



UNITED NATIONS
SECURITY
COUNCIL



Distr.
GENERAL

S/4988
17 November 1961
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: FRENCH

COMMUNICATIONS FROM MR. TSHOMBE ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL
AND TO CERTAIN DELEGATIONS

At the request of the delegation of Liberia, the following communications from Mr. Tshombe addressed, respectively, to the Secretary-General and to certain delegations are hereby circulated for the information of the members of the Security Council.

A. Cable dated 14 November 1961 from Mr. Tshombe addressed to the Secretary-General

The President of Katanga presents his compliments to the Secretary-General of the United Nations and hereby reaffirms, on behalf of the Katangese Government, Parliament and people, the existence of Katanga as a sovereign and independent nation and its express wish to reach a settlement of the present problems exclusively by peaceful methods.

A year of de facto independence and the recent events have afforded adequate proof of the feelings of liberty and justice which guide the actions of the Katangese people. Moreover, the world has had to recognize the failure of all the formulae so far proposed for settling the problem of Katanga. Lastly, the Government of Katanga continues to favour negotiation as the means of settling the problem, in spite of the Leopoldville Government's refusal to accept the proposals very recently made to it for an economic, customs, monetary and military union which would also guarantee the political autonomy of Katanga.

Like all democratic nations, Katanga invokes the principle on which the very existence of the United Nations is based, according to which all peoples and all nations have the right of self-determination, namely, the right freely to determine their political, economic and cultural status. Katanga is proud to state publicly, here and now, that it pledges itself to respect the principles of the United Nations Charter.

The President of Katanga warmly thanks the Secretary-General in advance for the attention he may give to the present communication and for the action he may see fit to take in order to bring it to the notice of Member States.

Moïse Tshombe
President of Katanga

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B. Cable from Mr. Tshombe addressed to certain delegations

I have followed the recent statements by representatives in the Security Council. In the name of humanity and to prevent further bloodshed, we request your intervention in the Security Council in order to halt the invasion of Katanga. I am prepared to begin immediate negotiations with Prime Minister Adoula. As regards President Kasa-Vubu, I have recognized by the Tananarive agreements his authority as Head of the States of the Confederation, the only valid formula which can save the former Belgian Congo. Have honour to be, etc.

President Tshombe

