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REQUEST FOR THE INCLUSION OF AN ITEM IN THE PROVISIONAL AGENDA
OF THE THIRTY-THIRD SESSION

ESTABLISHMENT OF AN AGENCY OR A DEPARTMENT OF THE UNITED NATIONS
FOR UNDERTAKING, CO-ORDINATING AND DISSEMINATING THE RESULTS OF
RESEARCH INTO UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECTS AND RELATED PHENOMENA

Letter dated 7 July 1978 from the Permanent Representative of Grenada
to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Further to the conversations between Your Excellency and His Excellency the Right Honourable Sir Eric M. Gairy, Prime Minister and Minister for External Affairs of Grenada, on 15 June 1978, and acting upon the instructions of my Government, I have the honour to inform you that, in accordance with rule 13 (e) of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, the Government of Grenada requests the inclusion in the provisional agenda of the thirty-third session of an item entitled "Establishment of an agency or a department of the United Nations for undertaking, co-ordinating and disseminating the results of research into unidentified flying objects and related phenomena".

In accordance with rule 20 of the rules of procedure, an explanatory memorandum is attached. My Government would be grateful if Your Excellency would circulate to Member States and the interested specialized agencies this request for the inclusion of the item in the provisional agenda of the thirty-third session. My Government would also request Your Excellency, in the light of General Assembly decision 32/424 of 13 December 1977 on this question, to urge them to transmit to you any information on the subject which they may wish to submit, in accordance with your note of 13 March 1978, so that at the appropriate time it may serve as documentation for the discussion of the item at the thirty-third session.

(Signed) Francis M. REDHEAD
Ambassador Extraordinary and
Plenipotentiary
Deputy Permanent Representative

ANNEX

Explanatory memorandum

1. An item entitled "Establishment of an agency or a department of the United Nations for undertaking, co-ordinating and disseminating the results of research into unidentified flying objects and related phenomena" was included in the agenda of the thirty-second session of the General Assembly at the request, dated 14 July 1977 (A/32/142), of the Prime Minister of Grenada, His Excellency the Right Honourable Sir Eric M. Gairy. An accompanying explanatory memorandum stated that by requesting to have the matter placed on the Assembly's agenda, Grenada was seeking to bring about open discussions on the very important subject of unidentified flying objects, a matter of great significance at this time for all mankind. A draft resolution on this question and an appendix, containing a resolution adopted by the First International Congress on the UFO Phenomenon, were also forwarded with the request for the inclusion of the item in the Assembly's agenda.
2. On 23 September 1977, the General Assembly decided to include the item in the agenda and to allocate it to the Special Political Committee for its consideration and report. The Special Political Committee considered the item at its 35th, 37th and 40th meetings, on 28 and 30 November and on 6 December. The importance which the Government of Grenada attaches to the item was amply demonstrated by the attendance, at the meeting of the Special Political Committee on 28 November, on the part of the Prime Minister of Grenada, His Excellency the Right Honourable Sir Eric M. Gairy, who made an introductory statement to the Committee on the item (A/SPC/32/PV.35).
3. On 30 November, the representative of Grenada introduced a draft resolution (A/SPC/32/L.20) and announced that the draft resolution contained in the request for inclusion of the item in the agenda (A/32/142, annex II) had been withdrawn.
4. On 6 December, the Chairman of the Special Political Committee announced that, as a result of consultations with representatives of the various groups, agreement seemed possible on the terms of the draft recommendation to the General Assembly (A/32/430, para. 11), which had been circulated to the members of the Committee in the form of a working paper. He stated that, with the concurrence of the Committee, he would consider the draft recommendation in the working paper as adopted by consensus. At that same meeting, the representative of Grenada made a statement (A/SPC/32/SR.40, paras. 3-8), in the course of which he indicated that the draft resolution contained in document A/SPC/32/L.20 would not be pressed to the vote.
5. Subsequently, at its 101st plenary meeting, held on 13 December, the General Assembly, by decision 32/424, adopted the draft consensus which had been recommended by the Special Political Committee.

6. In indicating Grenada's acceptance of the draft consensus in the Special Political Committee, the representative of Grenada had further clarified his Government's position as follows: as had been shown by the studies recently commissioned by some countries, many States were deeply concerned with regard to the UFO phenomenon and recognized the urgent need to bring up to date research in the field and to examine the potential repercussions of that phenomenon on security, technological progress and the well-being of individual nations. Since the small nations did not have the technological expertise or resources necessary to undertake that task, all information and data on the phenomenon must be made generally available to all Member States. For that reason, Grenada regretted that the draft resolution (A/SPC/32/L.20) had not been put to the vote so that the Secretary-General could have been invested with the authority to proceed as recommended. However, in view of the fact that many countries, especially small ones, needed more time to study the UFO phenomenon, Grenada had agreed to the text which had been adopted by consensus. Grenada was convinced that, within a year, after Member States and the specialized agencies had made available scientific and other up-to-date information on the status of research into UFOs and had familiarized themselves with the latest literature in that field, the international community would be anxious to push consideration of that important matter one step further. Speaking in the General Assembly, following adoption of the consensus, the representative of Grenada had again clarified his delegation's position in similar terms.

7. In view of the foregoing considerations, the Government of Grenada requests the Secretary-General to examine this matter with a view to recommending to the General Assembly at its thirty-third session an organizational structure within the United Nations through which the objectives set out could be most effectively achieved.
