



UNITED NATIONS
SECURITY
COUNCIL



Distr.
GENERAL

S/4911
1 August 1961
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: ENGLISH/FRENCH

MESSAGE DATED 28 JULY 1961 FROM MR. A. GIZENGA ADDRESSED
TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

In accordance with the request of the Acting Permanent Representative of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics contained in his letter dated 31 July 1961 (S/4908) addressed to the President of the Security Council and transmitted by the latter to the Secretary-General for suitable disposition (S/4909), the text of a message dated 28 July 1961 from Mr. Gizenga to the Secretary-General is distributed herewith:

"I have the honour to forward to you the protest of the Congolese people and my personal protest against the manner in which the agreements concluded a month ago that lay down all the provisions governing the United Nations on the one side and on the other side the members of Parliament and other persons during the current parliamentary session, are being executed. In said agreements it was provided, first, that no member of Parliament could leave Lovanium; second, that no civilian could enter Lovanium, except for administrative staff which was to remain in Parliament strictly for the purpose of attending to the needs of the members of Parliament; third, that all the Congolese soldiers of Leopoldville would be disarmed and that any soldier or civilian found carrying arms would be arrested. In violation of the said agreements and particularly of the points mentioned in the first and second paragraphs, (a) Mr. Kasa-Vubu entered and left Lovanium five times, (b) senior United Nations officials enter and leave Lovanium throughout the day when parliamentary affairs do not require them to do so. In violation of the said agreements armed Congolese soldiers walk about Leopoldville although they should have been disarmed three days before the arrival of the members of Parliament at Lovanium.

Considering that we on the nationalist side have satisfied all the United Nation's requests and demands; considering that all these violations of our agreements not only constitute a serious intrusion upon the life of the peoples and the members of Parliament meeting at Lovanium but also create an unhealthy climate for the discussions in progress; on behalf of the people, on behalf of the mothers and children of the members of Parliament confined in the conclave at Lovanium and on my own behalf, I lodge an indignant protest and ask you to take at once all necessary measures to calm the fears of those persons whose fathers, uncles, brothers and sons will be insecure so long as non-Tunisian forces have not been disarmed.

I appeal to international opinion and to the entire world to decide that a commission made up of members coming from the African States should be permitted to attend the debates at Lovanium. I appeal to all mankind and to men of good will to use every possible means to see that democracy is not flouted once again in the Congo. I appeal to the compassionate understanding of all the countries of the world to see that liberty and justice are finally permitted to prevail in the Congo. I appeal to the conscience of all the Chiefs of State and of all the leaders of the world and to the conscience of all those who have the power to safeguard freedom to see that the Republic of the Congo ceases to be an exhibition ground for force and lawlessness.

In summary, the Congolese people which has suffered greatly and has lost more than one of its sons asks you to fulfil your responsibilities by taking steps to see that this part of the African continent ceases to be a mockery and becomes, under the sound direction we have a right to expect from the United Nations, a nation in which aversion to compromise, ambushes and fratricidal assassinations are no more. On behalf of the Congolese people, I ask you, together with all men of goodwill, to act as a spokesman for a sister nation to all the nations of the world so that 14 million men may enjoy the basic right of every human being, namely, freedom of choice, within a system of respect for the law.

I have the honour to be, etc.

Antoine Gizenga
Deputy Prime Minister"
