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MESSAGE FROM MR. TSHOMBE RECEIVED BY THE SECRETARY-GENERAL
ON 1 FEBRUARY 1961

In reply to the message dated 19 January 1961 from the Secretary-General to Mr. Tshombé (S/4637), the Secretary-General has today received the following message through the ONUC representative at Elizabethville:

"The transfer of Mr. Lumumba to Katanga was effected on the initiative and at the request of the President of the Republic of the Congo, His Excellency Mr. Joseph Kasavubu, and I am quite astonished at the concern on the part of the United Nations in regard to an ex-Prime Minister who, incidentally, has been recognized as guilty of genocide by the international Organization. Furthermore, in view of the many crimes committed by Mr. Lumumba against the Congolese nation and people, it is essential that the authorities of the former Belgian Congo alone should decide, without interference from outside, what treatment he shall be given and what is to be done with him. This procedure is recognized in respect of other countries where similar cases are at present being dealt with. Finally, I should like you to know that I am astonished at the indifference shown by the United Nations in the face of the treatment given by the authorities at Bukavu and Stanleyville to the representatives of the lawful authorities of those provinces and to the indigenous and foreign inhabitants of the regions. In view of the unfortunate repercussions which Mr. Lumumba's inflammatory statements have always had, I consider that for the time being, in the interests of restoring general calm, there should be no contact between Mr. Lumumba and the outside world."
