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LETTER DATED 17 OCTOBER 1975 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE
OF THE UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS TO THE UNITED NATIONS
ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

The Permanent Mission of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics to the United Nations finds it necessary, in connexion with the circulation by the United Nations Secretariat of a letter dated 11 July 1975 from the Acting Permanent Representative of the Federal Republic of Germany as an official document of the Security Council document (S/11760), to state the following.

The Permanent Mission firmly insists that the United Nations Secretariat should conform to generally accepted practice in the translation of the name of the Federal Republic of Germany. As is known, the Federal Republic of Germany is called "Federativnaya Respublika Germanii" in Russian, "Federal Republic of Germany" in English and "République Fédérale d'Allemagne" in French. The fact that out of these authentic names, which are equivalent to one another, the Permanent Mission of the Federal Republic of Germany is trying to dispute only the translation into Russian clearly demonstrates how unjustified and biased is its approach to the matter. As is known, the aforementioned names appear in the texts of multilateral and bilateral documents.

The Permanent Mission considers it necessary, furthermore, to point out that in the Statement of 9 November 1972 by the USSR, the United States of America, the United Kingdom and France in support of the admission of the German Democratic Republic and the Federal Republic of Germany to the United Nations, the latter country is also referred to in all three languages as "Federal Republic of Germany" (in Russian: "Federativnaya Respublika Germanii"). That State was admitted to membership in the United Nations in 1973 under that name and no other, as evidenced by the relevant resolutions of the Security Council (335 (1973) of 22 June 1973) and the General Assembly (3050 (XXVIII) of 18 September 1973).

The Permanent Mission also wishes to draw attention the fact that the translation of the name of the Federal Republic of Germany into Russian as "Federativnaya Respublika Germanii" is recognized and confirmed by the signatures of the representatives of the Federal Republic of Germany in all treaties and agreements between the Soviet Union and the Federal Republic of Germany. There is no other official translation into Russian of the name of the Federal Republic of Germany.

Reaffirming its position stated in its letter of 5 June 1975 (S/11721), the Permanent Mission cannot describe the actions of United Nations Secretariat staff members otherwise than as connivance at the unjustified unilateral claims of one Member of the United Nations, and it insists that the necessary steps should be taken to prevent such actions.

The Permanent Mission of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics requests that this letter should be circulated as an official document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Y. MALIK
Permanent Representative of the USSR
to the United Nations
