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LETTER DATED 8 SEPTEMBER 1960 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF
YUGOSLAVIA ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

Under instructions from the Government of the Federal People's Republic of Yugoslavia and in accordance with Article 35 (1) of the Charter of the United Nations, I have the honour to request the urgent convening of the Security Council to consider the situation in the Republic of the Congo threatening, at this moment, to bring into greatest peril peace in the world and requiring, accordingly, an appropriate action without delay by the Security Council.

In connexion with this, I wish to state the following:

The Security Council considered the situation prevailing in the Republic of the Congo for the first time at its meeting in the night of 13-14 July 1960. On that occasion, the Council adopted a resolution (Doc. S/4387) in which, inter alia, it (1) called upon the Government of Belgium to withdraw their troops from the territory of the Republic of the Congo; and (2) decided to authorize the Secretary-General to take necessary steps, in consultation with the Government of the Republic of the Congo, to provide the Government with such military assistance as might be necessary until, through the efforts of the Congolese Government, with the technical assistance of the United Nations, the national security forces might be able, in the opinion of the Government, to meet fully their task.

Thereafter, the Security Council has adopted, with reference to the further developments in the Republic of the Congo, two more resolutions (Doc. S/4405 and S/4426). I would like to put particular stress upon those paragraphs of the resolutions in which the Government of Belgium were called upon to withdraw their troops from the entire territory of the Republic of the Congo and in which all States were requested to refrain from any action which might tend to impede the restoration of law and order and the exercise by the Government of the Congo of their authority or to undermine the territorial integrity and the political independence of the Republic of the Congo.

These so clear decisions notwithstanding, the situation in the Republic of the Congo is continuously a source - to an ever increasing degree - of utmost concern, above all because of the lack of the strict implementation of these decisions.

In the last days particularly, new and very serious difficulties have arisen. They have been caused by the outside interferences which have assumed the form of an organized action to infringe upon the independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Republic of the Congo through the support given, for this purpose, to the secessionist ringleaders Tshombe, Kalonji and the like, by sending them military equipment, instructors and by other means, as well as through the recent attempt to overthrow the legal Government of the Republic of the Congo. These actions have, unfortunately, been facilitated by the practices adhered to by the Command of the UN Force under the appearance of non-intervention in the internal affairs of the Republic of the Congo. These practices have created great obstacles for the Government of the Republic of the Congo in the exercise of their sovereign authority over the entire territory of the country and are contrary to the spirit and the letter of the aforementioned resolutions of the Security Council, and especially to the provisions of paragraph 2 of the operative part of resolution S/4387 and paragraph 2 of the operative part of resolution S/4405.

Bringing this situation to the attention of the Council, the Government of the Federal People's Republic of Yugoslavia, as it has already been stated, deems it necessary and urgent that the Security Council be convened without delay in order to take measures which would finally ensure full implementation of the decisions already taken by the Council on this question.

Please accept, etc.

(Signed) Dobrivoje Vidic

Permanent Representative of the F.P.R.
of Yugoslavia to the United Nations
