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REPORT BY THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

1. Telegram dated 11 August 1967 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the Republic of Guinea

I feel I must inform you at this stage of the most recent developments in my efforts to obtain the release of the Guinean officials detained at Abidjan. On 28 July, after my previous appeals to the Government of the Ivory Coast had failed to elicit a favourable reply, I addressed to the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Ivory Coast a communication formally requesting the immediate release of the members of the Guinean delegation to the fifth emergency special session of the General Assembly and the release of the UPU official and of the members of his family who are detained by the Ivory Coast. Today the Permanent Representative of the Ivory Coast handed to me the reply of his Minister of Foreign Affairs. It stated that the Government of the Ivory Coast, while deeply regretting its inability to accede to my request, nevertheless expressed the sincere hope that a reasonable solution would be found in favour of the persons detained in the Ivory Coast and in Guinea.

In these circumstances, I feel that I must present to the States Members of the United Nations a detailed report on the efforts I have made to obtain the release of the Guinean officials and on the manner in which I have used my good offices to bring about the release of the nationals of the Ivory Coast detained in Guinea. My report will be circulated on 15 August and I wished to inform you of this in advance.

I shall also consider other measures that I may take in order to remedy a state of affairs which constitutes, in my opinion, a clear infringement of international agreements.

* Also being circulated to all Member States under the symbol ST/SG/REP/1/Add.1.

You may rest assured that, in spite of the disappointing results which have so far attended my efforts, I shall continue to do my utmost to obtain a solution to this extremely regrettable incident.

I fully understand your feelings and those of your Government and people in the face of the continued detention of Mr. Béavogui and Mr. Achkar, and of Mr. Montlouis and his family, and I want you to know how much I appreciate your understanding and your restraint.

Please accept, etc.

(Signed) U THANT
Secretary-General
of the United Nations

2. Telegram dated 14 August 1967 from the President of the Republic of Guinea addressed to the Secretary-General

Following your message of 11 August I have the honour to express to you our appreciation for your many efforts to ensure that international public law is respected. At the same time we request you to inform officially all States Members of the United Nations and to inscribe the matter on the agenda of the General Assembly and of the Security Council. We await the decision of the United Nations in order to know whether the United Nations Charter and the agreements relating to it are to be applied or not by Member States. We beg you to understand the painful and distressing situation in which our delegation is placed and that the patience of our Government and people is being severely tried. We would therefore like to know as soon as possible the decision of the United Nations concerning this serious matter and the final result of your efforts in the face of this characteristic violation of the United Nations Charter by the Ivory Coast, so that our Government may consider all the practical steps which it is entitled to take.

Please accept, etc.

(Signed) Ahmed Sékou TOURE

3. Letter dated 14 August 1967 from the Chargé d'Affaires a.i. of the Republic of Guinea addressed to the Secretary-General

Following my communications of 27 July and 1 August 1967, I have the honour to inform you that, in accordance with circular No. 27/PRG of the Chief of State of Guinea, the Government of the Republic of Guinea has decided to suspend all participation in meetings and conferences of the United Nations specialized agencies until the release of the Guinean delegation led by His Excellency Mr. Lansana Béavogui, Minister of Foreign Affairs, now illegally detained by the Ivory Coast authorities.

As I had occasion to point out in the above-mentioned communications, this measure has been taken in the conviction that the United Nations must discharge its responsibilities regarding the illegal detention of our delegation.

However, this measure in no way affects the experts from the different agencies now engaged in missions in Guinea, where they may peacefully continue their work.

Please accept, etc.

(Signed) M'Baye Cheik OMAR
Counsellor
Chargé d'Affaires a.i.

