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NOTE VERBALE DATED 22 JUNE 1966 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE
OF THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED
TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

The Permanent Representative of the Republic of South Africa to the United Nations presents his compliments to the Secretary-General of the United Nations and in reference to Note PO 230 SORH (1) of 12 April 1966, addressed to the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of South Africa, has the honour to transmit the following communication from the Minister of Foreign Affairs:

"The Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of South Africa presents his compliments to the Secretary-General of the United Nations and has the honour to refer to the latter's communication of 12th April, 1966, conveying the text of resolution 221 which emerged from the Security Council on 9th April, 1966.

"The Government of the Republic of South Africa have given consideration to the legal aspects of this matter particularly as this is the first occasion since the amendment of Article 27 of the Charter on which the Security Council purported to give a decision involving enforcement measures in terms of Chapter VII, and as the validity of this action has been widely questioned on various grounds including the fact that two permanent members abstained from voting on the draft resolution in question. In the light of such consideration the Government of the Republic of South Africa have decided to reserve their position regarding the validity of the said resolution and of the procedure whereby the Security Council purported to adopt it. In particular no action or attitude on the part of the Government of the Republic of South Africa should be construed as recognition of or acquiescence in the correctness of any procedure whereby resolutions of the Security Council are held to be adopted despite the abstention from voting of one or more of its permanent members.

PRETORIA
22nd June, 1966".

The Permanent Representative of the Republic of South Africa to the United Nations has the honour to request publication of this communication as an official document of the Security Council.