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CABLE DATED 20 FEBRUARY 1961 FROM THE MINISTER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE BYELORUSSIAN SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLIC ADDRESSED TO THE SECURITY COUNCIL

On the instructions of the Government of the Byelorussian SSR I have the honour to state the following:

The Government of the Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, on behalf of the Byelorussian people, expresses profound indignation at the new bloody crime perpetrated by the colonialists and their mercenaries - the infamous murder of Patrice Lumumba, the Prime Minister of the lawful Government of the Republic of the Congo, Joseph Okito, the President of the Senate, and Maurice Mpolo, the Minister of Defence. The most heavy responsibility for this monstrous crime which flouts all standards of international law and morality rests first and foremost with the Belgian colonialists and their allies in the NATO military bloc who, because of their adherence to the policy of colonialism, are conniving at the outrages in the Congo. The evil deed which the colonialists have committed in the Congo clearly shows that they are prepared to commit any crime in their efforts to put off the final and inevitable downfall of the shameful colonial system. The murder of Patrice Lumumba and his companions, whose direct perpetrators were the henchmen of the colonialists, Tshombe and Mobutu, was the logical culmination of the foul series of treacheries committed by Dag Hammarskjold against the Congolese people. Hammarskjold's activities constitute a mockery of the principles of the Charter and the decisions of the United Nations, and of the Declaration on the grant of independence to colonial countries and peoples, which was adopted two months ago; it is an open challenge to the freedom-loving forces throughout the world. In carrying out the will of the colonialists, Dag Hammarskjold has contributed directly to the creation in the Republic of the Congo of a situation which is a dangerous threat to the cause of peace. Instead of extending help to the legitimate Government and Parliament of the Republic of the Congo, Hammarskjold has helped the colonialists and their agents in the Congo

to dismember and disorganize the young Congolese State, to build up and arm gangs of hired traitors and executioners and, afterwards, to bring about the physical elimination of Prime Minister Patrice Lumumba, the champion of the freedom and independence of the Congo. Having become an accomplice in and organizer of the murder of Patrice Lumumba and of his companions, Dag Hammarskjold has lost the confidence and earned the condemnation and contempt of all honest people, and has placed himself outside the United Nations. The Government of the Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic declares its full support of the proposals of the Government of the Soviet Union set out in its statement dated 14 February 1961, and calls on the Security Council decisively to condemn Belgian colonialists' acts of aggression in the Congo as an international crime, and to apply to the aggressors the appropriate sanctions provided for in the United Nations Charter. The Government of the Byelorussian SSR considers that the Security Council should adopt a decision calling for the immediate arrest and trial of the puppets Tshombe and Mobutu, the disarming of the army and gendarmerie units under their control, and the disarming and removal from the Congo of all Belgian troops and all Belgian personnel. The so-called United Nations Operation in the Congo must be terminated within one month, and all foreign troops must leave the country in order to enable the Congolese people to decide their own internal affairs. Since Dag Hammarskjold has become an accomplice in and an organizer of the murder of the leading statesmen of the Republic of the Congo, and has thereby sullied the name of the United Nations, the Government of the Byelorussian SSR resolutely supports the demand that he should be removed from the post of Secretary-General of the United Nations. In so far as the Byelorussian SSR is concerned, the Government of the Byelorussian SSR will henceforth maintain no relations of any kind with Dag Hammarskjold and will not recognize him as a United Nations official. The Byelorussian SSR regards the Central Government headed by Acting Prime Minister Antoine Gizenga as the only lawful Government of the Republic of the Congo. All-out support for the lawful Government of the Republic of the Congo in its just struggle against the international plot of the colonialists is a sacred duty for all freedom-loving States. Such support fully corresponds to the principles of the United Nations Charter and to the interests of international peace.

(Signed) K. KISELEV
Minister for Foreign Affairs
of the Byelorussian SSR

