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LETTER DATED 25 MARCH 1963 FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL
ADDRESSED TO THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF VENEZUELA

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your letter number 00451 dated 21 March 1963 and to inform you that its contents have been circulated to the members of the Security Council in document S/5268.

In the fifth paragraph of said letter, you reiterate the terms of your previous letter dated 14 March 1963 and thus the "formal protest" you lodged with me against the publication and circulation as a document of the Security Council of document S/5259. The text of that document had been distributed under cover of a Note Verbale by the Secretariat to all Permanent Missions of the Member States of the United Nations on 7 March 1963.

In reply, I am pleased to note that you not only agreed that "it has been, and continues to be, the practice of the Security Council to have published, as Council documents, communications from Member States relating to items on the Council's agenda", but also that "the contents of these communications are the responsibility of the State sending them." I would like to add, however, that being bound by the two above-mentioned practices and not being empowered to modify the language of a communication received from a Member State, it was my duty as President of the Security Council to circulate document S/5259 as worded by the Member State from which it emanated.

In conclusion, Sir, I reaffirm that in determining the circulation of document S/5259, I followed the established practice of the Security Council.

Accept, etc.

(Signed) Geraldo de Carvalho Silos
President of the Security Council

