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LETTER DATED 25 JUNE 1973 FROM THE CHAIRMAN OF THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE
ON THE SITUATION WITH REGARD TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECLARATION
ON THE GRANTING OF INDEPENDENCE TO COLONIAL COUNTRIES AND PEOPLES
ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to transmit herewith for the attention of the Security Council the text of a statement made by the Chairman of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples on the question of Southern Rhodesia which the Committee adopted at its 922nd meeting, on 25 June 1973.

(Signed) Salim Ahmed SALIM
Chairman

Special Committee on the Situation
with regard to the Implementation
of the Declaration on the Granting
of Independence to Colonial Countries
and Peoples

Statement by the Chairman on the question of Southern Rhodesia adopted by the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, at its 922nd meeting, on 25 June 1973

The Special Committee has learnt with profound sorrow of the recent murder of African patriots of Zimbabwe by the illegal racist minority régime of Southern Rhodesia. The Special Committee condemns in the strongest possible terms this fresh outrage perpetrated by the Salisbury régime, which is not only a criminal violation of the fundamental human rights of the people of Zimbabwe, but is also a criminal act against humanity as a whole.

When the Special Committee was first apprised of the illegal sentencing of these African patriots, the Chairman of the Committee dispatched an urgent telegram to the Acting Permanent Representative of the United Kingdom to the United Nations, in which he expressed the Committee's grave concern about the continued perpetration by the illegal régime of criminal acts against the people of Zimbabwe and requested immediate intervention by his Government to prevent the illegal execution of the persons concerned.

The Special Committee deeply regrets that, up to the present time, the Government of the United Kingdom has not informed the Committee of any action taken by it in response to the appeal made by the Chairman in the Committee's behalf. The Special Committee regards this as yet another indication of the failure of the United Kingdom Government to discharge the solemn obligations it has assumed, as the administering Power, under the relevant provisions of the Charter of the United Nations.

The Special Committee strongly deplores the negative attitude adopted by the United Kingdom Government in regard to the decisions and resolutions of the United Nations concerning Southern Rhodesia. It once again calls upon that Government to fulfil its obligation as administering Power by terminating the illegal régime immediately by all available means.

The Special Committee once again draws the attention of the Security Council to the critical and explosive situation resulting from the intensified repression of the people of Zimbabwe by the illegal racist minority régime and to the need for the Council to consider urgently taking all effective measures in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations.