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Thirty-first session
Item 51 of the preliminary list*
POLICIES OF APARTHEID OF THE
GOVERNMENT OF SOUTH AFRICA

SECURITY COUNCIL
Thirty-first year

Letter dated 24 June 1976 from the Permanent Representative
of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics to the United
Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I am transmitting to you herewith the statement of TASS concerning the violence committed by the South African racists against the African population of the country, dated 23 June 1976, in the Russian and English languages.

I should be grateful if you would have this statement issued as an official document of the General Assembly relating to item 51 of the preliminary list of items to be included in the provisional agenda of the thirty-first session, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Y. MALIK
Permanent Representative of the USSR
to the United Nations

* A/31/50.

ANNEX

TASS Statement

Peaceful demonstrations of the African population, demanding the liquidation of apartheid and racial discrimination, have been fired upon in the Republic of South Africa. Some 150 Africans - men, women and children - have been killed and more than 1,000 have been wounded in the Johannesburg suburb of Soweto and other parts of South Africa. Armed police units, armoured vehicles and army helicopters were used in perpetrating these atrocities.

The Soweto tragedy is the consequence of the inhuman policy of racial discrimination, oppression and suppression of the African population that has been legalized and is consistently pursued by the South African Government.

In this connexion TASS has been empowered to declare the following.

The policy and practice of apartheid, conducted by the racist régime in South Africa against the African population of the country, represent a gross violation of the purposes and principles embodied in the Charter of the United Nations. In their numerous decisions, the United Nations and other international organizations have qualified the apartheid policy as a crime against humanity and recognized the legality of the South African people's struggle to liquidate apartheid and racial discrimination.

The authorities of the Republic of South Africa nevertheless flout the demands of the world public and persist in violating the decisions of the international organizations, specifically the resolutions concerning this question of the thirtieth session of the United Nations General Assembly. They are intensifying race oppression and resorting to mass reprisals and, as indicated by the latest events, to the physical annihilation of Africans.

The imperialist circles which ignore the decisions of international bodies and continue to co-operate with the régime of South Africa, thus encouraging it to go on with its inhuman policy, are also responsible for the actions of the South African racists.

The policy of the régime in Pretoria evokes the wrath and just indignation of all honest people on earth. It represents a threat to the freedom and independent development of the liberated countries in Africa and is fraught with dangerous consequences for the peace and security of peoples.

The Soviet people are outraged and protest against the criminal actions of the South African racists.

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The Soviet Union decisively and consistently condemns the criminal policy of apartheid and calls for the application of effective measures aimed at the isolation and boycott of the South African régime and for the implementation of the decisions adopted by the United Nations, the Organization of African Unity and other international organizations, who demand the liquidation of apartheid and all racial discrimination and the granting to the African majority of the right to live in conditions of peace and freedom.

Moscow, 23 June 1976
