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LETTER DATED 21 NOVEMBER 1964 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE
OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF
THE SECURITY COUNCIL

For many weeks a situation of extreme danger to the lives of innocent civilians has prevailed in Stanleyville and surrounding areas in the Congo. Many innocent Congolese and foreigners have been mistreated and killed. Threats have been made and are currently in effect against the lives of others.

Appeals have been made by the Congolese Government, by the Ad Hoc Commission of the Organization of African Unity, by various Governments, and today jointly from thirteen Governments, that the lives of these hostages be spared. The International Committee of the Red Cross has for many weeks also sought in vain permission to carry out its recognized responsibilities. The lives of citizens of at least eighteen Member nations of the United Nations are involved.

On 20 November the United States Government received a message from Christophe Gbenye suggesting preliminary discussions in Nairobi and asking that the United States fix a time for these discussions. The United States immediately accepted this suggestion and Ambassador Attwood in Nairobi proposed a meeting with Prime Minister Kenyatta, Chairman of the Conciliation Commission of the Organization of African Unity, Mr. Gbenye's representative, Mr. Thomas Kanza, and such other persons as they desired for mid-day in Nairobi on 21 November. Ambassador Attwood did meet with Mr. Kenyatta and Organization of African Unity Secretary General Diallo Telli. However, it is not known where Mr. Kanza is and no meeting with him has taken place thus far.

Inasmuch as at least one execution threat has only been held in abeyance until Monday, we believe that the Security Council needs to be informed of the situation in case it proves necessary for the Council to take steps to help

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protect the lives of the innocent people involved. The United States Government therefore fully associates itself with the letter of today's date from the Government of Belgium to the President of the Security Council.

I should appreciate it if you would circulate this letter as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Adlai E. STEVENSON
