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LETTER DATED 18 JANUARY 1980 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF
THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED
TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

In reply to your note of 31 December 1979 (PO 230 ZAMBIA (4)), and with reference to the interim reports of the Security Council Ad Hoc Committee established under resolution 455 (1979), concerning the complaint by Zambia, to assist the Security Council in the implementation of the resolution, circulated in documents S/13681 of 6 December 1979 and S/13694 of 17 December 1979, I have the honour to communicate the following information on action taken by the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany.

The blowing up of bridges in Zambia interrupted major traffic routes and further aggravated the economic situation. As soon as the destructions became known, the Federal Government dispatched a group of experts to Zambia to look into possibilities of improving the traffic situation. In light of the results of this investigation, the Federal Government agreed in negotiations with the Zambian Government to supply a 40-ton pontoon ferry as an emergency measure.

In order to ensure speedy assistance, the ferry was shipped to Zambia by air on 10 January 1980. At the same time, the Federal Government also dispatched technical experts charged with assembling the ferry and training its Zambian crew. The experts will remain in the country for some months for further instruction on operation and maintenance.

The costs of the project, which is not included in the Federal Government's regular development assistance programme for Zambia during 1979/80, will amount to some 1.8 million deutsche marks.

In addition, the Federal Government offered to supply the Zambian Government with several bridges within the near future, to be assembled on the spot, in order to help restore an adequate transport infrastructure.

I would be grateful if you could bring this letter to the attention of the Security Council Ad Hoc Committee established under resolution 455 (1979) and if you could arrange for it to be circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Baron Rüdiger von WECHMAR
Permanent Representative
of the Federal Republic of Germany
to the United Nations