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LETTER DATED 26 JANUARY 1977 FROM THE CHARGE D'AFFAIRES, A.I.,
OF THE PERMANENT MISSION OF BENIN TO THE UNITED NATIONS
ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

Acting on instructions from the Government of the People's Republic of Benin, I have the honour to request that you kindly convene a meeting of the United Nations Security Council for the purpose of discussing the cowardly and barbarous aggression committed by the imperialists and their mercenaries against the People's Republic of Benin.

On Sunday, 16 January 1977, a commando unit of mercenaries, brought by a military aircraft, attacked the airport and town of Cotonou.

The prompt retaliation of the People's Armed Forces forced them to retreat, leaving behind a considerable amount of weapons and ammunition.

Some lives were lost and some material damage caused.

This aggression by the imperialists, who were aided and abetted in numerous ways, has created a dangerous situation for international peace and security.

I should therefore be very grateful if you would arrange for the Security Council, in accordance with Article 35 of the Charter, to meet to consider the question as soon as possible.

(Signed) Patrice HOUNGAVOU
Chargé d'Affaires, a.i.
