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IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECLARATION ON THE
GRANTING OF INDEPENDENCE TO COLONIAL
COUNTRIES AND PEOPLES

SECURITY COUNCIL
Thirty-fifth year

Letter dated 28 April 1980 from the Permanent Representative of
the German Democratic Republic to the United Nations addressed
to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit to you herewith a statement on the position of the German Democratic Republic on the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and the enclosed statement circulated as an official document of the General Assembly, under item 18 of the preliminary list, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Peter FLORIN
Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs
Permanent Representative of the
German Democratic Republic to the
United Nations

* A/35/50.

ANNEX

Position of the German Democratic Republic on the
Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting
of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples

It is with concern that the German Democratic Republic refers to the disquieting situation in the strategic Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands (Micronesia). The responsible administering authority is seeking to destroy the territorial unity of the trust territory. At the same time, there are obvious plans to transform the Pacific Islands into a military staging area threatening the national independence of other peoples and gradually to incorporate them into the area of domestic jurisdiction. These practices are clearly contrary to the principles of the Charter of the United Nations and the bases of the trusteeship system. They are the opposite of what is mandatory for States under the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples. The administering authority is under an obligation to pave the way to self-determination for the people of that territory. Instead, the policy pursued is blocking that way. This is bound to destabilize the situation in the region, which has a negative impact on efforts to strengthen international peace and security.

The German Democratic Republic has always regarded it as a primordial task in international politics fully to implement United Nations decisions, including those on the granting of independence to colonial countries and peoples, be it in Africa, Latin America or Asia. The majority of colonially oppressed peoples has achieved that goal. This is all the more significant since the national and social emancipation of peoples is closely tied to the strengthening of peace, the cessation of the arms race in all its dimensions and the attainment of international economic relations on an equal footing.

/...

The German Democratic Republic feels that it has reason to reiterate:

1. All States have the obligation to respect the provisions of the Charter and the decisions of the United Nations, according to which colonially oppressed peoples are entitled, regardless of their size and geographic conditions, to national independence and to freely choosing their road of development. The crucial statement in the aforementioned Declaration that "the subjection of peoples to alien subjugation, domination and exploitation constitutes a denial of fundamental rights, is contrary to the Charter of the United Nations and is an impediment to the promotion of world peace and cooperation" is of burning relevance.

2. Mounting attempts to expand the system of imperialist bases, to abuse territories such as the Pacific Islands of Palau, Tinian, Kwajalein and Eniwetok for military purposes, to speed up the arms race and to secure corporate profit interests by the projection of power to various parts of the globe are a threat to peace and to the security of peoples.

3. Just as other socialist States, the German Democratic Republic will continue to extend unswerving solidarity to all peoples fighting for the complete elimination of colonialism and apartheid.

It is requested that this Statement be circulated as an official document of the United Nations General Assembly under the agenda item "Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples" and as a document of the United Nations Security Council.
