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APPOINTMENT OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE UNITED NATIONS

Letter dated 2 December 1966 from the President of the Security Council to the President of the General Assembly

I have the honour to request you to transmit to the General Assembly the following resolution^{1/} adopted by the Security Council at its 1329th meeting, held in private on 2 December 1966:

"The Security Council,

"Conscious of his proven qualities and high sense of duty, and believing that his reappointment would be most conducive to the larger interests and purposes of the Organization,

"Recommends the appointment of U Thant for another term of office as Secretary-General of the United Nations."

I also have the honour to transmit to you the text of the official communiqué of the Security Council at its 1329th meeting, which I shall, with your concurrence, read to the General Assembly this afternoon.

(Signed) Pedro P. BERRO
President of the Security Council

^{1/} Resolution 229 (1966).

2 December 1966

OFFICIAL COMMUNIQUE OF THE 1329TH MEETING OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

At the 1329th meeting, held in private on 2 December 1966, the Security Council considered the question of a recommendation for the appointment of the Secretary-General of the United Nations.

The President made a statement on behalf of the Security Council, which reads as follows:

"The Security Council, recalling its consensus of 29 September 1966 concerning the 'great positive role played by the Secretary-General, U Thant, in the activities of the United Nations', has further examined the question of the appointment of the Secretary-General and, in particular, the situation created by the impending expiration of the present term of Secretary-General U Thant at the end of the twenty-first regular session of the General Assembly.

"After taking all considerations into account, the members of the Council have agreed that the higher interests of the Organization would be best served if U Thant continues in the post of Secretary-General.

"They are aware of the Secretary-General's intention not to offer himself for a second term and his desire to leave the Council unfettered in its recommendation. They have weighed the Secretary-General's wish that they examine the possibility of another nominee. Whatever their views may be on the observations he made with his announced expression of intention, they fully respect his position and his action in bringing basic issues confronting the Organization and disturbing developments in many parts of the world to their notice, as he has done in his statement of 1 September 1966 to which they accord their closest attention.

"The members of the Security Council would like to ask him to recognize with them that the Organization should continue to be served by a Secretary-General who has the demonstrated capacity to evoke the co-operation and confidence of all Members. The wide support for the present Secretary-General among all Members of the United Nations is an important factor which should be preserved in order to help the Organization continue to face its problems constructively and play its role in maintaining peace and security.

"The Security Council therefore, conscious of his proven qualities and his high sense of duty, has unanimously decided to appeal to U Thant's dedication to the Organization and to ask him to continue to serve for another full term as Secretary-General of the United Nations. The Security Council hopes that the Secretary-General will accept its appeal, and thereupon it would be the intention of the Security Council to make the appropriate recommendation to the General Assembly."

In this connexion, the President also read the text of the statement by the Secretary-General as follows:

"The Secretary-General is grateful to the Security Council for the serious consideration it has given to the question of the appointment of the Secretary-General. He is also deeply appreciative of the sympathetic understanding it has shown of the reasons which impelled him to announce his intention not to offer himself for a second term.

"The Secretary-General takes note of the observations made by the Security Council and recognizes the validity of the reasons it has advanced in requesting him to continue to serve the Organization for another full term. He notes with particular appreciation that, for its part, the Security Council respects his position and his action in bringing to the notice of the Organization basic issues confronting it, and disturbing developments in many parts of the world. He hopes that the close attention being given to these issues and developments will serve to strengthen the Organization by the co-operative effort of the entire membership, and promote the cause of world peace and progress. It is in this hope that the Secretary-General accedes to the appeal addressed to him by the Security Council."

The Council then adopted the following resolution:

"The Security Council,

"Conscious of his proven qualities and high sense of duty, and believing that his reappointment would be most conducive to the larger interests and purposes of the Organization,

"Recommends the appointment of U Thant for another term of office as Secretary-General of the United Nations."