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LETTER DATED 19 JULY 1968 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE
OF THE UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS TO THE UNITED
NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

In connexion with the letters dated 17 June 1968 from the Permanent Representatives of the United States of America, the United Kingdom and France addressed to the President of the United Nations General Assembly and the President of the Economic and Social Council, the Permanent Mission of the of USSR wishes to state the following.

The Permanent Mission of the USSR has already repeatedly drawn attention to the completely groundless nature of statements to the effect that the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany is "entitled to speak on behalf of the German people in international affairs". However many times such assertions are repeated, the indisputable fact remains that there are two German States - the German Democratic Republic and the Federal Republic of Germany - each of which performs the functions intrinsic to a sovereign State, including those in the realm of international affairs.

With regard to the statement by the Government of the German Democratic Republic concerning the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons, which was seized upon in the letter from the representatives of the three Powers as an occasion to state their views about the German Democratic Republic, the Permanent Mission of the USSR wishes to emphasize that the German Democratic Republic was one of the first States to affix its signature to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, to which it is a party with full rights.

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I should be grateful if you would circulate this letter as an official document of the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council.

(Signed) Y. MALIK
