

## UNITED NATIONS SECURITY COUNCIL



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LETTER DATED 26 JANUARY 1976 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE
OF THE UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS TO THE UNITED NATIONS
ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

In connexion with the letter from the Permanent Mission of Zaire to the United Nations of 19 January 1976 (S/11936) I have the honour to state the following.

The Permanent Mission of the USSR to the United Nations categorically rejects all the slanderous fabrications about the Soviet Union set forth in the letter from the Permanent Mission of Zaire concerning unfriendly acts allegedly committed by the USSR in the territory of the People's Republic of Angola which pose a threat to the Republic of Zaire. There is absolutely no basis for such assertions. The position of the USSR on the Angolan question is well known to all. We wish to reaffirm that not a single Soviet citizen is fighting with weapons in hand on Angolan soil. Therefore, it cannot but cause surprise that the letter from the Permanent Mission of Zaire asserts without any foundation that some mythical "Soviet troops" are in Angola.

In reality, armed intervention is being carried out against the People's Republic of Angola, as is well known to everyone, by South African racists and units consisting of various kinds of adventurers and mercenaries, including Portuguese fascists who fled from Angola, supported by imperialist and pro-imperialist forces. It is no secret to anyone that the troops of the Republic of South Africa and mercenary gangs are bringing with them the restoration of the former colonial order in Angola and are attempting to tear apart the People's Republic of Angola, which has now been recognized by the majority of sovereign States of Africa and of those who support the Angolan people and their legitimate Government and their just struggle against the racist and imperialist forces for the freedom and independence of their country and the right to determine for themselves their way of life and their destiny.

The Soviet Union, in keeping with its fundamental political position, has extended and continues to extend moral and material support to the national liberation struggle of peoples for freedom and independence, which is fully in keeping with the decisions both of the United Nations and of the Organization of African Unity with regard to decolonization. This fully applies also to the People's Republic of Angola, which is, at the present time, repelling the aggression of racist and imperialist forces.

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The Soviet Union is not seeking any economic, military or other advantage in Angola. Our sole concern is to help the People's Republic of Angola to defend its freedom and independence. The Soviet Union decisively condemns the aggression of the South African racists against the People's Republic of Angola and, together with the majority of African countries, demands the immediate and unconditional withdrawal of South African military forces and fascist mercenary units from Angola. The Angolan people should be guaranteed normal peaceful conditions so that, without any external interference, they may independently determine the path of their development in conditions of peace, freedom and independence.

In that event there would be no need to continue to extend assistance to the People's Republic of Angola in the form in which it is currently being extended to that sovereign African State at the request of the legitimate Government of that State. It is impossible not to see that the assistance given to the People's Republic of Angola is in no way detrimental either to the countries bordering on Angola or to any other African countries. On the contrary, all the peoples of Africa are vitally interested in strengthening the independence of the People's Republic of Angola and liberating it from South African interventionists and foreign mercenaries.

I request that this letter be issued as an official document of the Security Council.

(<u>Signed</u>) Y. MALIK
Permanent Representative of the
USSR to the United Nations