



Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

S/15236
18 June 1982

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

LETTER DATED 17 JUNE 1982 FROM THE CHARGE D'AFFAIRES OF THE
PERMANENT MISSION OF SEYCHELLES TO THE UNITED NATIONS
ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

I have the honour, upon instructions from my Government to append a copy of an article published in "The New York Times" of Thursday, 17 June 1982.

I should be grateful if you would circulate this article as a document of the Security Council under the item "Complaint by Seychelles".

(Signed) Giovinella GONTHIER
Chargé d'Affaires

Annex

THE NEW YORK TIMES
Thursday, June 17, 1982

SOUTH AFRICAN JUDGE BARS SOME EVIDENCE IN MERCENARIES' TRIAL

Pietermaritzburg, South Africa, June 16 (Reuters) - A judge trying 43 mercenaries accused of hijacking an airliner after a bungled coup in the Seychelles agreed today to a request by South Africa's Defense Minister that some evidence should not be heard.

The Defense Minister, Gen. Magnus Malan, had submitted an affidavit to Judge Neville James saying evidence from some defendants and witnesses about their involvement in army activities last year could prejudice state security.

Some of the accused have said they took part in the botched coup with the knowledge of the South African authorities.

Last month lawyers for the defendants submitted a South African defense force invoice for the delivery of Soviet-made AK-47 assault rifles to the house of the man who led the mercenaries, Mike Hoare, one of the defendants.

Some Charges Withdrawn

But the defense force has denied issuing call-up papers to 10 of the accused, who are South African Army reservists.

Among those affected by today's decision are two army reservists originally charged with the mercenaries with hijacking the airliner from the Seychelles to South Africa.

Charges against the two men, Theodorus Van Huysteen and Steyn De Wet, were withdrawn at the beginning of the trial three months ago, but they were expected to be called as witnesses.
