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LETTER DATED 29 JULY 1980 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF
SOUTH AFRICA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE
SECRETARY-GENERAL

At the request of the South African Minister of Foreign Affairs and
Information, the Honourable R. F. Botha, I am enclosing the text of a letter he
addressed to Your Excellency on 29 July 1980.

I should appreciate it if this letter could be circulated as a document of
the Security Council.

(Signed) J. Adriaan EKSTEEN
Permanent Representative

Annex

Letter dated 29 July 1980 from the Minister of Foreign Affairs and
Information of South Africa addressed to the Secretary-General

At a time when serious discussions are taking place to find a peaceful settlement of the question of South West Africa/Namibia, SWAPO has, by launching a violent and unprovoked attack on the village of Ruacana, again shown that it is not interested in peaceful settlements.

On 27 July 1980, at 0230, SWAPO personnel, who had crossed the border from Angola, attacked the village of Ruacana (17 degrees 45'S and 14 degrees 22'E), indiscriminately firing approximately 40 mortar bombs into the settlement and causing extensive damage.

I wish to urge Your Excellency to insist that SWAPO and those who sustain her and provide sanctuary for the launching of acts of aggression against the Territory and the people of South West Africa/Namibia refrain from these destructive and violent actions and, instead, join in the search for a peaceful solution.

As stated on previous occasions, the South African Security Forces have, at the request of the people of South West Africa/Namibia, assumed responsibility for their security. This responsibility will be discharged unhesitatingly.

(Signed) R. F. BOTHA
Minister of Foreign Affairs and Information
