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GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
Forty-first session  
Items 19, 33, 36 and 70 of the  
preliminary list\*  
IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECLARATION ON  
THE GRANTING OF INDEPENDENCE TO  
COLONIAL COUNTRIES AND PEOPLES  
POLICIES OF APARTHEID OF THE  
GOVERNMENT OF SOUTH AFRICA  
QUESTION OF NAMIBIA  
REVIEW OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE  
DECLARATION ON THE STRENGTHENING  
OF INTERNATIONAL SECURITY

SECURITY COUNCIL  
Forty-first year

Letter dated 20 May 1986 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the  
Permanent Mission of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics to  
the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to enclose the text of the statement made by the Soviet Government on 20 May 1986 concerning the aggression of the racist South African régime against Zimbabwe, Botswana and Zambia.

I request you to arrange for the text of this statement to be distributed as an official document of the General Assembly, under items 19, 33, 36 and 70 of the preliminary list, and of the Security Council, and to bring it to the attention of the Council for Namibia, the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, and the Special Committee against Apartheid.

(Signed) V. V. SHUSTOV  
Chargé d'affaires a.i.  
Permanent Mission of the  
Union of Soviet Socialist Republics  
to the United Nations

\* A/41/50/Rev.1.

ANNEX

Statement by the Soviet Government

Once again, the world has witnessed an escalation of violence in southern Africa. The racist South African régime, demonstrating yet again its complete disregard for the norms of the international rule of law and civilized conduct, has launched a brutal attack on neighbouring African countries.

On the morning of 19 May, special detachments of South Africa's armed forces conducted raids on targets located in the capital of Zimbabwe, Harare, and close to the capital of Botswana, Gaborone. The South African Air Force attacked a South African refugee camp located close to the capital of Zambia, Lusaka. These actions have caused loss of human life and destruction. A representative of the command of the racist régime's armed forces has stated that these raids took place against bases of the African National Congress (ANC), a liberation organization fighting to eliminate the inhuman apartheid system in South Africa.

This new crime by the South African military constitutes yet another link in the chain of incessant acts of aggression by the racists against independent African peoples. The Pretoria régime's intentions are obvious: to intimidate the free States of the continent, make them withhold their support from the just cause of the South African patriots and subject the peoples of these countries to its will.

One cannot but note the ominous link between the aggressive actions of the Pretoria racists and the activities, analogous in style and methods, of their sponsors across the ocean. The policy of State terrorism pursued by the United States Administration, including the recent barbarous attack on the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya and the constant threats directed against other peace-loving States, serves as a model for the South African régime, which has been proclaimed in the White House as a "historic ally" of the United States, to imitate.

The apartheid régime is seeking to prolong its existence by bloody acts of repression within South Africa and of aggression against neighbouring countries. This yet again confirms the indisputable truth that racism in its State guise constitutes a serious threat to the peace and security of peoples and that it cannot be reformed, but must be immediately and completely eliminated.

The Soviet Union resolutely condemns the attack by the South African racists on Zimbabwe, Botswana and Zambia. True to its policy of support for the universal peace and security of peoples, it emphatically calls for the immediate cessation of the criminal policy of terror and violence pursued by the South African authorities. In the interests of a peaceful future for our planet action must, finally, be taken to meet the demand of the world community for the application against the racist régime in South Africa of comprehensive and mandatory sanctions under Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations.

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