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LETTER DATED 16 MARCH 1979 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE  
OF ANGOLA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT  
OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

Upon the instructions of my Government, I have the honour to send you the attached text of a communiqué issued by the Ministry of Defence of the People's Republic of Angola, with the request that it be issued and circulated as a document of the Security Council in connexion with the question of the South African aggression against the People's Republic of Angola.

(Signed) Elisio de FIGUEIREDO  
Ambassador Extraordinary  
and Plenipotentiary  
Permanent Representative  
to the United Nations

Annex

Communiqué issued by the Ministry of Defence of the  
People's Republic of Angola

"The General Staff of the FAPLA (Forças Armadas Populares para Libertação de Angola) hereby informs the Angolan people and the international community that it rejects as having no basis either in fact or logic, the rumours being circulated by the racist clique of Pieter Botha, alleging that the FAPLA attacked the South African forces which guard the installations at Swawek in the area of Ruacana, as reported in the South African capital.

"The FAPLA have not attacked any position of the South African forces, nor is such action permitted by its political-military leadership except in case of reprisal.

"As is generally known, the FAPLA have not even responded to the persistent provocations of the racists, which have consisted of constant territorial violations and aggression against our country, as has been previously denounced in statements by the military leadership of the People's Republic of Angola.

"The General Staff reports to the Angolan people and to the world that at this time, however, no restraint is being shown by the South African racists, who continue to attack our country. On 13 March their forces penetrated into Angolan territory to a depth of 17 kilometres in the areas of Ndombondola, Oncocua, Holiafia and Maramuma. On the same day, they bombed the area of Cahama in the province of Cunene. On 14 March, the South Africans again bombed Cahama. On the same day, they also bombed the area of Catengue in the province of Benguela.

"These naked acts of aggression caused numerous deaths and injuries among our people.

"This monstrous lie of an alleged Angolan attack, which finds an echo only among politically myopic observers, is aimed at creating confusion in international public opinion, thus allowing the racists to carry out their macabre plans with impunity.

"The General Staff of the FAPLA hereby alerts international public opinion and declines any and all responsibility for the consequences that may ensue from this situation. The patience of the FAPLA is running out, and they cannot remain indifferent to these insolent provocations indefinitely.

"As our beloved Commander-in-Chief, Comrade President Dr. Agostinho Neto, has said, the imperialists can come with their planes, their tanks, their cannons and their warships, but they will not be able to prevent our heroic people from fulfilling their sacred internationalist duty towards the peoples of Namibia, Zimbabwe and South Africa, to whom we once again reiterate our militant solidarity.

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Let them come from where they may, how they may - the racists and their overlords will run into the impenetrable barrier of the determination of an Angolan people ready to defend its liberty, the integrity of its fatherland and socialism.

"Long live Comrade Commander-in-Chief Dr. Agostinho Neto!

"Long live the just fight of the peoples of Namibia, Zimbabwe and South Africa!

"Long live proletarian internationalism!

"The struggle continues

"Victory is certain."

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