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IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECLARATION ON THE GRANTING
OF INDEPENDENCE TO COLONIAL COUNTRIES AND PEOPLES

ACTIVITIES OF FOREIGN ECONOMIC AND OTHER INTERESTS WHICH ARE
IMPEDING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECLARATION ON THE GRANTING
OF INDEPENDENCE TO COLONIAL COUNTRIES AND PEOPLES IN SOUTHERN
RHODESIA, SOUTH WEST AFRICA AND TERRITORIES UNDER PORTUGUESE
DOMINATION AND IN ALL OTHER TERRITORIES UNDER COLONIAL
DOMINATION AND EFFORTS TO ELIMINATE COLONIALISM, APARTHEID
AND RACIAL DISCRIMINATION IN SOUTHERN RHODESIA

Note verbale dated 24 January 1968 from the Permanent Mission
of Poland to the United Nations addressed to the President of
the General Assembly

The Permanent Mission of the Polish People's Republic to the United Nations presents its compliments to the President of the General Assembly and with reference to the letter dated 11 December 1967 of the Permanent Representatives of France, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America contained in document A/6985 has the honour to state the following.

The letter of the representatives of three Powers contains a mere repetition of the unfounded and unjustified allegations with regard to the international status of the German Democratic Republic. In reply to similar assertions in the past years, the Government of the Polish People's Republic has repeatedly pointed out that the existence of the German Democratic Republic is an undeniable fact and cannot be affected by any one-sided and discriminatory statements of non-recognition.

Since its establishment the German Democratic Republic has successfully developed its statehood and international personality. In exercising its sovereign

rights and pursuing a peace-loving policy it maintains friendly diplomatic, consular as well as official trade and cultural relations with most of the States represented in the United Nations.

The non-recognition of the German Democratic Republic by certain States therefore does not and cannot affect its very existence as a sovereign and independent State.

Equally irrelevant and devoid of any foundation is the assertion to the effect that the German Federal Republic is authorized "to speak on behalf of Germany as the representative of the German people in international affairs".

The Polish People's Republic has repeatedly pointed out that such unfounded claims, contrary to the provisions of the United Nations Charter, could only encourage the militarist and revisionist forces in the Federal Republic and foster their dangerous aspirations of territorial expansion.

It is to be regretted that the statement of the Government of the German Democratic Republic, which demonstrates its support for the lofty purposes and principles of the United Nations, has been used by the three Western Powers as a pretext for launching unjustified and distorting allegations against that country.

The Permanent Mission of the Polish People's Republic to the United Nations would be grateful if this note could be circulated as an official document of the General Assembly.
