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LETTER DATED 31 MARCH 1982 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE
OF SOUTH AFRICA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE
PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I wish to refer to the letter (document S/14925) addressed to Your Excellency by the Permanent Representative of the People's Republic of Angola and to express my surprise that the Permanent Representative should deem fit to raise this matter in the manner in which he has done so.

The Republic of South Africa has at no stage made any secret of the fact that the South African and South West African/Namibian security forces will take all necessary steps to protect the people of the Territory against attacks by SWAPO terrorists operating from bases in Angola. On 10 March 1982, for example, SWAPO terrorists attacked a village 60 kilometres from the town of Oshakati. They lined up eleven of the villagers against a wall and opened fire on them. Eight were shot dead and two were wounded. The terrorists then proceeded to a nearby village, where they cut the throats of three of the villagers. The group of SWAPO terrorists then fled into southern Angola. South Africa has a right and a duty to ensure the safety of the people of South West Africa/Namibia and to protect them from terrorists trained and armed by the Soviet Union and its satellites and surrogates.

The motivation for this latest outburst by the Permanent Representative of Angola must surely be sought both in the Angolan Government's awareness of the acts which are being launched by SWAPO terrorists from its territory and the full knowledge that the South African and South West African/Namibian security forces will not stand idly by and allow these outrages to continue.

I should be pleased, Your Excellency, if this communication could be circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) David W. STEWARD
Permanent Representative
