

# UNITED NATIONS

## SECURITY COUNCIL



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REPORT OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL ON CERTAIN STEPS TAKEN IN  
REGARD TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION  
ADOPTED ON 21 FEBRUARY 1961

Note verbale dated 8 March 1961 from the Secretary-General  
addressed to the Permanent Representative of Belgium

The Secretary-General of the United Nations presents his compliments to the Permanent Representative of Belgium and has the honour to acknowledge receipt of his note dated 4 March 1961. The Secretary-General wishes to state that the United Nations continues to adhere to the position clearly set out in the resolution adopted by the Security Council on 21 February 1961, concerning the implementation of which he has already addressed several communications, dated 22 February (S/4752, Annex I), 23 February (S/4752, Annex III) and 2 March (S/4572/Add.1/A), to the Permanent Representative of Belgium.

The Secretary-General notes with regret that in the latest note from the Permanent Representative of Belgium there are again indications which allow of some doubts about whether the Belgian Government is fully prepared to implement some of the provisions explicitly laid down in the Security Council resolution. It is clear that only if the resolution is implemented fully and promptly will it be possible to consider that the obligations imposed by the Security Council resolution are being carried out. The Secretary-General therefore deems it necessary to express the firm hope that, whatever views may have been expounded, the Belgian Government will, as a matter of urgency, formulate and carry out vigorous measures for the full implementation of all the provisions of the Security Council resolution which relate to Belgium, to Belgian nationals and, in general, to foreign countries.

The Secretary-General has taken note of the Belgian Government's observations concerning the three groups referred to in the note verbale dated 27 February 1961 from the Permanent Representative of Belgium. In that connexion, he would like

additional information, with a view to the implementation of operative paragraph A 2 of the resolution, on the following points:

Group (a): number of persons concerned, according to the information or estimates available to the Belgian Government;

Group (b): number of persons concerned, if any, over and above the persons already recalled;

Group (c): number of persons, among those noted by the Belgian consular services as belonging to this group, who would be subject to recall under the military regulations which the Belgian Government proposes to apply.

In the light of the foregoing, the Secretary-General feels he can conclude from the note verbale of the Permanent Representative that the Belgian Government thinks it advisable to examine in detail with the Representative of the Secretary-General the ways and means of applying the Security Council resolution, the terms of which can obviously not be the subject of negotiations. The Secretary-General attaches particular importance, as he has already said, to the mission of the United Nations Representative, who will endeavour in Brussels to work out the necessary arrangements, in co-operation with the Belgian Government, and through whom the United Nations will be kept fully informed of the progress made in the application of the resolution.

The Secretary-General has the honour to inform the Permanent Representative of Belgium that he has appointed to represent him Ambassador Taieb Sahbani of Tunisia, who will leave for Brussels at the beginning of next week. Ambassador Taieb Sahbani will be accompanied by Mr. Mahmoud Mestiri of Tunisia.

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Note verbale dated 9 March 1961 from the Permanent Representative  
of Belgium addressed to the Secretary-General

The Permanent Representative of Belgium presents his compliments to the Secretary-General of the United Nations and has the honour to acknowledge receipt of his note of 8 March in reply to the note verbale of 4 March 1961.

The Belgian Government is surprised that this note verbale gave the Secretary-General the impression "that it is not fully prepared to apply some of the provisions explicitly laid down in Security Council resolution S/4741", the more so since Belgium has never failed to comply scrupulously with its international commitments.

During recent months, and again quite recently on 27 February 1961, the Belgian Government has reaffirmed its desire to co-operate for the success of the work undertaken by the United Nations with a view to restoring order and prosperity in the Congo.

In this spirit it has repeatedly offered to send a representative to the Secretary-General to examine with him the means whereby the differences that have arisen between the United Nations and the Belgian authorities could be settled.

For the rest, the competent bodies are engaged in collecting the information asked for in the Secretary-General's note of 8 March. They intend to transmit that information to Ambassador Taieb SAHBANI, the Representative of the Secretary-General, who, it is noted, will arrive in Brussels shortly.

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