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SECURITY COUNCIL COMMITTEE ESTABLISHED  
BY RESOLUTION 421 (1977) CONCERNING  
THE QUESTION OF SOUTH AFRICA

LETTER DATED 1 AUGUST 1979 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE  
OF SPAIN TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE CHAIRMAN OF  
THE SECURITY COUNCIL COMMITTEE ESTABLISHED BY RESOLUTION  
421 (1977) CONCERNING THE QUESTION OF SOUTH AFRICA

With reference to your most recent note, that of 3 July 1979, PO 230 SOAF  
(2-2-3-2), Case No. 5, I have the honour to inform you of the following:

1. As was indicated in the note of 24 July 1978, which was circulated as Security Council document S/12785, the Spanish Government is anxious to ensure strict compliance with Security Council resolution 418 (1977).
2. The Spanish Government understands that there has been strict compliance with the provisions of that resolution; thus, in no circumstances can Spanish territory be considered an intermediate point in the arms trade destined for South Africa.
3. For the purpose of investigating possible illegal actions by Spanish firms with regard to compliance with the arms embargo against South Africa, the Spanish Government has established a Co-ordinating Committee to Investigate Irregularities in the International Arms Trade.
4. The findings made by the Co-ordinating Committee have prompted the Spanish authorities to conclude that the violation of the arms embargo against South Africa is perhaps being assisted by the systematic acceptance by authorities of other countries of documents which do not constitute what are known in international practice as "certificates of final destination", even though they may seem to be. In its desire for sincere co-operation with the United Nations, the Spanish Government therefore proposes that steps should be taken in the appropriate bodies to draw up a standard text of the "certificate of final destination" for compulsory use by all countries exporting arms.

(Signed) Jaime de PINIÉS

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