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LETTER DATED 23 FEBRUARY 1961 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE
OF THE UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS ADDRESSED TO THE
PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

On 20 February 1961 the Security Council adopted, as we know, a resolution on the question of the Congo. Part A, operative paragraph 2, of this resolution states that the Security Council

"Urges that measures be taken for the immediate withdrawal and evacuation from the Congo of all Belgian and other foreign military and para-military personnel and political advisers not under the United Nations Command, and mercenaries".

Considering that, as the discussion in the Council showed, the subversive activity of Belgian personnel and mercenaries still remains the chief source of tension in the Congo and is steadily aggravating the international crisis created by events in that country, it is extremely important for members of the Council to be informed on whether any measures have already been taken to implement the aforesaid decision of the Council and, if so, what measures.

Yet the members of the Council have no official information at their disposal on this matter so far, despite the fact that some three days have passed since the aforementioned decision was adopted.

Since it is of the greatest importance that the situation in the Congo, with its latent threat to international peace and the security of peoples, should be regularized as quickly as possible, I would ask you to ensure that all necessary information is obtained on this question, and to circulate it to members of the Council. I also consider it absolutely essential that members of the Council should henceforth receive in good time the necessary information on progress in the application of the whole of the Council's decision of 20 February on the question of the Congo.

I have the honour to be, etc.

(Signed) V. ZORIN

Permanent Representative of the
USSR to the United Nations

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