

UNITED NATIONS
SECURITY
COUNCIL



Distr.
GENERAL

S/9702
13 March 1970
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: FRENCH

NOTE VERBALE DATED 9 MARCH 1970 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE
OF THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO TO THE UNITED NATIONS
ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

The Permanent Representative of the Democratic Republic of the Congo to the United Nations presents his compliments to the Secretary-General of the United Nations and has the honour to request him to circulate as a document of the Security Council the text, set forth below, of the statement issued by the Congolese Government following the proclamation of the so-called republic by the rebel Smith régime:

"The Democratic Republic of the Congo has repeatedly drawn the attention of the world, and more particularly of the United Kingdom, to the threat to peace in Africa which has long been looming as a result of the existence of a racist régime in Rhodesia.

"This threat has constantly escalated with the passage of time. The white minority in Rhodesia, which is not in the least perturbed by illusory economic sanctions, has made a mockery of the interests of the people of Zimbabwe by unilaterally proclaiming the independence of Rhodesia and, a few days ago, establishing a republic, thereby finally severing its links with the United Kingdom.

"The latter, which is solely responsible for this situation, should have used force, as we suggested, to bring the white settlers of British origin to reason, as it did in other, less dramatic circumstances in Anguilla, Aden and the Indies.

"We consider that the twofold act of unilaterally proclaiming the independence and the republican status of Rhodesia is not only a challenge hurled at Africa but also a camouflage for the British crown. Non-recognition of this State cannot, any more than could selected economic sanctions, convince Africans of the good faith of the United Kingdom, of whose complicity in this matter there is no longer a shadow of doubt.

/...

"Only the use of force appears to offer the most effective and appropriate means of restoring justice in Rhodesia and turning over to the Zimbabwe people the reins of power in their country.

"The Democratic Republic of the Congo, its President and its Government stand solidly behind the people of Zimbabwe in the struggle waged by the latter for the recovery of their freedom and independence, and will not shrink from any sacrifice which the pursuit of that goal may entail."

The Permanent Representative of the Democratic Republic of the Congo takes this opportunity, etc.

The Secretary-General of the United Nations
New York, N.Y. 10017
