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Letter dated 24 June 1988 from the Permanent Representative of the United States of America to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit to you the text of a statement made by the spokesman of the Department of State on 13 June 1988 regarding the situation in South Africa.

I should be grateful if you would arrange to have the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under item 36 of the preliminary list, and of the Security Council.

> (<u>Signed</u>) Vernon A. WALTERS Ambassador

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ANNEX

Statement on the situation in South Africa made on 13 June 1988 by the spokesman of the Department of State of the United States of America

We are greatly concerned by this latest development in the Sharpeville Six case. As you know, President Reagan appealed to State President P. W. Botha in March for clemency for the six. The appeal was based on humanitarian considerations. Subsequent to that appeal, we were heartened by the decision by the Pretoria Supreme Court to stay the executions pending a decision on whether to grant a new trial. Now that same court has decided that it does not have the authority to grant a new trial.

We are following developments in this case closely. We continue to appeal for a humanitarian resolution of the Sharpeville Six case, whether it be clemency or the granting of a new trial. We will be making our views known to the South African Government through diplomatic channels.
