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Agenda item 23IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECLARATION ON THE GRANTING
OF INDEPENDENCE TO COLONIAL COUNTRIES AND PEOPLES

Letter dated 5 November 1965 from the Permanent Representative of the
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to the United
Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to inform Your Excellency that my delegation cannot accept the statement of the Yemeni representative at the 1368th plenary meeting of the General Assembly on 5 November in so far as it described South Arabia as the Occupied Yemeni South and asserted that South Arabia was an integral part of Yemen. The United Kingdom Government has no doubt as to its sovereignty over the State of Aden and I wish formally to reserve the rights of the United Kingdom Government on this question. Similarly, there is no foundation for the Yemeni claims to the States of the Protectorate of South Arabia; these States are under the protection of the United Kingdom Government and the United Kingdom Government is responsible for their external relations. The Yemeni Government therefore have no claim to act on their behalf. The United Kingdom Government has no intention of abandoning the obligations which it has contracted towards the Sultans and other rulers of these Territories.

I should be grateful if Your Excellency would arrange for this letter to be circulated as a document of the General Assembly.

(Signed) CARADON