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LETTER DATED 25 JANUARY 1962 FROM THE REPRESENTATIVE OF
THE UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS ADDRESSED TO
THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

On 24 November 1961, the Security Council adopted a resolution on the question of the Congo providing for firm measures to be taken against Tshombe's separatist regime and his foreign mercenaries, in order to prevent the secession of Katanga and to ensure the unity and territorial integrity of the Republic of the Congo.

This resolution, as everyone knows, strongly deprecated "the secessionist activities illegally carried out by the provincial administration of Katanga, with the aid of external resources and manned by foreign mercenaries" and demanded that such activities should "cease forthwith".

Although this resolution was adopted by the Security Council more than two months ago, it is still not being carried into effect, because of the direct opposition of certain colonial Powers with interests in Katanga.

Despite the Security Council's instructions that vigorous action, including the use of force, if necessary, should be taken to expel all foreign mercenaries, in order to prevent the secession of Katanga from the Republic of the Congo, the United Nations has completely halted military operations, regardless of the fact that the provisions of the Security Council resolution concerning the expulsion of these mercenaries and the elimination of the sources of colonial interference in the internal affairs of the Congo have not been complied with.

As the facts show, Tshombe, the protégé of the foreign monopolies, is ignoring the United Nations decision and is pursuing a direct course towards the secession of Katanga from the Congo. "Negotiations" are being carried on with him, attempts are being made to persuade him, and meanwhile the armed bands of mercenaries remain at his disposal; he is in fact being given a chance to obtain new arms and reinforcements of troops from other countries, which have no scruples about openly violating the decisions of the Security Council.

It is stated in an official United Nations document (S/5053/Add.1) dated 20 January that "no positive measures have as yet been taken by the Katanga provincial authorities to facilitate the implementation of the relevant clauses in the Security Council resolutions of 21 February and 24 November 1961" and that "to date ... no real progress has been made" in putting these provisions into effect.

The efforts of the Central Government, headed by Mr. Adoula, to reunite Katanga with the Republic of the Congo as soon as possible and to ensure that the Government exercises real power in that province meet with all kinds of obstacles and with direct sabotage by outside forces, whose interference in the internal affairs of the Congo is ever more blatant.

The essence of the matter, therefore, is an obvious agreement by the colonial Powers to rescue Tshombe, the protégé of the foreign monopolies in Katanga, to safeguard their own colonial interests and to continue to undermine the unity and territorial integrity of the Republic of the Congo, thus increasing the threat to peace and security in Africa.

Accordingly, on the instructions of the Soviet Government, I request you to call an urgent meeting of the Security Council to consider the question of the implementation of the Security Council resolution of 24 November 1961 on the question of the Congo.

(Signed) V. ZORIN
Permanent Representative of the
USSR to the United Nations

