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LETTER DATED 3 JUNE 1966 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE
OF THE UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS TO THE UNITED
NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

With reference to your circular letter TR 410 of 7 February 1966, transmitting resolution 2105 (XX) concerning the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, the Permanent Mission of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics to the United Nations has the honour to state the following:

The Soviet Union consistently advocates the granting of independence to all colonial countries and peoples without delay, actively supports the struggle against colonialism and is providing and will continue to provide real and comprehensive assistance to the peoples fighting against alien usurpers for their freedom and independence.

True to the principle of affording all possible support to the national liberation movements, the representatives of the USSR in the Security Council, the General Assembly and the Committee of Twenty-Four have repeatedly stated that colonialism and racism constitute a threat to international peace and security and are a crime against humanity and, in this connexion, have decisively condemned the policy of Portugal and the Republic of South Africa and of the Powers supporting those States.

The Soviet Union voted in favour of the resolution mentioned in your letter, in which the General Assembly recognizes the legitimacy of the struggle by the peoples under colonial rule to exercise their right to self-determination and independence and invites all States to provide material and moral assistance to the national liberation movements in colonial Territories.

The Soviet Union naturally has not provided and is not providing any assistance to Portugal or the Republic of South Africa, which are pursuing a policy

of cruel colonial domination and racial discrimination against the indigenous population, and it favours the adoption of the strongest measures against these States in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations.

The Soviet Union also fully supports the request made to the colonial Powers in the resolution "to dismantle the military bases installed in colonial Territories and to refrain from establishing new ones".

The USSR has always advocated the elimination of foreign military bases in the territories of other States and the withdrawal of foreign troops from those territories, since such bases and armed forces are being used in interests alien to peace as a means of exerting pressure on peace-loving States and engaging in direct armed intervention in the internal affairs of peoples.

I should be glad if you would issue this letter as an official document of the General Assembly.

(Signed) N. FEDORENKO
