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LETTER DATED 23 MARCH 1985 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE  
OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA TO THE UNITED NATIONS  
ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

I have the honour to enclose herewith the text of a statement by the spokesman of the Foreign Ministry of the People's Republic of China on 22 March 1985 on the recent suppression of the black people by the South African authorities in that country. I would be grateful if you could arrange for the circulation of this letter and the statement as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) LING Qing  
Permanent Representative

ANNEX

Statement of the spokesman of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs  
of the People's Republic of China on the suppression by the  
South African authorities of the black people in that country  
22 March 1985

On 21 March 1985, several thousand black people in the suburbs of Port Elizabeth, South Africa, gathered in a peaceful assembly and held a demonstration in commemoration of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Sharpeville massacre. The South African authorities dispatched armed police to suppress them, creating a tragic incident of 16 people being killed and more than 20 wounded. This is another crime committed by the South African authorities against the South African people. The Chinese Government and people express indignation at and strong condemnation against the atrocities committed by the South African authorities.

This act of the South African authorities has once again revealed their ferocious racist nature and exposed the fraud of their so-called "reform". All these perverse acts of theirs will only further arouse the South African people to an intensified struggle against apartheid and for racial equality and other basic rights.

The Chinese Government and people will, as always, firmly support the just struggle of the South African people and are convinced that with the support of the justice-upholding peoples in the world, the South African people, by closing their ranks and persevering in struggle, are sure to win final victory.

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