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LETTER DATED 20 FEBRUARY 1981 FROM THE CHARGE D'AFFAIRES A.I. OF
THE PERMANENT MISSION OF CHAD TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO
THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

With reference to the letter dated 18 February 1981 from the Chargé d'Affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Sierra Leone to the United Nations which you had circulated as document S/14378 of 19 February 1981, and on the orders of my Government, I have the honour to draw your attention to the following:

(a) Since the defeat of the rebel group, peace and calm have returned to Chad. The situation in the interior does not constitute a threat to international peace and security. On the contrary, it is the subversive intrigues of certain powers which are threatening the new-found stability and peace in Chad.

(b) The documents circulated under the above-mentioned symbol are internal documents of the OAU and one of them, the Final Communiqué of 14 January 1981, has not yet been approved by the summit of Heads of State of the Organization of African Unity. They should under no circumstances be the subject of any communication to Member States of the United Nations.

(c) The Final Communiqué of Lomé of 14 January 1981 in no way commits my Government since it was adopted in Chad's absence.

(d) The predominant position has always been to avoid internationalizing the Chad problem. It is in this context that the document recently adopted unanimously at Algiers as an outcome of the work of the Ministerial Conference of States bordering the Sahara and intended for consideration by the Heads of State of those States expressly states that:

"... all the participants forcefully reaffirmed that the problem of Chad is a purely African problem and, as such, it cannot be considered in any non-African forum".

(e) Consequently, my Government firmly opposes any consideration of the situation in Chad by the Security Council.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Ngaré KESSELY
Chargé d'Affaires a.i.