



UNITED NATIONS  
SECURITY  
COUNCIL



Distr.  
GENERAL

S/12644

13 April 1978

ENGLISH

ORIGINAL: FRENCH

---

NOTE BY THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

The attached note verbale, dated 13 April 1978, was addressed to the Secretary-General by the Permanent Observer of Switzerland to the United Nations.

Note verbale dated 13 April 1978 from the Permanent Observer of Switzerland to the United Nations, addressed to the Secretary-General

The Permanent Observer of Switzerland to the United Nations presents his compliments to the Secretary-General of the United Nations and has the honour to acknowledge the receipt of his note No. PO/230 SOAF of 10 November 1977 addressed to the Head of the Federal Political Department concerning resolution 418 (1977), adopted on 4 November 1977 by the Security Council concerning the question of South Africa.

Switzerland, which is not a Member of the United Nations, is not bound by the decisions of the Security Council. However, the Permanent Observer, on instructions from his Government, would like to inform the Secretary-General that Switzerland, on its own initiative, introduced a general embargo, as early as 6 December 1963, on Swiss exports of weapons to the Republic of South Africa. This measure was confirmed and reinforced, in 1973, by the regulations laid down in the new federal law on war matériel. The prohibition of exports covers weapons, munitions, explosives and other equipment and separate parts, that could be used for combat purposes. All exports of war matériel are strictly controlled, and violations are punishable under the provisions of the Swiss law on war matériel. This policy will continue to be applied in accordance with the legislation in force.

-----