct attacks of US imperialism, as well as the tricks of Soviet social-imperialism who is trying to make use of the antagonism between these peoples and US imperialism in order to pave the way for its penetration there.

The Albanian people are with Latin-American peoples who want to get rid of the brutal interference of US imperialism. We support the right of the Nicaraguan people to live free and independent in their own country, the struggle of the Salvadorian people, and the sovereign right of Argentina over the Malvinas Islands.

Southeast Asia has become today again the target of plots and interference by the superpowers, whose policy is aimed at inciting divisions and creating new conflicts so as to open the road for their neo-colonialist penetration and military expansion in that region. We have supported and will support the right of the peoples of that region to live free and inde-
The Albanian government appreciates the withdrawal of part of the Vietnamese troops from Kampuchea and hopes that this process will continue. The superpowers have vilely speculated at the expense of the Kampuchean people who for years on end have suffered from the savage onslaughts of US Imperialism and the massacres of the Pol Pot gang. It is high time that international community should recognize the reality and sincerely help the Kampuchean people. Proceeding from these considerations and strictly abiding by the principles of the undeniable right of the peoples and nations to be fully independent and to decide for themselves without any foreign interference, the PSR of Albania has decided to recognize the Government of the People's Republic of Kampuchea.

We hold that the Government of the People's Republic of Kampuchea must occupy its own seat in the United Nations, which is unjustly held by the representative of the Pol Pot gang.

Although 30 years have elapsed from the end of the war in Korea, this country remains divided. The US troops must go away from South Korea and the Korean people must be given the legitimate right to live united in their Homeland.

In this picture of the events between the two sessions of the UN General Assembly, what strikes one's eye is that more or less in varying degrees, the imperialist superpowers are the protagonists of the grave and turbulent situation existing in the world. Each of them strives to achieve economic, political and military superiority over the other, to occupy new markets and secure spheres of influence. The crisis has made them even more aggressive. However, it is also a fact that the policy of oppression and exploitation, of aggression and dictate, is running up more and more against the great resistance of the freedom-loving peoples and countries. The development of events will show whether the imperialist powers will lead the world into a new conflagration and catastrophe, or the peoples will say stop to war and save mankind. Therefore, the struggle for the strengthening of national independence, for peace and security in the world is closely connected with the unmasking and the stern opposition of the aggressive policy of the imperialist superpowers.

Mister President,

Our state has pursued an open, principled and consistent foreign policy. It stands for the development of relations and cooperation with all those countries which abide by the principle of equality, non-interference in each other's internal affairs, respect for the sovereignty and the right of each people to have the social system they desire. The Albanian government has always shown good will and correctness in the development of relations with other states. It has been and is against any dictate in the relations between sovereign states. We will never reconcile ourselves to the distortions and insinuations which are made with the aim of obscuring our correct stands and demands. For 35 years now Britain has illegally blocked the Albanian monetary gold plundered by the Hitlers. This gold is part of the sweat and toil of our people and must be returned to them together with its interest. Our people will defend their interests with determination and to the letter and will fight against injustices which have been and are still being done to them.

The economic and political situation in the People's Socialist Republic of Albania is healthy. Our people have achieved important successes in all the fields of life and in the fulfilment of the deployment plans by relying on their own forces. The people in our country live free from the nightmare of insecurity about the morrow, because these phenomena, which are seen in many countries of the world, such as crises, inflation and unemployment, price rises, drug-addiction and other ills, do not exist. The well-being of the working masses rises constantly and they look into the future with confidence. All the victories achieved by our people in these four decades of the people's power are due to our genuine socialist order, the correct leadership of the Party of Labour of Albania, with Comrade Enver Hoxha, the great son of the Albanian nation, at the head.

There are over-zealous propagandists who write pages out of number full of calumnies against socialist Albania, depicting it as a «mysterious», «isolated» country, etc. Of course, we do not expect benevolence and praise from such people who represent certain reactionary circles, who have made it their profession to fable things from hostile chauvinist positions. This does not worry us in the least. The truth is that Albania forges ahead and becomes daily stronger, without loans or credits, following a completely independent and sovereign policy. Though a small country, it copes boldly with the various imperialist and social-imperialist pressures and plots and does not deviate from its correct and honest road of socialism. Our people are determined to go on marching along this road because life has shown them that only this has brought them continuous progress and development, genuine freedom.

Mister President,

In this session of the UN General Assembly the Albanian delegation will join its efforts with those of the freedom-loving countries and will not fail from rendering its contribution to the cause of the peoples, genuine peace and security.