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POLICIES OF APARTHEID OF THE
GOVERNMENT OF SOUTH AFRICA

SECURITY COUNCIL
Thirty-seventh year

Letter dated 16 September 1982 from the Chairman of the Special
Committee against Apartheid to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to draw your attention to the fact that on 6 August 1982 three freedom fighters, namely, Thelle Simon Mogoerane, age 23, Jerry Semano Mosololi, age 25, and Marcus Thabo Motaung, age 27, members of the African National Congress, were sentenced to death in South Africa on the charge of high treason.

The Special Committee is most apprehensive that the death sentences may be carried out soon because there was no appeal and the matter is now subject only to clemency by the State President. It has repeatedly warned that executions of opponents of apartheid would have grave consequences and pointed out that freedom fighters captured during the struggle for liberation are entitled to prisoner-of-war status in accordance with the relevant Geneva Conventions.

On behalf of the Special Committee against Apartheid, I would request you to bring the matter to the attention of the Security Council and the General Assembly so that they can take urgent action, in accordance with their relevant resolutions, to save the lives of the three young men.

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I should be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as an official document of the General Assembly, under item 33 of the provisional agenda, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Alhaji Yusuff MAITAMA-SULE
Chairman of the
Special Committee against Apartheid
