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GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Forty-first session
Items 33, 70 and 132 of the
preliminary list**
POLICIES OF APARTHEID OF THE
GOVERNMENT OF SOUTH AFRICA
REVIEW OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE
DECLARATION ON THE STRENGTHENING
OF INTERNATIONAL SECURITY
REPORT OF THE AD HOC COMMITTEE ON THE
DRAFTING OF AN INTERNATIONAL
CONVENTION AGAINST THE RECRUITMENT, USE,
FINANCING AND TRAINING OF MERCENARIES

SECURITY COUNCIL
Forty-first year

Letter dated 9 June 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 transmit to you herewith the text of the statement by the Soviet Government, dated 8 June 1986, concerning the acts of terrorism perpetrated by the racist régime of South Africa in the Angolan port of Namibe.

I should be grateful if you would have the text of this statement circulated as an official document of the General Assembly, under items 33, 70 and 132 of the preliminary list, and of the Security Council, and if you would draw it to the attention of the Special Committee against Apartheid.

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

* Reissued for technical reasons.

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ANNEX

Statement by the Soviet Government dated 8 June 1986

On 5 June 1986, unarmed Soviet and Cuban merchant ships unloading in the Angolan port of Namibe were the target of a pirate attack. According to a report of the Angolan authorities, the trail from this act of sabotage, as a result of which the Soviet ships were damaged and the Cuban ship sank, leads to South Africa. That country's racist régime has engaged in an act of terrorism that may have far-reaching and dangerous consequences.

This attack, which follows the recent raid against the capital cities of Botswana, Zambia and Zimbabwe, signals an escalation of Pretoria's acts of aggression. The international community cannot tolerate acts of international terrorism committed for the specific purpose of taking human lives. Those who embark on a course of terrorism and violate the generally accepted rules of international law, including the freedom of navigation, must realize where this may lead.

It is clear that the aggressive policy pursued by South Africa against neighbouring African States and other members of the world community exacerbates international tension in general. South Africa's patrons, chiefly the United States of America, also bear responsibility for this situation.

The United States, which is vociferously advocating the eradication of international terrorism, has a good opportunity to show its worth in action by contributing to the suppression of the terror and violence perpetrated by South Africa. It is absolutely clear that Pretoria has interpreted the veto by the United States and the United Kingdom of the draft resolution submitted to the Security Council by the African States, concerning the recent aggression committed by South Africa against the three front-line States, as direct encouragement to continue such a policy.

The Soviet Union condemns most categorically the actions of South Africa, which are creating a threat to peace and international security, and demands that they should cease immediately. South Africa is responsible for the act of terrorism committed in the Angolan port of Namibe; such actions cannot be left unpunished.
