

UNITED NATIONS SECURITY COUNCIL



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NOTE VERBALE DATED 23 DECEMBER 1980 FROM THE PERMANENT MISSION OF CUBA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

The Permanent Mission of Cuba to the United Nations presents its compliments to the President of the Security Council and has the honour to request him to have circulated as an official Security Council document the communiqué adopted at the plenary meeting of the non-aligned countries held in New York on 23 December 1980 in order to consider the situation of the two Palestinian mayors of Al-Khalil (Hebron) and Halhoul expelled by the Israeli occupation authorities, and the situation of the three South African members of the African National Congress sentenced to death by the Pretoria racist régime.

Annex

COMMUNIQUE

The Extraordinary Plenary Meeting of the Mon-Aligned Countries was held in New York on 23 December 1980, to urgently consider the situation of the Palestinian mayors of Al-Khalil (Hebron) and Halhoul, expelled by the Israeli occupation authorities, and the situation of the three South African freedom fighters, members of the African National Congress (ANC) sentenced to death by the Pretoria régime.

The meeting noted with great satisfaction that the Security Council has unanimously adopted resolution 484 (1980) on 19 December 1980, determining that it is imperative that the expelled Palestinians, Fahd Qawasmi, Mayor of Al-Khalil (Hebron) and Mohammad Milhem, Mayor of Halhoul, be enabled to return to their homes and towns and resume their responsibilities for which they were elected and appointed. The meeting expressed its solidarity with the two Mayors, at present on a hunger strike at the United Mations.

The meeting condemned Israel's violation of human rights, the Fourth Geneva Convention (1949), the provisions of the Charter of the United Nations and the principles of international law as well as its defiance and refusal to carry out the decisions of the Security Council.

The meeting declared its full support for the Mayors and the Sharia judge of Al-Khalil (Hebron) and called upon the Security Council to take all measures to ensure the full implementation of Security Council resolutions 468 (1980), 469 (1980) and 484 (1980).

The meeting also expressed great concern over the continued aggravation of the situation in South Africa where the well-known intransigence of the régime has been further accentuated by its Prime Minister's repeated affirmations that there will never be universal suffrage in South Africa. The death sentences recently passed on Neimbithi Johnson Lubisi, 28, Andrew Tsepo Mashigo, 20, and Naphtali Manana, 24, the three ANC freedom fighters accused of involvement in the fight against apartheid is yet another act of defiance of the General Assembly and Security Council resolutions, which recognize the legitimacy of the struggle of the South African people for the elimination of apartheid and the establishment of a democratic society in South Africa.

It is, in particular, in open defiance of the Security Council resolution 473 (1980), which called on the Pretoria régime to terminate all political trials and to urgently release all political prisoners including Nelson Mandela as well as all other Black leaders with whom it must deal in any meaningful discussion of the future of the country.

In reaffirming its continued commitment to the struggle against <u>apartheid</u>, the meeting commended the AMC on the recent adoption of the Declaration on the Humanitarian Conduct of War, and called upon the United Nations Member States, including members of the Non-Aligned Movement as well as non-governmental organizations, to take appropriate measures in order to pressure the <u>apartheid</u> régime to spare the lives of these freedom fighters, accord prisoner-of-war status to all captured freedom fighters, and to release all political prisoners.