

UNITED NATIONS
SECURITY
COUNCIL



Distr.
GENERAL

S/9757
4 April 1970
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: RUSSIAN

LETTER DATED 3 APRIL 1970 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE
OF THE USSR TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT
OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour hereby to inform you that on 2 April 1970, the Permanent Mission of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics to the United Nations sent the Secretary-General of the United Nations a letter stating the following:

"The Permanent Mission of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics to the United Nations presents its compliments to the Secretary-General of the United Nations and, in connexion with the Secretary-General's note issued as document S/9726 of 28 March 1970, has the honour to state that it could not refrain from drawing attention to the fact that the Secretary-General considered it possible to communicate information to the members of the Security Council, on an ex post facto basis and without consulting the members of the Council beforehand, concerning the adoption of measures in connexion with the problem of Bahrain.

"As is apparent, however, from the very contents of the Secretary-General's note, this problem relates to a type of situation that can lead to complications in international relations.

"It is a matter of common knowledge that according to the Charter of the United Nations, questions of this kind and the decisions taken on them come within the jurisdiction of the Security Council. The statement in the note that actions such as this by the Secretary-General 'have become customary in United Nations practice' cannot serve to justify these actions, for it is widely known that this illegal practice was forced upon the United Nations in the past by certain Powers contrary to and in violation of the Charter.

"In this connexion the USSR Mission to the United Nations considers it necessary to emphasize once again that under the United Nations Charter, decisions on matters connected with action by the United Nations relating to the maintenance of international peace and security are taken by the Security Council.

"The Mission would also recall that the Soviet Union's position of principle regarding action of this kind connected with the maintenance of international peace and security has already been stated on previous occasions, particularly in the letter dated 27 August 1966 from the Permanent Representative of the USSR to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/7478) and in the letter dated 19 March 1969 from the Permanent Representative of the USSR to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General of the United Nations (S/9101)."

I should be grateful if you would take the necessary steps to have this letter issued as an official Security Council document.

Yours faithfully,

(Signed) Y. MALIK

Permanent Representative of the
Union of the Soviet Socialist Republics
to the United Nations
