



Secretariat

ST/IC/83/83
20 December 1983

INFORMATION CIRCULAR

To: Members of the staff at Headquarters

From: The Assistant Secretary-General for Personnel Services

Subject: UNAUTHORIZED USE OF DIPLOMATIC PLATES BY
SECRETARIAT OFFICIALS

1. It has been brought to the attention of the Secretary-General that some Secretariat officials are making unauthorized use of diplomatic plates in New York. Diplomatic plates in the State of New York or in other states, as the case may be, are issued to diplomatic members of permanent missions, whose names are notified to the State Department.
2. Staff members are reminded that, under section 19 of the Convention on Privileges and Immunities of the United Nations, only the Secretary-General and all Assistant Secretaries-General (now the Director-General, Under-Secretaries-General, Assistant Secretaries-General and other senior officials of equivalent rank) shall be accorded, in respect of themselves, their spouses and minor children, the privileges and immunities, exemptions and facilities accorded to diplomatic envoys, in accordance with international law. Accordingly, only United Nations officials of the rank of Assistant Secretary-General or above whose names are submitted periodically to the United States Mission to the United Nations, are authorized to use diplomatic plates.
3. The unauthorized use of diplomatic plates by Secretariat officials who do not fall within the purview of section 19 of the Convention is not in the interest of the Organization. Such conduct, which violates the provisions of the Convention, must be regarded in accordance with staff regulation 1.4 as conduct unbecoming the status of these officials as international civil servants and may give rise to disciplinary action against them.