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OF SOUTH AFRICA

SECURITY COUNCIL
Thirty-sixth year

Letter dated 2 February 1981 from the Permanent Representative of
Mozambique to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to inform Your Excellency of the following:

In the morning of 30 January 1981 at about 2 a.m., a group of South African commandos invaded the territory of the People's Republic of Mozambique and had as their major objective three residences of South African refugees, members of the African National Congress, in Matola, which they attacked and partially destroyed.

From this act, 11 refugees were assassinated and several invading commandos were killed.

During the operation, the invaders murdered a government contracted person of Portuguese nationality, Mr. Jose Antonio Monteiro Ramos, a technician of the state enterprise "Electrecidade de Moçambique". The situation is now totally under control of Mozambique armed and security forces.

In accordance with moral principles and the pertinent resolutions of the Organization of African Unity and of the United Nations, the Government of the People's Republic of Mozambique strongly condemns the policy of apartheid and expresses its solidarity with the South African people.

With this kind of acts, the South African minority régime is trying to transfer to the neighbouring States the explosive situation prevailing in the country and provoked by its abhorrent policy of apartheid and racial discrimination, of which the minority régime is the unique responsible.

In accordance with international principles and the fundamental law of the Republic, the People's Republic of Mozambique accepts refugees in its territory.

The barbaric act by the South African racist régime is an integral part of a concerted plan to weaken, terrorize and destabilize neighbouring countries of

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southern Africa and constitutes a flagrant violation of the charters of the Organization of African Unity and the United Nations and the elementary norms of international relations.

The People's Republic of Mozambique condemns vigorously this act of banditism and, as a sovereign State, reaffirms its solidarity and full support of the people of South Africa under the leadership of the African National Congress in their struggle against apartheid and racial discrimination and of the persons who, because of racial and apartheid policies of the régime in Pretoria, leave South Africa and seek refuge in Mozambique.

The Government of the People's Republic of Mozambique reserves the right to take the steps it deems necessary in order to defend its sovereignty and territorial integrity in Africa.

I would like to request Your Excellency that this letter be circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under the item entitled "Policies of apartheid of the Government of South Africa", and of the Security Council.

(Signed) José Carlos LOBO
Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary
Permanent Representative of Mozambique to
the United Nations
