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Letter dated 2 November 1983 from the Permanent Representative
of Mozambique to the United Nations addressed to the
Secretary-General

I have the honour to enclose herewith a copy of the communiqué from the Government of the People's Republic of Mozambique concerning the events taking place in Grenada.

In pursuance of the instructions of my Government, I would be very grateful if this communiqué could be circulated as an official document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 145, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Manuel DOS SANTOS
Ambassador and
Permanent Representative

ANNEX

COMMUNIQUE ISSUED BY THE GOVERNMENT OF
THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF MOZAMBIQUE

The People and the Government of the People's Republic of Mozambique have been following with a lot of preoccupation the dramatic events taking place in the Caribbean region, where troops from North America and certain states from the region invaded the small state of Grenada.

Guided by its policy of peaceful co-existence, mutual respect for sovereignty and territorial integrity, sovereign equality and non-interference in internal affairs of other states - a policy that was reaffirmed once again by the IV Congress of Frelimo Party - the People's Republic of Mozambique considers that this invasion constitutes a flagrant violation of the sovereignty and territorial integrity of another state. It is a violation of the United Nations Charter.

The Mozambique Government was shocked to learn of Prime Minister Maurice Bishop's death, a friend of the People's Republic of Mozambique. It deplores the wave of violence that led to the assassination. However, the Government of the People's Republic of Mozambique considers that the Grenadian people have the sovereign right to solve their own problems without external interference, and free of any kind of intimidation. No state or group of states has the right of militarily intervening in another state without being expressly invited by the Government of the country concerned. Therefore, there are no reason whatsoever, either legal or political, to justify this brutal action by the governments in question, an action contrary to the most elementary norms of international law and ethics.

In this context, the People's Republic of Mozambique cannot but condemn this aggression perpetrated by troops belonging to the United States and other countries of the region against the brotherly people and territory of Grenada. There will only be security and lasting peace in the Caribbean and Central America when all states in the region and outside it, big or small, respect the independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of a state in the region.

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The Government of the People's Republic of Mozambique and the Mozambican people render a profound homage to the memory of Maurice Bishop - a respected revolutionary and fighter of the Grenadian people - whose honesty and political and moral integrity won him profound respect and admiration of people the world over. During the visit the President of the People's Republic of Mozambique made to Grenada in May of 1982, it was evident how Maurice Bishop was esteemed and loved by his people. The people and Government of Mozambique send their most heartfelt condolences to Maurice Bishop's agrieved family as well as to his companions who lost their lives during the tragic events which took place in Grenada. The Government of the People's Republic of Mozambique equally deploras the death of civilians as a consequence of the invasion perpetrated by foreign troops against this peaceful sovereign country. The People's Republic of Mozambique reiterates its solidarity and support to the People of Grenada. It demands all governments in question to immediately and unconditionally withdraw their troops from the territory, so as to allow the Grenadian people to freely and effectively exercise their right to determine their own process of development and to solve alone their own problems.

Maputo, October 27, 1983
