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GENERAL

ASSEMBLY

SECURITY COUNCIL Thirty-third year

Letter dated 10 March 1978 from the Chargé d'Affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Sri Lanka to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

SECURITY

COUNCIL

I have the honour to transmit herewith the text of a communiqué issued by the Co-ordinating Bureau of Non-Aligned Countries concerning the latest act of aggression by the illegal minority régime in Southern Rhodesia against the Republic of Zambia.

I should be grateful if you would kindly have the communiqué circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under item 93 of the preliminary list, and of the Security Council.

> (<u>Signed</u>) B. J. FERNANDO Charge d'Affaires a.i. Acting Chairman of the Co-ordinating Bureau of Non-Aligned Countries

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ANNEX

Communiqué issued on 10 March 1978 by the Co-ordinating Bureau of Non-Aligned Countries on the latest act of aggression by the illegal minority régime in Southern Rhodesia against Zambia

The Co-ordinating Bureau of Non-Aligned Countries has learned with a deep sense of outrage and revulsion about the latest premeditated and unprovoked acts of aggression by the illegal minority régime of Southern Rhodesia in flagrant violation of the sovereignty, air space and territorial integrity of Zambia.

These wanton and barbarous acts, carried out from 6 to 8 March 1978 in the Luangwa (Feira) District on the Zambian side of the Zambezi River by rebel infantry troops and war planes, have so far resulted in the regrettable loss of five innocent lives and the injury of 20 persons.

The Co-ordinating Bureau of Non-Aligned Countries most strongly condemns this latest ignominious act by the illegal racist minority régime of Southern Rhodesia against the freedom-loving and peace-loving people of non-aligned Zambia. The Non-Aligned Movement is firmly convinced that the continuance of such barbaric acts by the racist minority régimes in southern Africa against neighbouring independent African countries contributes to the deterioration of the tense situation in the southern African region and constitutes a further threat to international peace and security.

The continued perpetration of acts of provocation and aggression by the illegal régime in Rhodesia against the Front-line States of Botswana, Mozambique and Zambia is a familiar diabolical scheme aimed at coercing these countries and their vigilant peoples to abandon their sacred and sacrificial mission to provide vital rear-guard support to the just and legitimate struggle for freedom, independence and human dignity in Southern Rhodesia spearheaded by the gallant forces of the Patriotic Front.

It is further evident that such flagrant acts of aggression represent fraudulent and futile attempts by Ian Smith and his clique to divert the attention of the international community away from the current developments inside the rebel British colony of Southern Rhodesia; to prevent the prompt exposure and due condemnation of the racist motives behind the so-called internal settlement conceived by Ian Smith; and, finally, to hoodwink the international community and world public opinion into granting legality and recognition to the illegal and racist <u>status quo</u> in Southern Rhodesia.

The Co-ordinating Bureau of Non-Aligned Countries reaffirms its continued solidarity with the Government and people of the Republic of Zambia in their courageous and resolute stand against the illegal minority régimes in southern Africa and in their unflinching determination to provide steadfast support to the struggling peoples of Zimbabwe, Namibia and South Africa until the attainment of genuine majority rule.

The Co-ordinating Bureau of Non-Aligned Countries calls upon the Security Council to condemn the rebel régime and to take all measures to remove the illegal régime in Salisbury, which is a threat to international peace and security.
