

UNITED NATIONS SECURITY COUNCIL

Distr. GENERAL

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S/12206 30 September 1976

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

LETTER DATED 30 SEPTEMBER 1976 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to request that you circulate the enclosed letter as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) William W. SCRANTON

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Annex

Letter dated 30 September 1976 from the Permanent Representative of the United States of America to the United Nations addressed to the Permanent Representative of Mauritius to the United Nations

Since because of previous commitments it is unlikely that I will attend this afternoon's meeting of the Security Council and it is certain that I will not be there at least for the first hour or so, I am taking this method of replying to the questions put to the United States delegation on Tuesday. Since that time I have had an opportunity to discuss the questions with Secretary Kissinger.

Question 1: "Is it true that under the pretext of meeting with Mr. Vorster in a neutral place the United States Secretary of State, Mr. Kissinger, has managed to involve the chief representative of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), General Alexander Haig, in the so-called dialogue?" and Question 2: "Secondly, we are asking about the real meaning of Mr. Kissinger's venture into the southern African issue, where the chief NATO representative is reported to be secretly present at meetings with the Prime Minister of South Africa at a time of acute internal unrest inside South Africa."

Reply: General Alexander Haig has never been involved in the dialogue concerning southern Africa, nor has he either secretly or otherwise been present at meetings with the Prime Minister of South Africa or anyone else in connexion with these negotiations. It is true that Secretary and Mrs. Kissinger and General and Mrs. Haig saw one another at the time of the Kissinger-Vorster meetings. It is well known that General Haig is a close friend and a close associate for many years of Secretary Kissinger. The two couples met one Sunday morning in Zurich on purely personal matters. Neither the situation in southern Africa nor any indirect reference thereto was discussed. Prime Minister Vorster did not meet with Secretary Kissinger that morning, as he attended to personal matters. In short, General Haig has had nothing whatsoever to do with Secretary Kissinger's negotiations on southern Africa.

Question 3: "Is there any truth in the reports that Mr. Kissinger proposed the creation of an army in Namibia which would be created and trained from the beginning by United States military personnel, equipped by the United States and financed by the United States for at least 10 years following the departure of the South African army?"

Reply: There is absolutely no truth whatsoever to these reports.

Question 4: "Since Mr. Burns has himself stated that the South African Government is paying the fees to all the lawyers except those representing Mr. Kapuuo, we may wonder whether the United States Government is directly or indirectly paying Burns and Schwarz."

Reply: The United States Government is neither directly nor indirectly paying Burns or Schwarz.

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Question 5: "We have received reports that the United States Government proposed at Zurich to give rapid and large-scale financial assistance to Namibia, with the aim of transforming it into a highly capitalized economy within a short time after the installation of a puppet Turnhalle Government."

Reply: There is absolutely no truth whatsoever to these reports.

Question 6: "Yet another point which is reported to have been made at Zurich is even more alarming for Africa, namely, that the United States, in certain circumstances, would publicly guarantee South Africa's own frontiers in return for what has been described as a manipulated solution to the Namibian and also the Zimbabwean issues."

Reply: There is absolutely no truth to these reports whatsoever. The United States is not guaranteeing South Africa's frontiers and has made no such promise.

(Signed) William W. SCRANTON
