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REPORT OF THE OFFICER-IN-CHARGE OF THE UNITED NATIONS OPERATION IN THE CONGO
TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL, RELATING TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF PARAGRAPH A-2 OF
THE SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION OF 21 FEBRUARY 1961

Report of the Officer-In-Charge of the United Nations Operation in the
Congo Relating to the Incident of 28 November 1961 in Elisabethville

ANNEX II

Letter dated 30 November 1961 addressed to Mr. Tshombe
by Mr. George Ivan-Smith*

I have the honour to inform you that I have been instructed by the Acting Secretary-General of the United Nations to protest emphatically against the acts of violence perpetrated on the evening of 28 November 1961 against myself and Mr. Brian Urquhart by members of the Katangese Gendarmerie. I have also been instructed to call on you, on behalf of the United Nations, to give satisfaction for these outrages.

As you know, we had been invited to a dinner given in honour of Senator Dodd of the United States by Mr. Sheridan Smith, who lives in a house very near that of General Muke. After much argument with members of the General's guard, who wished to prevent our passage, we managed to reach Mr. Sheridan Smith's residence, where a number of Consuls and other guests were already met. Five minutes after our arrival, a group of gendarmes and paracommandos broke into the house, threatening the guests with their rifles, and dragged Mr. Urquhart and myself out, beating us with their rifle-butts. Mr. Urquhart, whose wounds were bleeding freely, suffered a broken nose. After a few minutes' fighting I and another guest who was trying to help me were thrown into a truck, where the Katangese soldiers continued to beat us. I was extricated from the truck by

* Corrected text of the letter, as transmitted to Mr. Tshombe.

S/4940/Add.15/Corr.1
English
Annex II
Page 2

Mr. Hoffacker, the United States Consul, who showed remarkable courage in resisting the Katangese paracommandos. The attack was deliberate and unprovoked, made against unarmed civilians, and was so cowardly and so savage as to bring only shame to any troop which claims to be an organized military force.

Meanwhile, and despite all our injunctions, Mr. Urquhart was driven off to the paracommando camp. I immediately went to your residence to demand Mr. Urquhart's release. There I saw Ministers Munongo and Kimba, who promised to ensure his liberation. Later, Minister Munongo telephoned the United States Consul, told him that a number of Katangese gendarmes had been arrested by the United Nations forces (which was entirely untrue), and threatened to keep Mr. Urquhart in custody until they had been released. Finally, Ministers Munongo and Kimba brought Mr. Urquhart back to the United States Consulate.

An Indian major, Major Ajeet Singh of the 3/1 Gurkha Battalion, who had been sent out to look for Mr. Urquhart, is still missing with his vehicle. Our patrols have found the Gurkha soldier who was with him murdered, near your residence. I have already sent you a protest on this subject.

These incidents, as I have stressed in another protest of today's date, are the direct consequence of the propaganda campaign you and other Katangese authorities are carrying on against the United Nations. You and your associates must therefore be held fully responsible for these incidents. I demand the immediate cessation of this campaign, which, if it continues, will inevitably result in more and more serious incidents which will lead to an outbreak of hostilities for which you and your associates will be solely responsible.

I also demand the immediate conduct by the Katangese authorities of an investigation to identify the persons guilty of these acts of violence against the Secretary-General's representative and adviser, and the prompt and severe punishment of those persons. I also demand the identification and severe punishment of those guilty of the murder of the Gurkha soldier and the kidnapping of Major Ajeet Singh.

Lastly, I insist that you present in writing, on behalf of the provincial government, apologies for the acts committed by your troops.

I have the honour to be, etc.

