

## MEXICO'S POSITION ON THE LIBYAN CRISIS

*Shortly after the U S bombing of Libya, Mexico's Ministry of Foreign Affairs published a communique stating the country's official position on the issue. Because of its importance, VOICES OF MEXICO reproduces the full text:*

Mexico City, Mexico  
April 16 1986

PRESS RELEASE  
Ministry of Foreign Affairs

The Mexican government continues to observe with great concern the situation of violence in the Mediterranean, which threatens international peace and security.

This unfortunate situation has caused anxiety and consternation in the international community as the efforts to find a political solution, that could prevent an escalation of the violence, have not prospered.

Mexico has persevered in its position that force must not be used to replace peaceful means to resolve the kinds of controversies which are covered by international law, or instead of taking a case to the appropriate level of the United Nations. The function of the United Nations is to prevent violations of said international law, and when necessary, to determine what measures must be taken to sanction illegal actions, such as terrorism.

On numerous occasions, the Mexican government has energetically condemned terrorist acts. Today it insists that the international community must adopt effective measures to combat this odious crime.

The Mexican government deplures acts of war or of terrorism since, in addition to violating the obligations assumed by member nations of the UN as stated in the San Francisco Charter, they represent a grave danger to international peace. By resorting to force to settle controversies individual rights, as well as the possibilities for diplomatic negotiation are thus, affected.

At the same time, the Mexican government calls on those involved in the conflict to put an end to retaliatory acts of force, which can only worsen the situation and cause more loss of life. ★