

UNITED NATIONS
SECURITY
COUNCIL

UN LIBRARY

JUN 27 1977

UN/SA COLLECTION



IN

Distr.
GENERAL

S/12350
23 June 1977

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

LETTER DATED 22 JUNE 1977 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE
OF MOZAMBIQUE TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE
PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

Attached please find a copy of a telex (annex I) dated 18 June 1977 sent to His Excellency Mr. Kurt Waldheim, Secretary-General of the United Nations, from His Excellency Mr. Samora Moises Machel, President of FRELIMO and President of the People's Republic of Mozambique, requesting on behalf of the Government of the People's Republic of Mozambique, to convene a Security Council session with regard to increased tension in southern Africa further escalated by the recent attack and invasion against the People's Republic of Mozambique.

Also, please find attached a copy of a speech (annex II) by His Excellency Mr. Samora Moises Machel given on 18 June 1977, reaffirming the decision made by the Central Committee of FRELIMO and the Council of Ministers of the People's Republic of Mozambique to adhere to the decision made by the international community to apply full sanctions against the illegal and racist régime of Southern Rhodesia.

Enclosed please find a set of six pictures (annex III)* showing the nature of brutality and some aspect of the damages caused by Southern Rhodesian troops during their last invasion of the People's Republic of Mozambique.

(Signed) José Carlos LOBO
Ambassador Extraordinary
and Plenipotentiary
Permanent Representative
to the United Nations

* Annex III will be issued separately as document S/12350/Add.1.

Annex I

Telegram dated 18 June 1977 from the President of Mozambique,
Mr. Samora Moises Machel, addressed to the Secretary-General

The illegal and racist régime of Ian Smith, finding itself unable to suppress the liberation war, being waged by the courageous freedom fighters of Zimbabwe, has been escalating a systematic action of violations, provocations and armed aggressions against those front-line States having common borders with Rhodesia. The People's Republic of Mozambique has known this kind of barbaric military aggression committed by the racist régime of Salisbury since 1975, the year of its independence.

Owing to the aggression against the People's Republic of Mozambique, the Republic of Zambia and the Republic of Botswana by Smith's régime, southern Africa is a zone where world peace and security are in jeopardy and therefore constitutes a permanent focus of tension.

The international community has unanimously condemned Smith's racist régime and decided to give its support to the Zimbabwe people's just struggle. Now it becomes imperative that international solidarity be expressed in more concrete and active form.

On behalf of the Government of the People's Republic of Mozambique, I have the honour to request Your Excellency Mr. Kurt Waldheim, Secretary-General of the United Nations, to convene a Security Council session to study this situation of tension and insecurity existing in southern Africa which is created by the colonial situation prevailing in Rhodesia today. We hope that the international community will take the necessary measures to deal adequately with this particular case.

(Signed) Samora Moises MACHEL
President of FRELIMO
and President of the
People's Republic of
Mozambique

Annex II

Statement made by the President of Mozambique, Mr. Samora Moises Machel,
on 18 June 1977 in Maputo

Comrades,

Compatriots,

Excellencies,

Representatives of the diplomatic corps in Mozambique,

On 3 March 1976, we met here so that you could be informed of an important decision taken by the Central Committee of FRELIMO and the Council of Ministers of the People's Republic of Mozambique: the full application of sanctions against the illegal racist régime of the British colony of Southern Rhodesia as decided by the international community.

We announced to the whole world that with effect from that day on the People's Republic of Mozambique was closing its borders with the colony and banning all communications with it, including air and land traffic of any persons or goods going to or coming from Southern Rhodesia.

We affirmed clearly and categorically, leaving no doubts, that our people would be ready to accept any sacrifices in order to translate the sanctions, in practice, into total and unconditional support for the colonized and oppressed people of Zimbabwe.

When we took that decision, we were well aware of the sacrifices that it would entail. But for us, what mattered above all was that we carry out our international duty, the intransigent defence of the just liberation struggle of the people of Zimbabwe.

When we announced that decision, our country and our people were already victims of the open, murderous aggressions of Ian Smith's troops.

At that time, we launched an appeal to the entire international community to increase its political, moral, diplomatic and material support to both the Zimbabwe people's national liberation struggle and to the People's Republic of Mozambique because of their application of the mandatory sanctions against the British colony of Southern Rhodesia.

The response of the community of nations was not only positive but also an encouragement in the process of pursuing independence for the people of Zimbabwe.

Nevertheless, the United Nations Member States were not unanimous in adhering to that response. In fact, despite public condemnation, some countries

/...

failed to translate their verbal support into concrete actions. Others, although condemning the Salisbury rebel régime's acts of aggression, played upon ambiguity, continuing to aid the Rhodesian racists materially and politically. The objective is clear: to impose upon the people of Zimbabwe a settlement designed to present Ian Smith as an essential part of any solution to the conflict in this British colony. This manoeuvre, enabling the rebel troops to reorganize and strengthen their offensive capacity, turned those countries into active accomplices in the escalation of aggression against the People's Republic of Mozambique.

In fact, since 3 March 1976, Ian Smith has continued systematically to attack our country, violate our sovereignty and commit crimes against our people. Taking up the fight, the Mozambican people and their armed wing, FPLM, have been driving back the enemy's invading forces.

Today we wish to inform you that in recent days the violations and massacres have reached an unprecedented scale, and the enemy's actions follow well-determined operational plans, particularly aiming at civilian targets. We also note that the enemy is using modern, sophisticated weaponry.

It is important to make a brief assessment of the human and material losses caused by the aggression against our young republic.

Between March 1976 and March this year 143 acts of aggression against the People's Republic of Mozambique took place - 54 in Gaza, 33 in Manica and 56 in Tete Province.

In the Tete Province attacks were made against Caponda, Mucumbura, Luia, Chikumbidze, Gento, Fingoe, Jeque, Inhaluiro and Chicoa. During these attacks, 216 people were killed and 50 wounded.

In Manica Province attacks were made against Chazuica, Goi-Goi, Catandica, Espungabera, Nyzonias, Vila de Manica, Chiarara, Mavonde, Machi-Panda, Mavuzi, Serra Choa and Guro. One thousand sixty-six people were killed and 329 wounded.

In Gaza Province attacks were made against Pafuri, Mavue, Chicualacuala, Chitanga, Machaila, Massangena, Mazumane, Mapai, Nwanetsi, Combomune and Mpuzi. One hundred forty-one people were killed and 148 wounded.

To sum up: between May 1976 and mid-June this year, 1,432 civilians were murdered, including the Zimbabwe refugees of Nyzonias, and 527 were wounded.

Dozens of settlements which housed peaceful villagers engaged in the reconstruction of their country have been razed to the ground, among them Massangena, Mapai, Mavonde and Chicoa.

All that is left of these villagers' efforts and enthusiasm are the mangled remains of what were once houses, schools, hospitals, people's shops, public services and factories. This destruction has cost more than 400 million escudos (\$US 12.1 million). That the lives of more workers were not lost, that the material

damage was not worse, is due mainly to the prompt response of the Mozambique People's Liberation Forces (FPLM) in co-ordination with the people's militia.

Many comrades of the Mozambique people's liberation forces and the people's militia have fallen in battle defending our territorial integrity and our people's lives and possessions.

Comrades,

Compatriots,

Excellencies,

Representatives of the diplomatic corps,

What is the meaning of all those crimes against the Mozambican people, against the People's Republic of Mozambique?

First, they mean that Ian Smith's régime is in a state of open war against Mozambique, with the aim of carrying beyond his borders his conflict with the people of Zimbabwe. They mean that he hopes to internationalize an internal conflict and divert the attention of world public opinion from the central question, which is the Zimbabwe people's struggle for national liberation.

The very existence of the racist Salisbury régime is, in itself, a threat to peace in this region of Africa. Owing to the aggression against the People's Republic of Mozambique, the Republic of Zambia and the Republic of Botswana by Smith's troops, southern Africa is a zone where world peace and security are in jeopardy and therefore constitutes a permanent focus of tension.

The development of this escalating aggression, which began as simple provocations along our borders and violations of air space, have turned into open aggression against our country and culminated in recent weeks with actions which have assumed the proportions of an invasion.

Between 30 May and 1 June, the town of Mapai was completely destroyed by the racist troops, and right now, as I speak to you, the town of Espungabera is suffering the effects of aggression, occupation and massacre.

On behalf of the Central Committee of FRELIMO and the Council of Ministers of the People's Republic of Mozambique, we solemnly declare before our people, before the international community and world public opinion that we shall no longer tolerate violations against our sovereignty.

Comrades,

Fellow Mozambicans,

Within a few days the entire people will commemorate the fifteenth anniversary of the founding of FRELIMO and the second anniversary of our

independence. For all the Mozambican people, united from the Rovuma to the Maputo, 25 June is the day of victory. This victory was won at the cost of enormous sacrifices by the Mozambican people.

It is against our victory, against our freedom and independence that these aggressions are aimed.

We are attacked because we are free to give effective total and unconditional support to the struggle of the fraternal people of Zimbabwe.

This support is in keeping with our international duty. It is a revolutionary achievement of our people.

To carry out this international duty, let us further strengthen our unity. Let us increase our organizational capacity. Let us intensify the struggle for production and productivity in factories, in State enterprises, in co-operatives and communal villages, in schools, public services and residential areas.

FPLM, armed wing of the people, will continue to carry out in an exemplary fashion their mission of defending our people's revolutionary gains, our sovereignty and territorial integrity, and of guaranteeing that we carry out our international duty.

Let our unity continue to be the invincible force which defeated Portuguese colonialism. Let it be the force which will crush any aggression against our country.

In this way, we shall defend peace in our country. We shall make a decisive contribution towards the extension of the frontiers of freedom.

Excellencies,

Representatives of the international community,

At this moment in which the People's Republic of Mozambique is the victim of the most criminal aggression from Ian Smith's illegal régime, we are sure that today, more than ever before, your peoples and your States will know how to express their solidarity towards our people.

The partial assessment of the human losses and material damage is evidence enough of the gravity of the situation in which we are living.

We wish to announce that we have just requested the Secretary-General of the United Nations urgently to convene a meeting of the Security Council for discussion of the situation caused by the recent aggression of Ian Smith's illegal régime which threatens world peace and security.

The Mozambican people require urgent material assistance to support the heavy burden to which we have already referred. We appeal to the entire international community to contribute towards increasing our defence capacity and the reconstruction of the areas devastated by the racists.

At the same time, we renew our appeal to the international community to reinforce the isolation of Smith's racist régime by fully applying sanctions against the British colony of Southern Rhodesia and intensifying support for the Zimbabwean people's armed national liberation struggle, because to defend and support Zimbabwe is to defend and support freedom.

We wish to express our deepest and heartfelt tribute to the victims of Smith's barbarous aggression. The human lives lost, the napalm wounds fill us with hatred for the enemies of freedom and independence.

We wish to reaffirm once again that, whatever the consequences, we shall not give in to intimidation and aggression. We shall consolidate our vigilance. We shall intensify our defence capacity. We shall defend our revolutionary achievements and our sovereignty.

To the people of Zimbabwe we reaffirm our total and unconditional support for their armed struggle for national liberation under whatever circumstances.

Independence or death.

We shall overcome.

The struggle continues.
