

UNITED NATIONS
SECURITY
COUNCIL



Distr.
GENERAL

S/13673
3 December 1979
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: FRENCH

LETTER DATED 3 DECEMBER 1979 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE
OF THE IVORY COAST TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE
PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to transmit to you herewith the text of a message from His Excellency the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Ivory Coast concerning the occupation of the United States Embassy in Teheran.

I should be grateful if you would kindly have the text of this message circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Amoakon-Edjampan THIEMELE
Ambassador, Permanent Representative

Annex

Message dated 23 November 1979 from His Excellency the
Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Ivory Coast

The Ivory Coast has associated itself, out of respect for the rules of international law and for humanitarian reasons, with the representation made at various levels to the Iranian authorities for the purpose of obtaining the evacuation of the premises of the Embassy of the United States of America in Teheran, which has been occupied by Iranian students, and the release of the personnel taken hostage.

In Teheran itself, our Ambassador has participated in the action taken to that end by the diplomatic corps, on the one hand, and by the Ambassadors of the African countries, on the other.

For the same reasons, the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Ivory Coast has given an audience to the Chargé d'Affaires of Iran in Abidjan.

Furthermore, at a special meeting of the Political Bureau on Tuesday, 20 November, the President of the Republic gave an account of the problem raised by the occupation of the United States Embassy in Teheran by Iranian students. The Political Bureau unanimously called upon the Government to join its voice to those of the countries protesting against this occupation.

The President of the Republic has addressed the following telegram to His Excellency the Ayatollah Khomeini:

"The occupation of the Embassy of the United States of America in Teheran and the taking of its personnel hostage are a subject of concern for the Government of the Ivory Coast and myself.

"The privileges and immunities enjoyed by diplomatic missions and their personnel confer inviolability on them.

"Every Government should ensure the protection of the missions and diplomatic personnel to which it is host. It cannot shirk this obligation and deliberately violate their privileges and immunities, for any reasons whatsoever. Accordingly, I have the honour to request you to have the United States Embassy evacuated as soon as possible and to release all persons detained there.

"Accept, Sir, the assurances of my highest consideration.

"Signed Felix Houphouët-Boigny"

Simeon AKE
Minister for Foreign Affairs
