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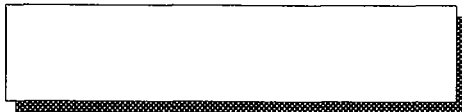
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Press Release SG/SM/502
5 May 1966

STATEMENT BY SECRETARY-GENERAL AT NEW YORK AIRPORT ON 5 MAY

Following is the text of a statement made by the Secretary-General, U Thant, on arrival at New York airport on 5 May from Geneva:

"I have nothing new to add on my return from Europe, since my press officer has been dispatching daily reports to Headquarters. The primary purpose of my visit to Europe was to attend the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination (ACC) meetings in London and to address the Council of Europe in Strasbourg, but the Government of the United Kingdom and the Government of France very kindly invited me to be their guest.

"During my stay in London and Paris I took the opportunity of discussing several matters of interest with the leaders of the two countries. Naturally, in the course of our discussions, political issues such as Viet-Nam came up prominently. In London, of course, we discussed, besides Viet-Nam, the questions of Cyprus and Rhodesia.

"On Viet-Nam, as I have said to the Press in Paris, both General de Gaulle and I believed that no new initiative on the part of any Government was called for, at least for the moment.

"The situation has become more complex and, if I may say so, more difficult. Of course, in Strasbourg, my address to the Council of Europe was published and I do not think I need to go into it.

"In Geneva, I addressed the World Health Assembly and today, among others, I discussed several aspects of disarmament with the members of the Eighteen-Nation Disarmament Committee. Opinions differed, particularly in two fields: the question of non-proliferation of nuclear weapons and the question of a test ban treaty.

"I came back with the impression that there could still be some prospects of success, particularly in the field of a nuclear test ban."

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Press Release SG/T/93
5 May 1966

SECRETARY-GENERAL TO LEAVE GENEVA FOR NEW YORK TODAY

(The following was received from the Information Officer accompanying the Secretary-General.)

Following is the programme of the Secretary-General, U Thant, in Geneva today:

- 8:30 a.m. -- Meets Carlos A. Bernardes, Special Representative of the Secretary-General in Cyprus;
- 10:00 a.m. -- Meets Adrian Pelt, President of the World Federation of United Nations Associations (WFUNA);
- 10:45 a.m. -- Meets Andre de Blonay, Secretary-General of the Inter-Parliamentary Union;
- 11:05 a.m. -- Meets Samuel A. Gonard, President of the International Committee of the Red Cross;

The Secretary-General will then meet with Mario Majoli of Italy, Chairman of the Committee of 14 (Ad Hoc Committee of Experts to Examine the Finances of the United Nations and the Specialized Agencies), and Jan P. Bannier of the Netherlands, Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions.

- 11:30 a.m. -- Attends reception by members of the Eighteen-Nation Disarmament Committee;
- 12:30 p.m. -- Meets Prince Sadruddin Aga Khan, United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees;
- 2:00 p.m. -- Departs for New York.

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Press Release SG/SM/501
5 May 1966

SECRETARY-GENERAL GIVES PRESS CONFERENCE IN GENEVA

PRIOR TO DEPARTURE FOR NEW YORK

(The following was received from the Information Service of the United Nations Office at Geneva.)

The following are excerpts from the Secretary-General, U Thant's press conference at the Geneva Airport prior to his departure for New York at 1300 hours GMT today.

The Secretary-General first recapitulated the main events of his European trip, including the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination meetings in London where he was received by the United Kingdom Government, the visit to Paris and his useful talks with President de Gaulle and Foreign Minister Couve de Murville, an address to the Council of Europe in Strasbourg, an address to the World Health Assembly in Geneva, a visit to the International School in Geneva and a series of private meetings in Geneva.

Asked about future prospects of non-proliferation after the forthcoming recess of the Disarmament Committee, the Secretary-General replied that opinions differed in the assessment of prospective progress in the discussion of this item.

Questioned as to his views on the possibility of a third world war, the Secretary-General said this depended on many factors and all efforts must be concentrated on eliminating possible causes.

In reply to a question concerning his meeting with Samuel A. Gonard, President of the International Committee of the Red Cross, U Thant said they had discussed the possibility of that organization being usefully involved in Viet-Nam.

Although he himself was not in a position to offer advice, he was convinced that the International Committee of the Red Cross was pursuing its efforts to make a useful contribution primarily towards amelioration of the condition of prisoners. He added that he had not discussed the Viet-Nam question with anyone else in Geneva.

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U Thant further stated that he had not met the Prime Minister of Romania, I.G. Maurer.

The Secretary-General confirmed the appointment of General Ilmari Armas Eino Martola as successor to General K.W. Thimayya, but added that the official announcement would be made simultaneously at Headquarters, in Geneva and in Nicosia tomorrow.

Replying to questions concerning his conversations with Swiss Foreign Minister Willy Spuhler, U Thant said these encompassed matters of common interest to Switzerland and United Nations, particularly projected extension of the United Nations buildings in Geneva. He added, in reply to another question, that the matter of Swiss membership in the United Nations had not come up.

Finally, he stated in reply to a question on the future of the Viet-Nam conflict, that he saw no prospect of any country taking an initiative designed to contribute to a solution, at least for the moment. Nor did he think that for the time being the United Nations could be usefully involved.

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Press Release SG/SM/500
4 May 1966

SECRETARY-GENERAL SENDS LETTER TO PRESIDENT
OF INTERNATIONAL BANK REGARDING NAM NGUM DEVELOPMENT FUND

The Secretary-General, U Thant, has sent the following letter to the President of the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development, George Woods, regarding the Nam Ngum Development Fund Agreement, which was signed today* at the Bank's headquarters in Washington, D.C.:

"On the occasion of the signature of the Nam Ngum Development Fund Agreement, I am pleased to extend, through you, to the representatives of the contributing Governments my sincere congratulations for the generous response they have made to the appeals of the Government of Laos, the Mekong Committee and myself for financial assistance to the Nam Ngum project. We are also grateful for the responsibility which the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development has undertaken in agreement with the donor Governments and the Governments of Laos and Thailand in administering the project. The goodwill and efforts which have already been shown by all parties in the preparatory phase, of which today's ceremony is the conclusion, augurs well of the future steps ahead.

"As have the other programmes of the Mekong Committee, the Nam Ngum has been made possible by the generous support of a number of countries and constitutes a new example of international solidarity. Its implementation will offer a new occasion for increased co-operation between the countries of the region where the Nam Ngum project has received wide support."

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* An announcement of the signing appears in press release IB/1756.

"May I ask you, finally, to offer to the representative of Laos and to his Government my sincere wishes that the Nam Ngum project will contribute to the peaceful development of his country and its neighbours."

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Note: The Nam Ngum project is part of an internationally aided programme for the comprehensive development of the Lower Mekong River Basin, including mainstream and tributaries, in Cambodia, Laos, the Republic of Viet-Nam and Thailand. It includes projects for power generation, irrigation, flood control, drainage, navigation improvement, and related economic and social development. (Details appear in press release ECAFE/352.)

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Press Release SG/SM/499
H/1890

4 May 1966

TEXT OF SECRETARY-GENERAL'S ADDRESS TO WORLD HEALTH ASSEMBLY

(Received from the Information Service of the United Nations Office at Geneva.)

Following is the text of the address made today by the Secretary-General, U Thant, to the nineteenth session of the World Health Assembly meeting in Geneva from 3 to 20 May:

"This time last year I had hoped to be addressing the World Health Assembly, but at the very last minute I was obliged to return to New York because of political developments that made it essential I should be at the United Nations Headquarters.

"I was very disappointed that I could not be with you then, and I am therefore doubly pleased to be with you here this afternoon. I am addressing you today at a time of particular significance to the World Health Organization. Your new building will, I hope, prove to be a congenial centre of your activities, playing its part in enabling you to get the work done. It is certainly an addition of great beauty to the landscape of Geneva, and it is a symbol of that international concern with health defined in your Constitution as basic to the happiness, harmonious relations and security of all peoples. As I am speaking in the Palais des Nations, I would like to add that I see great value in your new headquarters forming part of that complex of buildings and gardens that has been devised, with such creative imagination, to embody the international idea. For this we owe a great debt of gratitude to the people of Geneva.

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"On this occasion, it would be appropriate if I were to say a word or two about the relations between our two bodies, the World Health Organization and the United Nations.

"Last week, my friend and colleague Dr. Candau and I were in London together. We, and the executive heads of the other United Nations agencies, were attending a meeting of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination. The title of this body perhaps calls to mind rather arid bureaucratic associations, common procedures, for example, avoiding duplication, not treading on each other's toes. Well, certainly we always have to give some time to such things. I am sure, though, that Dr. Candau will agree that co-ordination is more and more coming to have a quite different meaning. We are finding that, although each organization has its well-defined technical and specialized function, we are, quite literally, dependent on each other. This is true, of course, over the whole family of United Nations organizations.

"In considering such links between the World Health Organization and the United Nations, I am always struck by this element of reciprocity. Take one of your major programmes, that of malaria eradication. It is a commonplace that over wide areas of the world the efforts of the United Nations towards economic and social development are impeded by this disease which, even when it is not mortal, is so inhibiting to an active life. Yet, an eradication programme is itself dependent on some continuing economic support, and on an efficient system of public administration. This is equally true when you are faced with problems of recrudescence in epidemic diseases, or of resistance to insecticides and drugs, as I see to be the case from the report that WHO is submitting this year to the Economic and Social Council.

"The same quality of interdependence must permeate our joint and separate programmes dealing with water resources. I say joint and separate because I believe that, even when we are not both actively engaged in a project, we must be alert to the potential contribution of the other, and ready to recognize the opportunities for consultation and collaboration to mutual advantage. Indeed, in the case of the development of water resources, we have been warned by debates in the WHO that it is all too easy to embark on schemes that are excellent by some criteria but that result in new dangers to health.

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"Your World Health Day this year was devoted to the physical and mental hazards of life in ill-planned or unplanned towns. We in the United Nations are more and more engaged in problems of urbanization, housing and town planning. Here indeed our tasks are reciprocal. Dr. Candau, in his message for World Health Day, condemned in emphatic terms some of our current urban horrors. I am sure he could describe just as eloquently what he would consider a healthy and sane environment. In doing so I think he would draw upon the experience of some of the work that we in the United Nations are undertaking in housing and physical planning. Both our organizations have within the last year or so taken steps to intensify the study of population questions. There are, I know, quite widely differing opinions as to what conclusions will be reached by such studies, and what practical activities may follow these conclusions, though I believe there is no disagreement about the importance of the subject itself. I mention it because it is surely a question on which the doctors, the economists, and the sociologists will have much to learn from each other. My examples have all so far been drawn from the United Nations' work in economic and social development and the interplay between this and WHO's programmes.

"I think it would be easy to make a similar list based on the United Nations' political work, though there might be good reasons for my not being too specific. If I may quote again from your report to the Economic and Social Council, I see that some of WHO's programme setbacks during 1965 are attributed in part to political instability. In turn, as I hinted in my message to last year's World Health Assembly, some of the political strains with which we have to deal in the United Nations are comparable to the professional activities of the doctor.

"I have stressed, in these few reflections on our common task, what I may call the chicken and egg aspect of it, for often it is not at all clear when WHO's success is contingent on the United Nations' and when it is the other way round. I hope this does not give you the pessimistic impression of a vicious circle. On the contrary, I draw a very hopeful conclusion from this complex structure of interdependence. It permits a real collaboration just because we have to move forward together. Particularly, I am hopeful because it is evident from your debates that medical science is on the threshold of

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quite new developments, developments that will be aided by other sciences, some of which appear at first sight to be unrelated to questions of health. As you know, we in the United Nations are also greatly excited by the new possibilities of science. So here too our paths cross and recross.

"I wish I could be longer in Geneva and see more of the work of the Assembly. In particular, I regret being unable to accept the kind invitation of Dr. Candau to be present for the inauguration ceremonies at your new headquarters. I hope I will have an opportunity, later this summer, of seeing your new premises. At this, the nineteenth session of the World Health Assembly, I cannot but recall the trials and tribulation which attended the nineteenth session of the General Assembly of the United Nations. At that time there were many prophets of doom who forecast the demise of the world body. There were numerologists who pointed out that the League of Nations had survived only for 19 years, that the reason why the nineteenth session of the General Assembly was not able to meet normally was the controversy over Article 19 of the Charter, and so on. The conclusion seemed to be that, while nineteen was a delectable age for a teenage daughter, with her whole adult life unfolding ahead, it was a dangerous age for an international organization. But we survived, and have continued to move forward since those difficult days. I am glad to see that your Assembly is having no such problems at its nineteenth session. And, like the teenager of whom I spoke a moment ago, you have your adult life unfolding ahead, as symbolized by the impending move to your new building.

"May I wish you well in your implementation of the tasks that lie ahead, and express the hope that your nineteenth session may be one of the most successful in the history of your organization."

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Press Release SG/T/92
4 May 1966

SECRETARY-GENERAL ARRIVES IN GENEVA TO ADDRESS WHO ASSEMBLY

(The following was received from the Information Officer accompanying the Secretary-General.)

The Secretary-General, U Thant, arrived in Geneva at 10:35 a.m. today and was received by Paul Gottret, Switzerland's Chief of Protocol; Rene Keller, Switzerland's Permanent Observer to the United Nations; C.V. Narasimhan, Chef de Cabinet; Georges Palthey, Assistant Director-General of the United Nations Office in Geneva; Jehan de Noue, Chief of Protocol, United Nations Office, Geneva; Jan Lindstrom, Director, United Nations Information Service, Geneva and other United Nations officials.

The Secretary-General received Ambassador Milko Tarabanov of Bulgaria at 12 a.m. in his suite at the Inter-Continental Hotel. At 12:45 p.m. he is attending a luncheon given in his honour by W. Spuehler, the Foreign Minister of Switzerland, and at 3 p.m. he will attend the meeting of the World Health Organization Assembly at the Palais des Nations.

The Secretary-General will visit the International School at Geneva at 3:30 p.m. and at 5:45 p.m. he will meet Adrian Pelt, President of the World Federation of United Nations Associations (WFUNA), and L.H. Horace Perera, the Secretary-General of that body.

At 7:30 p.m. he will dine with Dr. M.G. Candau, Director-General of the World Health Organization, and Dr. A. Sauter, President of the World Health Assembly.

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Press Release SG/SM/498
CYP/380

3 May 1966

TEXT OF NOTE VERBALE TO SECRETARY-GENERAL FROM UNITED STATES
ON COST OF PEACE-KEEPING FORCE IN CYPRUS

Following is the text of a note verbale, dated 2 May 1966, addressed to the Secretary General, U Thant, by the Permanent Representative of the United States to the United Nations, Arthur J. Goldberg, regarding the expenses of the United Nations Peace-Keeping Force in Cyprus (UNFICYP):

"The Representative of the United States of America to the United Nations presents his compliments to the Secretary-General of the United Nations and has the honor to inform him that the United States is prepared to make a voluntary contribution of approximately \$2,000,000 toward the \$5,000,000 cash budget of the United Nations Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus for the eighth period March 27 to June 26, 1966. The amount will not exceed 40 per cent of the total cash contributions from other Governments toward this cash budget for the eighth period. This pledge is also subject to confirmation of UNFICYP cost estimates."

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UNITED NATIONS

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Press Release SG/SM/488
3 May 1966

ADDRESS BY SECRETARY-GENERAL TO THE CONSULTATIVE ASSEMBLY
OF THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE, STRASBOURG, FRANCE, 3 MAY 1966

"I am most grateful for the opportunity which your invitation has afforded me to visit the Council of Europe and to speak briefly to your Assembly. As Secretary-General of the United Nations, I feel very much at home in the headquarters of another international organization, and, while our scope, membership and objectives are very different, some of our basic problems are similar and arise from the same sources. The Council of Europe, like the United Nations, is in the early stages of its evolution. Indeed, it is an even younger organization than the United Nations, although it has a less diversified cultural basis upon which to achieve its aims.

"For both organizations there is still a wide gulf between the ideals upon which they were founded and the practical realization of those ideals. There is, regrettably, a common tendency to judge international organizations more by immediate results than by the steady realization of their underlying objectives or the relevance of those objectives to the fundamental problems facing mankind. But international organizations, with their sights set for the future, can only function and mature if there is sustained progress towards a broad acceptance of and an effective compliance with the basic principles which they are enjoined to promote. More often than not, this progress is slow and is neither easily noticeable nor, usually, particularly newsworthy. Nonetheless, if we are to be realistic in judging the vitality and value of our organizations, it is necessary from time to time both to try to assess the degree of practical acceptance of the ideals on which they are founded and to consider objectively their relevance to the major problems of the time.

"The primary aim of the Council of Europe is to achieve greater unity amongst its members, and the purpose of such unity must be to help to provide a stable and important place in the world for Europe as a whole. The Consultative Assembly, which is an innovation in international organization, represents the first attempt to project the principle of parliamentary participation in public affairs to the international plane independently of Governments themselves.

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The function of the Assembly in formulating and expressing the aspirations of the peoples of its member Governments and in keeping them in touch with European public opinion is an experiment of great significance if we are to extend the principles and practices of representative democracy to international affairs, as, I believe, we must continually strive to do.

"We in the United Nations have followed with special attention and interest the impressive achievements of the Council of Europe in the field of the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms for all. You have established for your region institutions which are appropriate to your area, the Commission on Human Rights and the European Court of Human Rights. You have thus given a most significant lead to other regions of the world, and have built on the broad initiatives of the United Nations.

"These pioneering aspects of the work of the Council of Europe are of particular interest to those of us who work in global organizations, for if these ideas can be made to work in one part of the world, it may be easier to apply them progressively to the affairs of the world as a whole.

"It is not surprising that these very significant initiatives are being taken in Europe. Europe has been the fore-runner in so many of the achievements and preoccupations of mankind. Many of the political ideas and concepts by which we live, or try to live, are European in origin. The genius of Europe contributed largely to the elaboration of the concepts of freedom, justice and self-determination, the rule of law and the theory and practice of representative government. These are also the basic concepts upon which Governments are trying to build a new world order through the United Nations.

"At the same time, we should not forget that the revulsion against two great world wars, both of them European in origin, gave the immediate impetus and incentive for the foundation of the League of Nations and the United Nations. Thus the darker side of European history has also contributed decisively to the development of world institutions.

"Other historic manifestations of European genius or vitality have decisively moulded our present world. The industrial and technological revolution, which made first England and then Europe the workshop of the world, has produced, directly or indirectly, many of the great problems, as well as the great possibilities, which we are facing today. The progressive liquidation of European colonialism has had an immense influence on the balance of political forces in the world and upon the first 20 years of the United Nations. In fact, so many of the critical situations with which the

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United Nations has been faced in its first 20 years, as well as the present situation in Viet-Nam which now casts its shadow on all aspects of international co-operation, are in one way or another the aftermath of colonialism.

"The change in political alignments in the world in the last two decades has naturally had a great impact on Europe. Since the end of the Second World War, we have lived in a period of adjustment -- adjustment to new concepts, to new dangers and to new possibilities. The exhausted and shattered Europe of 1945 faced the necessity of adjustment with imagination and renewed vitality. The fact that it was the hinge -- and at one time even the object -- of the East-West struggle, has not prevented and may even have stimulated, the resurgence and unity of Europe itself. Thus we have seen the political and economic recovery of a continent proudly facing the future with the wisdom learnt from its turbulent past. A series of radical innovations in international political and economic organization, of which the Council of Europe is one, has been initiated and is being developed from the basic premise of European unity. The success of these bold ventures is today of immense importance not only to Europe itself but to the world at large, not least because they can, I believe, play an increasingly vital role in the effort which is being continuously made at the United Nations to bridge the political, economic and social gaps which divide the world and create its present ominous instability.

"Some positive trends have emerged from the last 20 years of rapid and drastic change. The membership of the United Nations has more than doubled. The balance in the world has shifted, and continues to shift, in unpredictable ways, but on the whole there is manifest a healthy spirit which combines independence with an awareness of the need for international co-operation. Non-alignment has also grown significantly, both as a force and as an approach to international problems. Even the East-West struggle, which dominated the late '40's and the '50's, has moderated and has shown signs of resolving itself into a more constructive relationship, although here again the Viet-Nam war presents a formidable obstacle. There appears to be a real and growing desire among all nations for the peaceful settlement of disputes and differences, and for a reliable machinery to guarantee peaceful settlement. There is also a new and compelling interest in global plans for economic and social improvement, and it is to be hoped that soon more adequate resources will be put behind them. Although progress in disarmament has been exasperatingly slow, the effort continues, and there are signs that the increasing revulsion of all Governments and peoples against the concept of war as an instrument of policy may begin to have practical results. All of these developments

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have tended to transcend purely regional interests and to point to the necessity for a closer relationship with the United Nations, whose responsibilities are global and universal. It is in this context that I would like to comment briefly on the relationship of the Council of Europe to the United Nations.

"Its Statute stipulates that participation in the Council of Europe shall not affect the collaboration of its members in the work of the United Nations and, given the high aims of the Council, there seems little reason now to fear that its activities might in any sense prove incompatible with those of the United Nations. As long ago as 1951, the Secretaries-General of the two organizations agreed on a method of co-operation, and since that time there has been steady co-operation at the technical level on many matters. In the field of human rights which I mentioned earlier, for example, I am happy to note that the link between your work here and the work of the United Nations has been steadily maintained, if not in the formal sense, in -- what is more important -- the spiritual and substantive sense. Your Rome Convention of 1950 for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms refers specifically to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights proclaimed by the General Assembly on 10 December 1948 and constitutes in the very wording of its authors the first steps for the collective enforcement of certain of the rights stated therein.

"The Council of Europe was founded at a time when the hopes for universalism and for a new spirit of co-operation among the nations of the world, which had inspired the United Nations Charter, had been dimmed by post-war tensions and when, consequently, the fortunes of the United Nations were at a low ebb. The renewed vitality and activity of the United Nations since that time has in no way diminished the importance of the expressed aims of the Council. The Council of Europe has of course differed considerably in scope and nature from some other regional organizations, but it is encouraging to note its increasing contacts with the countries of Eastern Europe, who are not members of the Council. In recent years regional organizations have come to be more clearly regarded as complementary to the world Organization, rather than as substitutes for it. In serving peaceful regional interests, they will, I hope, also more and more become the pillars upon which the larger structure of world order can be firmly established, without the reservations which were sometimes considered necessary 16 years ago. The work of regional organizations and the United Nations should be concerted, not competitive. Moreover, it seems to me that, in a world that lives so dangerously, we must all be constantly on the alert to avoid any act or policy which would, in fact, serve divisiveness rather than unity in the relations among peoples and nations.

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"Faced with ever larger problems and perspectives, we need urgently to develop amongst Governments and peoples a point of view that faces the future with courage and imagination and is less preoccupied with the heritage of the past. Our world and our rapidly changing circumstances demand a basic change in national attitudes which alone can allow us to take advantage, for the common good of our greatest achievements, rather than be dominated, and even threatened, by our least admirable ones. In the shaping of attitudes, the Council of Europe and its Consultative Assembly may have a great part to play.

"It is unthinkable that we may need a third world war to teach us how to co-exist on this richly endowed planet, but sometimes events in the world seem to be pointing in this direction. There is thus a desperate need to bring the forces of enlightened public opinion to bear firmly on problems which threaten, or are likely to threaten in the future, the welfare of all. If we are not to slide helplessly towards total disaster, or even towards the lesser calamities which our carelessness may bring on us, a conscious effort must be made, not just by a few visionary and remarkable men struggling amid the apathy and inattention of the majority, but by whole peoples guided and encouraged by leaders and Governments to turn their thoughts to the future rather than to the past. Freedom and prosperity for some are no longer enough. We must also try to grasp and direct our fate.

"In this effort, the harmonizing function of the United Nations, which is also an important aspect of the work of the Council of Europe, is vital for future peace in the world. If our pursuit of the effort to harmonize the actions of nations could be more closely concerted, the effectiveness of both organizations in terms of the future might be considerably strengthened. Obviously, such concerted action applies to economic and social activities, but I believe it should also apply to the great political problems which affect peace and security in the world and which increasingly affect all nations.

"Tension is now a common affliction both for individuals and for nations, and in both cases it can lead to serious consequences. The present tensions in the world arise from four main, but related sources. They arise from the rivalry of political ideologies -- although this I believe to be a passing phase. They arise from economic disparity, which is our greatest practical problem. They arise from still unresolved colonial issues which deeply strain international relations. And, finally, these tensions arise from racial feelings exacerbated by a long history of discrimination. Each of these four sources of tension contributes in some degree to the malign influence of the others, and it is not possible therefore to deal with any of them in isolation.

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"With their long history of political experiment, the countries of Europe have, since World War II, given a lead in political tolerance and have played an important role in the process of tempering the violence of ideological differences. It is inconceivable to me that any country or group of countries would wish to push their ideological differences to such a point of fanaticism that they could be resolved only by a global war. I referred earlier to the fact that Europe was the starting point, and the main battle ground of two world wars within living memory. It is hardly necessary for me to expatiate to you, as Europeans, on the magnitude of the losses sustained in these two wars, both human and material. We know that the next global war, wherever it may start, will be a thermo-nuclear war and you are all well aware of the consequences of such a war to human civilization and, in fact, to human existence. The risk of a nuclear war becomes increasingly serious with the proliferation of nuclear weapons, a subject which has received considerable attention during the last session of the General Assembly and in recent meetings of the Eighteen-Nation Disarmament Commission.

"While many statesmen and politicians the world over are engaged in the unending quest for peace, I sometimes wonder whether the world is fully aware of the calamitous effects which a nuclear war would have. While scientists may dispute the exact degree or magnitude of devastation and destruction, they no doubt recognize that the nuclear bomb itself is the potential tragedy of our times. Perhaps, even at this late stage, the United Nations should be asked to undertake a thorough study of the probable effects of a nuclear war and its report could be distributed in several languages as widely as possible so that common people the world over may understand what is involved. I believe that a wider understanding of this problem may help to mobilize more widespread and popular support to leaders of men and of thought such as you are, in your greater endeavours for nuclear disarmament and world peace.

"It is, in my view, the growing economic disparity of the nations of the world which faces us with our most serious source of tension and with the direct possibility of future calamity. Despite international programmes for economic development and bilateral aid agreements, the plain fact is that the rich industrialized countries of the world are growing steadily richer and the less developed countries are -- at best -- standing still. Taken in conjunction with the probable growth of population over the next 30 or 40 years, this trend opens up a most distressing prospect. The reports of famine from various parts of the world and the evident and increasing difficulties of many of the less developed countries are only harbingers of the coming storm.

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"It is essential that our pre-occupation with our own immediate problems, or with more spectacular and short-term crises, should not make us deaf to these warnings. If we do not pay heed to them there can be little doubt that we are courting a disaster in which even the most prosperous and stable countries may eventually be swept away. We cannot allow it to be said of us by history that, with all our knowledge and technological skill, we allowed this long foreseeable, and foreseen, calamity to overwhelm us.

"We must now concert and vastly strengthen our efforts to bridge this gap, no matter what the discouragements, the frustrations or the problems may be. Together the countries of Europe assembled here represent, both politically and economically, a great concentration of power, wealth and tradition. Their long and often violent history has finally brought them to a maturity and a detachment which others may well envy. The countries of Europe, united in this and other organizations, have a particularly favourable position from which to promote the concerted action which the world so urgently needs and to mobilize expertise and resources on the scale which the size and seriousness of the problem demand.

"It is largely the great progress of decolonization during recent years -- the emergence of peoples from dependence to nationhood and thus to a position where they can make known through their own voices their aspirations, wants and needs -- that has sharpened the focus of the attention we are now giving to these problems of economic disparity. The process of decolonization has been perhaps the most striking phenomenon of our time, and certainly of the past decade: it may also prove in the long run to have been one of the most fundamentally important changes affecting the condition of mankind as a whole. However, the fact that the liquidation of colonialism has been so widespread, that it has so spectacularly transformed the national and political configuration of so large a part of the world, cannot be allowed to blind us to the truth that the process is not yet complete. Indeed, in Africa particularly, there remains a hard, dangerous residue of colonialism that not only suppresses the right of many millions of human beings to dignity and opportunity but also menaces, directly or indirectly, the security and the well-being of us all. The repression of human rights which colonialism represents is not only all the more unwarranted, but also all the more cruel, when it persists in an era characterized otherwise by the liberation of peoples on an unprecedented scale and by their sharply rising expectations of a peaceful, dignified and prosperous life. And by the

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same token, the dangers to the peace of the world inherent in these situations are all the more serious. They constitute an anachronism which the international community as a whole must set about bringing peacefully and rapidly to an end.

"I have referred, as another source of tension, to the problem of racial discrimination. In my view this is inherent in the colonial problems I have just mentioned, but it also extends well beyond them and has proved capable of surviving, like an evil weed, even in industrially advanced and prosperous societies. It is true that the racial conflict is not, at present, a prominent feature of the European scene. It must not be forgotten, however, that certain colonial attitudes have left an unhappy legacy in many parts of the world, a smouldering resentment which can all too easily be fanned into a conflagration which can be disastrous to all concerned. Europeans should also not forget that the strictest form of racial discrimination is still the official policy of the white government of a large and important African country, and that discriminatory practices are prevalent also in other areas of the African continent. Only a determined attitude to these problems and a firm re-assertion of higher values and principles can remedy this situation and can finally extinguish the resentment caused by racial discrimination, be it deliberate or unwitting. This is a problem in which we are all involved, whether we like it or not.

"I do not for a moment believe that the leaders and peoples of Europe have any intention either of sinking into a kind of prosperous provincialism or of reverting to the aggressive nationalism of the past. What I wish to emphasize today is the urgent need for leadership and concerted action in the world. Such leadership can only be effective if the older nations show understanding and tolerance towards the new nations of Asia and Africa. Europe, itself the seed-bed of all kinds of revolutions and new ideas, has been through many vicissitudes in the last thousand years. The stages of development which most of its peoples have gone through over a period of centuries must now be traversed by the new countries in the space of a generation or so if they are to aspire ever to take their place in the modern world. The new countries for the most part start this race with many handicaps, not the least of which are their consciousness of the opportunities which they are missing and the pressures of time and population which make their present situation desperate. These conditions must be appreciated and viewed sympathetically if the resentments, fears and frustrations of yesterday are to become the friendships and partnerships of tomorrow.

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"The fortitude, ingenuity and imagination of Europe has again placed its countries, despite two world wars, in a fortunate and strong position. Europe may no longer be the political or economic arbiter of the world -- indeed, that can now hardly be said of any country or continent in our developing planet. But the genius and spirit of Europe applied with vision to new situations is a natural resource of which the world has great need. I am sure that the Council of Europe, representing the European spirit at its best, will show increasingly how Europe, which used to be called the old world, can be among the leaders of the new."

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UNITED NATIONS

Press Services
Office of Public Information
United Nations, N.Y.

(FOR USE OF INFORMATION MEDIA -- NOT AN OFFICIAL RECORD)

Press Release SG/T/91
3 May 1966

SECRETARY-GENERAL ADDRESSES CONSULTATIVE ASSEMBLY OF COUNCIL OF EUROPE

(The following was received from the Information Officer accompanying the Secretary-General.)

The Secretary-General, U Thant, this morning attended a meeting of the Consultative Assembly of the Council of Europe. He heard a few speakers before he delivered his address at 11:30 a.m.*

U Thant was introduced by Sir Geoffrey de Freitas (United Kingdom), new President of the Assembly, who said: "Your presence here places us Europeans in direct contact with the world community. We welcome you as a guardian of peace in the world."

After listening to the address of the Secretary-General, the President of the Assembly decided that the text of the speech be referred to the Political Committee to be studied in detail as an important political document.

Paul Struye, President of the Belgian Senate and President of the Political Committee of the Assembly, thanked the Secretary-General and paid warm tribute to him.

At 1 p.m. U Thant was guest of honour at a luncheon given by Maurice Cuttoli, Prefect of the Bas-Rhin, and Jean de Broglie, French Secretary of State, at the Hotel de la Prefecture.

The Foreign Minister of Italy, Amintore Fanfani, will call on U Thant this evening at the Hotel Sofitel for a private talk.

Later, the Secretary-General will dine with Mr. Fanfani and Pier P. Spinelli, Director of the United Nations Office at Geneva.

U Thant will leave Strasbourg for Geneva, via Paris, by aeroplane, tomorrow at 7 a.m.

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* For text of speech, see press release SG/SM/488.

UNITED NATIONS

Press Services
Office of Public Information
United Nations, N.Y.

(FOR USE OF INFORMATION MEDIA -- NOT AN OFFICIAL RECORD)

Press Release SG/T/90
2 May 1966

SECRETARY-GENERAL ARRIVES IN STRASBOURG

(The following was received from the Information Officer accompanying the Secretary-General.)

The Secretary-General, U Thant, and party arrived in Strasbourg by train last night. He was met at the airport by Peter Smithers, Secretary-General of the Council of Europe, and Maurice Cuttoli, Prefect of the Region.

The Secretary-General dined last night as a guest of Mr. Smithers at the latter's home.

This morning at 11:00 a.m. (local time) the Secretary-General attended a private session with the Ministers of the Council of Europe, where he gave an informal off-the-record talk on his concept of office and interpretation of the United Nations Charter. The talk was followed by comments by the Foreign Ministers of Denmark, the Netherlands, Austria and, finally, by Michael Stewart, United Kingdom Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, who presided over the meeting.

At 1 p.m. (local time), the Secretary-General will attend a luncheon given by Mr. Steward, Chairman of the Committee of Ministers.

At 3 p.m. he will visit the Palace for Human Rights, where he will be received by representatives of the European Commission of Human Rights.

At 6 p.m. the Secretary-General will see Spyros Kyprianou, the Foreign Minister of Cyprus, and, at 7 p.m., Per Haekkerup, the Foreign Minister of Denmark, at his hotel.

At 8 p.m. he will attend a dinner given by Pierre Pflimlin, President of the Consultative Assembly of the Council of Europe and Mayor of Strasbourg.

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UNITED NATIONS

Press Services
Office of Public Information
United Nations, N.Y.

(FOR USE OF INFORMATION MEDIA -- NOT AN OFFICIAL RECORD)

Press Release SG/T/89
2 May 1966

SECRETARY-GENERAL LEAVES PARIS FOR STRASBOURG

(The following was received from an Information Officer accompanying the Secretary-General.)

The Secretary-General, U Thant, left Paris by train yesterday at 1:25 p.m. for Strasbourg where he will address a session of the Consultative Assembly of the Council of Europe on Tuesday, 3 May.

On Sunday in Paris, the Secretary-General met for an hour with his Special Representative in Cyprus, Carlos A. Bernardes, and discussed various aspects of the Cyprus problem in connexion with Mr. Bernardes' forthcoming visit to Athens and Ankara.

Before departing for Strasbourg, the Secretary-General made a sight-seeing tour of Paris accompanied by Roger Seydoux, the Permanent Representative of France to the United Nations.

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UNITED NATIONS

Press Services
Office of Public Information
United Nations, N.Y.

(FOR USE OF INFORMATION MEDIA -- NOT AN OFFICIAL RECORD)

Press Release SG/SM/497
30 April 1966

SECRETARY-GENERAL CONFERS WITH PRESIDENT DE GAULLE

(The following was received from the Information Officer accompanying the Secretary-General.)

The Secretary-General, U Thant, had a one-hour talk with the President of France, Charles de Gaulle, at the Palais de l'Elysee (12:15 p.m. to 1:15 p.m.). They discussed several problems of mutual interest, including Viet-Nam.

At 1:15 p.m., U Thant was guest of honour at a luncheon given by President de Gaulle. Guests included the Prime Minister, George Pompidou; Ministers of State Louis Joxe and Andre Malraux; the Minister of Agriculture, Edward Faure; the Secretary-General of the Quai d'Orsay, Herve Alphand; Maurice Schumann, Chairman of the Foreign Policy Committee of the National Assembly; Jacques Baumel, Secretary-General of the Union pour la Nouvelle Republique; Roger Seydoux, Permanent Representative of France to the United Nations; Rene Maheu, Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO); Philippe de Seynes, United Nations Under-Secretary for Economic and Social Affairs; Pier P. Spinelli, Director of the United Nations Office at Geneva; Gabriel d'Arboussier, Executive Director of the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR); and W. Gibson Parker, Director of the United Nations Information Centre in Paris.

At the luncheon, President de Gaulle made the following toast to U Thant:

"Mr. Secretary-General, your visit here is most gratifying. First, because of the very high responsibilities you discharge and which have the exceptional character of international hope. As Secretary-General of the United Nations, you are in a position to see the world situation as a whole, and it so happens that you see it lucidly and impartially.

"So, we greatly appreciate your presence here which enables us to exchange our views. The war developments in Asia do not fail to give rise, in particular here, to growing feelings of concern and disapproval. Doubtless, one cannot

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yet visualize what could be done for the time being to put an end to the extending drama. But how could we fail to believe that some day the course of events and the turning of human minds will open again possibilities to peace? With this in view, we wished to talk with you in order to prepare in advance the joint action of the forces of common sense.

"Finally and foremost, we appreciate this contact because of your personality. It is a fact that, after four years in office, no enlightened person in the world is reluctant to pay a fair tribute to you. The qualities of conscience and intelligence, judgement and impartiality, equity and wisdom -- these qualities are recognized as being yours everywhere, and particularly in France. And let me tell you that they lead us warmly to wish that you pursue your task in a world where, and at a time when the cause of man is in dire need of being well served.

"I drink this toast to His Excellency U Thant, Secretary-General of the United Nations."

Responding, the Secretary-General said:

"Mr. President, I am overwhelmed by your gracious words, especially as to my task as Secretary-General of the United Nations. As you are well aware, my conception of the Secretary-General's functions is very clear. I consider the United Nations, in conformity with the Charter, as a centre for the harmonizing of actions by States with a view towards their common aim.

"I am a catalyst and I consider myself as somebody who must do everything to promote better understanding and relations between States.

"You, Mr. President, are a source of great inspiration for many of us at the United Nations because of your ceaseless endeavours to bring about international understanding and a detente, and because of your efforts to achieve a thaw in the cold war. Your endeavours are in conformity with the Charter, which states that all Members must exercise tolerance and live together in peace as good neighbours. This provision is one of the most significant and your action conforms with it. We, at the United Nations, and especially the small countries, have great admiration for your noble efforts to bring about new conditions in the light of the changing circumstances in the world. We all wish you to succeed in these efforts, and we are guided by your wisdom and vision, because you consider the future instead of the past.

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"I think that we, too, in the United Nations, should consider the future, because without vision, man perishes. For the last million years which represent history, man has accomplished many things in art, science, literature, music, religion. All these creations are in danger of being annihilated in the second half of the twentieth century by the atom bomb.

"I think that we all should see to it that conditions for peace are secured and that all the tensions which lead mankind from one crisis to another are eliminated. In this quest for peace, we are led by your courage, determination and vision."

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UNITED NATIONS

Press Services
Office of Public Information
United Nations, N.Y.

(FOR USE OF INFORMATION MEDIA -- NOT AN OFFICIAL RECORD)

Press Release SG/SM/496/Corr.1
2 May 1966

TRANSCRIPT OF PRESS CONFERENCE BY THE SECRETARY-GENERAL, U THANT,
HELD AT THE HEADQUARTERS OF THE INTER-GOVERNMENTAL MARITIME
CONSULTATIVE ORGANIZATION, LONDON, ON 29 APRIL 1966

CORRECTION

On page 3 of press release SG/SM/496, issued on 30 April, the third paragraph should read:

"As the Secretary-General of the United Nations, I have to reflect the views of the majority, particularly in the context of the various General Assembly and Security Council resolutions. There have been other instances in the past 21 years when a particular Member State has had a different viewpoint from the viewpoint held by the majority of Member States. I agree that these questions are contentious."

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UNITED NATIONS

Press Services
Office of Public Information
United Nations, N.Y.

(FOR USE OF INFORMATION MEDIA -- NOT AN OFFICIAL RECORD)

Press Release SG/SM/496
30 April 1966

TRANSCRIPT OF PRESS CONFERENCE BY THE SECRETARY-GENERAL, U THANT,
HELD AT THE HEADQUARTERS OF THE INTER-GOVERNMENTAL MARITIME
CONSULTATIVE ORGANIZATION, LONDON, ON 29 APRIL 1966

The SECRETARY-GENERAL: I am very glad to meet you once again. We had a press conference here about three years ago. Whenever I have come to London, I have met you at the airport. I am glad to have this opportunity of having a more formal meeting with you. I do not propose to make an introductory statement. I invite questions.

QUESTION: How do you assess a new peace initiative with Viet-Nam, either by the United Nations or by you personally?

The SECRETARY-GENERAL: I have been involved in private informal discussions and negotiations for the last two and a half years, with a view to bringing about a peaceful settlement of the problem. So far my endeavours have been inconclusive.

About the United Nations involvement, I have expressed my view on previous occasions. I do not think for the moment that the United Nations could be involved, or should be involved. If the Security Council is to be involved in the discussion of any issue, one prerequisite is that it must be in a position to hear both sides of the question. This is a "must". In the present circumstances, I do not see any reason to believe that either Hanoi or Peking will be willing to appear before the Security Council and plead their case. In 1954, when the question of Viet-Nam was discussed, there was general agreement that the discussions should take place outside the framework of the United Nations, because of all the participants in the dispute, only one, France, was a Member of the United Nations.

I think the same considerations should apply today. Of all the parties directly involved in the conflict in Viet-Nam, only one, the United States of America, is a Member of the United Nations. The others are not members of the United Nations. This is a very important consideration. If the Security Council is to be involved usefully in any problem representing a threat to international peace and security, it must be in a position to hear both sides of the question. As you all know, neither Peking nor Hanoi will appear before the Security Council and plead its case. Peking, particularly, feels -- whether we agree with its point of view or not -- that if she were asked to appear before the Security Council, she would be

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more or less in the position of an accused, and she would be asked to appear before a jury among whom there was somebody who was inimical to the interest of that particular accused. From the point of view of Hanoi, my understanding is that Hanoi will never wish the United Nations to be involved in the question of Viet-Nam, because Hanoi is afraid that any United Nations' decision on this problem would dilute the Geneva Agreements of 1954.

QUESTION: What are your views on recent developments on Rhodesia? Do you think that the decision reached to resume talks is in conformity with United Nations decisions so far?

The SECRETARY-GENERAL: The Secretary-General has to be guided by the resolutions or decisions of the principal organs of the United Nations. He cannot speak or act outside the framework of those resolutions. Since 1962, both the General Assembly and the Security Council have, from time to time, taken up this question. They have adopted certain resolutions, including the resolution rejecting the Constitution of 1961, considering Mr. Smith's Government illegal and describing Southern Rhodesia as a Non-Self-Governing Territory and calling upon the British Government to take certain measures. These are the resolutions of the General Assembly and the Security Council. Now I understand that some of the Member States, particularly the African Members of the United Nations, are meeting almost daily in New York, and, according to my latest information, they are going to request a meeting of the Security Council on or around 10 May. I do not think it would be proper for me to assess the actions or statements of the British Government on this issue.

QUESTION: Yesterday in your speech to the United Nations Association you expressed an opinion on the actions of the British Government when you said that you hoped more decisive action would be taken.

The SECRETARY-GENERAL: I made these observations in the context of the various Security Council and General Assembly resolutions. There is a consensus in the United Nations that more courageous action is called for to bring about a peaceful settlement of the problem of Southern Rhodesia.

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QUESTION: Is not the whole procedure against Article 2 (7) of the United Nations Charter which explicitly bars the United Nations from interfering in the internal affairs of Member countries?

The SECRETARY-GENERAL: On the question of the interpretation of Article 2 (7) of the Charter, it is understandable that there should not be complete agreement among Member States. What a particular Member State regards as interference in the internal affairs of a Member State will be contested by many other Member States.

As the Secretary-General of the United Nations, I have to reflect the views of the majority, particularly in the context of the various General Assembly and Security Council resolutions, whatever my personal view may be. There have been other viewpoints different from the viewpoint held by the majority of Member States. I agree that these questions are contentious.

QUESTION: Even if it goes against the Charter?

The SECRETARY-GENERAL: What is considered to be against the Charter by some Members is not considered to be against the Charter by the majority of Member States.

QUESTION: Has the confusion surrounding the last Security Council meeting on the Rhodesian case, when the President did not call a meeting for two days, been resolved -- that is, as to how quickly the Security Council can meet?

The SECRETARY-GENERAL: On this procedural question of the reluctance of the President of the Security Council to call an immediate meeting of the Security Council, the relevant statements have been inscribed as Security Council documents, and I have nothing to add. My feeling is that if any member of the Security Council requests an urgent meeting of the Security Council, the President of the Council should comply with such a request, invariably, without exception.

QUESTION: A few moments ago you talked of "more courageous action" by the British Government. Could you go into that a little further and tell us what you mean by "courageous action"?

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The SECRETARY-GENERAL: I am trying to reflect the views of the majority of Member States. I do not have any specific steps in mind. Almost every Member State of the United Nations feels that Mr. Smith's Government is illegal. This view is shared by practically every Government. Based on this hypothesis, the action taken so far has not proved to be very effective. The British Government has been doing its utmost to bring about a peaceful solution of the problem. But they should do more than they have been doing: that is what I mean by the expression "courageous". I had nothing specific in mind, because I cannot speak out of the context of the resolutions.

QUESTION: What do you think they should do?

The SECRETARY-GENERAL: I am trying to reflect the views of the Security Council and the General Assembly. I do not think I should come out with any specific recommendations.

QUESTION: How far do you feel the United Nations is content to leave the Rhodesian question in British hands?

The SECRETARY-GENERAL: It is up to the Security Council to decide. I do not think the Secretary-General should venture an opinion.

QUESTION: What kind of reaction do you expect in the United Nations as a result of the recent developments in the Rhodesian question?

The SECRETARY-GENERAL: The views of the Security Council will be made known when it meets, perhaps some time about 10 May.

QUESTION: To what extent do you feel that the United Nations recognizes the problems of the white population in Rhodesia?

The SECRETARY-GENERAL: This matter has been dealt with comprehensively in the various sessions of the Security Council and the General Assembly. I have nothing to add.

QUESTION: When you say that every Member State of the United Nations feels the Smith regime to be illegal, is there any definite indication that the South African Government shares that feeling?

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The SECRETARY-GENERAL: I am not aware of any expression of opinion on the part of the South African Government on this issue.

QUESTION: Has the fact that the United Kingdom Government has invoked Chapter VII of the Charter, and has recognized through this that the Rhodesian situation does constitute a threat to peace, led to Member States of the Security Council and the United Nations being very much more involved in any settlement that may be reached?

The SECRETARY-GENERAL: If the Security Council does pronounce its judgement that this particular issue poses a threat to international peace and security, it is inevitable that the Council has to take certain actions under Chapter VII, but so far the Security Council has not passed any judgement as to whether the situation in Rhodesia poses a threat to international peace and security.

QUESTION: As a result of the fact that the Security Council granted the United Kingdom the powers which it sought to intercept oil tankers bound for Beira, does that not mean that the Security Council accepted that the Rhodesian situation is a threat to peace, because it was under that section of the Charter which Britain sought those powers?

The SECRETARY-GENERAL: The Security Council implied that the situation in Rhodesia merits action, at least partial action, under Chapter VII. The Security Council has not gone to the extent of accepting the hypothesis that the situation poses a threat to international peace and security. That is implied in the British point of view.

QUESTION: In view of the deadlock which appears to have been reached in the disarmament talks in Geneva, are you contemplating any personal initiative in this connexion, or can you suggest any way, in view of the growing threat of the dissemination of nuclear weapons, to get these talks out of the deadlock which they are now in?

The SECRETARY-GENERAL: The Eighteen-Nations Disarmament Committee is meeting in Geneva. For the moment I do not propose to take any initiative to break "the deadlock", but I believe that the members of the Eighteen-Nation

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Disarmament Committee are going ahead seriously with the most important issue before the Committee, that is the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons. Unfortunately, progress has been slow but I believe there can be some perceptible progress in another field, and that is the banning of nuclear tests, even underground tests. I have expressed my endorsement of the Swedish proposals on a previous occasion. I am more hopeful of an agreement on the banning of nuclear tests than on the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons.

QUESTION: As you are going to Paris, and as it seems that one of the shortcomings of the talks since they started has been the absence of France, do you propose to take any further initiative to try and get France to that conference?

The SECRETARY-GENERAL: No, I do not propose to bring up this question with the French Government. I have brought up this question on previous occasions.

QUESTION: In regard to the decision of the Security Council of 20 September last, in view of the Indian Prime Minister's statement, is this now only of academic value?

The SECRETARY-GENERAL: The onus is back again with the Security Council. As you will recall, the Security Council adopted a series of resolutions on the India-Pakistan conflict involving the cease-fire and the withdrawal of forces to the pre-5 August 1965 lines. The first two conditions have been met. In regard to political discussions, I think the Security Council will, at the appropriate time, take it up.

QUESTION: Last year, in Geneva, you made a speech in which you talked about the financial crisis facing the United Nations. Has this situation improved very much, or is the United Nations still facing a serious financial crisis?

The SECRETARY-GENERAL: The last session of the General Assembly formed a Special Committee of 33 to deal with the peace-keeping operations in all aspects. The Committee of 33 has been meeting, and I understand that

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they are meeting again today, 29 April. There are three issues before the Committee of 33: first, the constitutional issue; secondly, the financial issue; thirdly, the administrative issue. As far as the constitutional aspects of peace-keeping are concerned, there are two schools of thought in the United Nations. The first school maintains that the Security Council, as the primary organ to maintain international peace and security, should be regarded as competent to launch peace-keeping operations, and no other organ of the United Nations should be considered as competent to launch peace-keeping operations. The other school maintains that, although it is conceded that the Security Council is the primary organ of the United Nations to maintain peace and security, if it fails to take action, then the General Assembly should be regarded as competent to launch peace-keeping operations. This viewpoint is shared by the majority of Member States. Regarding the second aspect of the financial implications of peace-keeping operations, the question again involves Security Council action or General Assembly action, whether the Security Council alone is competent to allocate financial responsibility to the entire Membership for peace-keeping operations, or whether the General Assembly alone is competent to allocate financial responsibility to the entire Membership. This question has to be thrashed out. As I have stated before, the principle of voluntary contributions to operate peace-keeping operations is very unsatisfactory, as has been the case in Cyprus. Regarding administrative aspects, the question before the Committee of 33 is: once the peace-keeping operations are launched, who should operate them: the Secretary-General, or the Security Council, or the Military Staff Committee?

QUESTION: How do you evaluate the results of your talks with British politicians?

The SECRETARY-GENERAL: The primary purpose of my visit to London this time was to attend the meetings of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination, the meetings attended by the heads of the various agencies of the United Nations. The British Government kindly offered me official hospitality, and I took this opportunity to discuss matters with the leaders of the British Government,

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particularly matters of mutual interest to the United Kingdom and the United Nations. My talks were very useful, although I am not in a position to disclose the substance of the talks and my assessment of the British Government's point of view on various problems.

QUESTION: Can you say whether you have in mind any new ideas or any early new action for a Viet-Nam settlement?

The SECRETARY-GENERAL: I think that the Viet-Nam problem is getting more complex and more difficult as time goes on. What could have been done in 1964 is not possible of accomplishment this year. In my view, there were many cases of missed opportunities. The basic need is that the parties directly involved in the conflict should come out with clearer objectives. They should define their objectives in clearer terms than they have done before. There are some basic issues which are of primary importance for discussions at any conference table. For instance, whether the parties primarily involved in the conflict would agree to define the modalities for the implementation of the Geneva Agreements of 1954. As you all know, the Government of Hanoi has maintained, and still maintains, that it cannot deviate from the agreements arrived at 12 years ago in Geneva. It will be very helpful for anybody who is interested in taking some initiative to bring about negotiations to be conversant with the attitudes of the parties primarily concerned. The Geneva Agreements of 1954 envisaged elections in North Viet-Nam and South Viet-Nam. In a way, the elections were a plebiscite to ascertain the views of the people of North Viet-Nam as well as South Viet-Nam in regard to a united Viet-Nam. This is one of the issues which has to be thrashed out.

QUESTION: In this context would you welcome an initiative by the two Co-Chairmen of the 1954 Agreements, Great Britain and the Soviet Union, if they approached the parties directly concerned and asked them to define their views?

The SECRETARY-GENERAL: Certainly I would welcome any initiative by countries or a country.

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QUESTION: By these two in particular?

The SECRETARY-GENERAL: Yes. I welcomed the initiative of the two Co-Chairmen some time ago, but for obvious reasons I feel it would be difficult for the two Co-Chairmen to come out with a fresh initiative at this moment.

QUESTION: With regard to the India-Pakistan question, can you explain whether the Security Council will take its own initiative in the matter, or whether it is waiting for the initiative to come from Pakistan?

The SECRETARY-GENERAL: As is normal in the functioning of the Security Council, the Council can take action only on the initiative of a Member State.

QUESTION: If I may return to the question of the peace-keeping operations, I wonder whether you are in a position to tell us of any new initiative or suggestion made, either by the Secretariat or by Member States of the United Nations, which gives one reason to hope that this problem is further along the road to solution.

The SECRETARY-GENERAL: The Chairman of the Committee of 33 has been in informal consultations with members of the regional groups in the United Nations for the last two or three weeks, and, of course, I have been in touch with him also. He has come to the conclusion that the meeting scheduled to take place this afternoon in New York could start off with very positive and useful discussions. He is hopeful that at least one of the problems of the peace keeping, namely, the financial aspect, will be successfully dealt with by the Committee before it is expected to submit its report to the next session of the General Assembly.

QUESTION: Can you give us any grounds for this feeling of optimism?

The SECRETARY-GENERAL: It would be too early for me to reveal the source of my information and the substance of the discussion I had with the Chairman of the Committee of 33.

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QUESTION: Are you hopeful that at the forthcoming General Assembly any progress can be made to end a situation in which one State, by its attitude, has been able over all these years to exclude the largest State in the world, namely, China?

The SECRETARY-GENERAL: As you know, this question was taken up by the General Assembly and has been taken up at every session for the last several years. On this, as Secretary-General of the United Nations, I have no personal views. On this, as I have explained before, you should treat U Thant as two U Thants, one as the Permanent Representative of Burma to the United Nations up till November 1961, and the other the U Thant who can speak and act only as the Secretary-General of the United Nations within the framework of the decisions and resolutions of the principal organs. In my second capacity I have no views of my own, except in the context of the General Assembly resolutions.

QUESTION: If you overcome perhaps the industrial disease of the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the schizophrenic situation, surely you must have a view whether it is a good thing or not that, in view of the principle of universality in the United Nations, such a State continues to be excluded?

The SECRETARY-GENERAL: As the Permanent Representative of Burma, I expressed certain views. As Secretary-General of the United Nations, I cannot express any views, except in the context of the decisions of the General Assembly or the Security Council. On this question, of course, there are two approaches. One section of the Member States maintains that the question is one of admission of the People's Republic of China to the United Nations. The other section maintains that it is not a question of admission, but it is a question of representation -- who should represent China at the United Nations. The matter was taken up at the last session of the General Assembly and the voting was 47 to 47. It is difficult to assess what the voting will be at the forthcoming session of the General Assembly, but, in the context of the implied universality of Membership, of course, it will be very desirable for a great country such as the People's Republic of China to be at the United Nations.

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QUESTION: There have been discussions in the British Press whether an abstention by a permanent member of the Security Council is or is not a veto. Would you care to comment on that?

The SECRETARY-GENERAL: I do not think so. An abstention is an abstention and the veto is a negative vote against a particular resolution. There is a distinction between the two.

QUESTION: With regard to the growing gap between the rich and poor countries, in spite of the launching of the Development Decade, so far the level of aid to the poor countries has remained stagnant for the last three years. Little has been done, and I should like to know whether you have any ideas for putting a new enthusiasm into this development effort.

The SECRETARY-GENERAL: I must admit that the targets we set in 1961, when the United Nations launched the Development Decade, were not fully met in the middle of the Decade. I am reviewing the whole situation in the light of the reports from various agencies, and, of course, I shall have to report my findings to the forthcoming session of the Economic and Social Council in July in Geneva. This is one of the items we discussed at our meetings yesterday and the day before yesterday, and there was a general feeling among the heads of the specialized agencies that if we can accelerate the programmes in the second half of the Decade, perhaps the modest target set at the start of the programme can still be met.

QUESTION: You have grounds for optimism in spite of the fact aid is being cut down to developing countries?

The SECRETARY-GENERAL: There are various factors which govern the attitudes of small countries, particularly developing countries, in accepting aid from developed countries. I think that in the brief space of time at our disposal I will not be able to do justice to this problem. But my feeling is that if the flow of capital can be accelerated from the developed countries to the developing countries in the next five years, the modest targets we have set at the beginning of this Decade can still be met.

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QUESTION: Reverting to the Rhodesian question, do you see any danger in the Rhodesian problem in terms of racial friction between the rich white countries of the world and the poor brown countries?

The SECRETARY-GENERAL: I believe that is definitely a potential danger.

QUESTION: Could you say a word about it? If we do not solve the problem, what is the sort of thing that could happen? Does it affect the United Nations?

The SECRETARY-GENERAL: It is very difficult to speculate on the future course of events, but the situation is sufficiently explosive to warrant stronger measures.

QUESTION: Could you say whether the use of force in Rhodesia is envisaged in United Nations circles?

The SECRETARY-GENERAL: No, I cannot speak for United Nations circles; but I expect the Security Council will take up the question very soon.

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UNITED NATIONS

Press Services
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(FOR USE OF INFORMATION MEDIA -- NOT AN OFFICIAL RECORD)

Press Release SG/SM/495
30 April 1966

SECRETARY-GENERAL ARRIVES IN PARIS

(The following was received from the Information Officer accompanying the Secretary-General.)

The Secretary-General, U Thant, arrived in Paris at 5:30 p.m. yesterday. He was met by Ambassador Roger Seydoux, Permanent Representative of France to the United Nations; Bernard Durand, Chief of Protocol; Guy de Lacharriere, Chief of the United Nations Department at the Quai d'Orsay; representatives of United Nations agencies; and Gibson Parker, Director of the United Nations Information Centre in Paris.

The Secretary-General made the following statement for the French radio and television at the airport:

"Needless for me to say that I am very happy to be back in Paris once again. I want to take this opportunity of expressing very sincere thanks to the Government of France, and particularly the President, for his kind invitation to me to visit Paris on my way to Strasbourg to address the Council of Europe.

"As you all know, I spent three days in London before I came here. While I was in London, I had very useful talks with leaders of the British Government on matters of common interest to the United Kingdom and to the United Nations. Of course, inevitably we discussed important problems like Rhodesia, Viet-Nam and Cyprus. On these questions, as you all know, I have expressed my views on previous occasions. Particularly, the problem of Viet-Nam is getting more and more complex and more and more difficult as days go on. As I have been saying all along, what was possible in 1964 or even 1965 is no longer possible today. I have presented my views in my personal capacity from time to time to the parties concerned and unfortunately without success. I have made certain proposals, both procedural and substantive, but unfortunately all these proposals are still inconclusive. I find that the situation has gone from bad to worse. I still maintain that there are three conditions necessary for opening the way to useful negotiations by the

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parties primarily concerned. These conditions are: the cessation of bombing of North Viet-Nam; second, the de-escalation of all military activities in South Viet-Nam. When I say de-escalation of all military activities, I mean de-escalation by all the parties involved in the fighting in South Viet-Nam; and third, the willingness on the part of some of the parties primarily concerned to speak to those who are fighting, to discuss with those who are fighting. I still maintain that these are the prerequisites for a successful contact towards negotiations. I very much hope the parties primarily concerned will realize the gravity of the situation and show a spirit of give-and-take, not only for the sake of peace in that part of the world, but also for the sake of world peace.

"Once again, ladies and gentlemen, let me reiterate my very sincere thanks to the Government and people of France for making my visit possible. I look forward to very fruitful discussions with the President and with the Foreign Minister, among others, tomorrow. I wish the people of France all the best. Thank you."

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UNITED NATIONS

Press Services
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(FOR USE OF INFORMATION MEDIA -- NOT AN OFFICIAL RECORD)

Press Release SG/SM/494
30 April 1966

REMARKS BY SECRETARY-GENERAL AT FOREIGN PRESS ASSOCIATION LUNCHEON,
LONDON, 29 APRIL 1966

(The following was received from the Information Officer accompanying the Secretary-General.)

Following are excerpts of the opening remarks and answers to questions, made by the Secretary-General, U Thant, at the luncheon given in his honour by the Foreign Press Association yesterday at the Dorchester Hotel, London:

U Thant was introduced by Nasim Ahmed, acting President of the Association.

In his opening remarks, the Secretary-General said the objectives of the Charter being peace, the United Nations must serve as a centre to "harmonize" the different viewpoints of Member States. The difficulty was to find a common denominator with 117 Member States. In the light of this, the Secretary-General's role was perhaps best described by President Roosevelt when he said that the chief executive officer of the United Nations should be called the "moderator".

Answering questions, the Secretary-General said that the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination (ACC) co-ordinating activities were conducted in a spirit of brotherliness, leaving "a sense of gratification". The United Nations, he also said, was as strong as its Members would allow it to be. To perform its functions, the United Nations must develop into a really effective instrument.

Answering a question concerning Indonesia's re-entering the United Nations, he replied that, as there were no Charter provisions covering withdrawal from the United Nations, there would be no problem, should Indonesia wish to rejoin the Organization.

Asked if the United Nations had a role to play in Viet-Nam, the Secretary-General replied that a peace initiative ought not, at present, come from the United Nations, as only one party to the conflict was a Member of the United Nations.

Commenting on his plans for the future, U Thant said that he had not made up his mind yet about the possibilities of a second term of office, but that his decision would be conveyed to the Security Council some months before his present term expired.

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UNITED NATIONS

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CAUTION: ADVANCE TEXT

Not for use before 3 p.m. EDT (1900 GMT)
Sunday, 1 May

Press Release SG/SM/493
30 April 1966

TRANSCRIPT OF TELEVISION INTERVIEW WITH THE SECRETARY-GENERAL, U THANT,
BY THE BRITISH BROADCASTING CORPORATION IN LONDON

Following is the transcript, being made available to international information media, of an interview given by the Secretary-General, U Thant, and recorded in London for the programme "People to Watch", to be broadcast over the national television network of the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC) on 1 May 1966. The programme is also getting world-wide distribution through the BBC's external services.

ERSKINE CHILDERS: U Thant, Secretary-General of the United Nations since November 1961, former school teacher and diplomat of Burma.

ROBERT MCKENZIE: Mr. Secretary-General, there's great uneasiness about the condition of the United Nations, partly because you have had to stand aside in great crises like that in Viet-Nam; partly because of differences and difficulties over peace-keeping activities. Now is there a danger that the Organization will degenerate into a kind of debating society?

U THANT: Well, I think this fear, this general concern about the future of the United Nations, is widely shared by most of the Membership. In my view, the United Nations is now passing through a very crucial stage, particularly in regard to the future of the peace-keeping operations. As you will recall, the General Assembly at its last session had formed a Special Committee of 33, to look into all aspects of peace-keeping operations. The Committee of 33 is now in session in New York. There are three aspects of the problem, as I understand it: constitutional; financial; and administrative. As far as the constitutional aspects of the question are concerned there are two schools of thought in the United Nations -- one school maintains that the Security Council, alone, which is the primary organ to deal with international peace and security, is competent to launch peace-keeping operations, and to allocate financial responsibility on the entire Membership. Another school maintains that if the Security Council fails to act in any situation, then the General Assembly should be considered as competent to launch peace-keeping operations, as well as to

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allocate financial responsibility on the entire Membership. This deals with the constitutional and financial aspects of the problem.

There is still another aspect -- the administrative aspect. Once the peace-keeping operations are launched, who should be considered as competent to administer these administrations -- the Secretary-General or the Security Council, or the Military Staff Committee? These are the issues before the Committee of 33.

MR. CHILDERS: This problem of peace keeping, Mr. Secretary-General, is it the cause of the present uncertainty, the present situation the United Nations is in, or is it a symptom of something larger?

U THANT: I would say it is more or less a symptom. To launch effective peace-keeping operations, in my view, the first requisite is some sort of understanding among the big Powers, which is a necessary prerequisite to launch a peace-keeping operation. As I have been saying all along, the necessary prerequisite for the successful launching of a peace-keeping operation is some degree of detente or understanding between the East and West, which as you know, is still lacking.

MR. MCKENZIE: Mr. Secretary-General, what is surely even more worrisome than the difficulty there has been over peace-keeping operations, such as those in the Congo and so on, is where you get the greatest single threat to the world's peace since the war, namely Viet-Nam, and here you and your Organization have been able to play almost no part. Now, why not?

U THANT: Well, on this question I have made myself very clear on several previous occasions. First of all, it is worth recording what happened in 1954, when the question of Viet-Nam was brought to the attention of the international community. At that time, a lot of thought was given regarding the possibility of the United Nations involvement, in finding a solution to the problem of Viet-Nam, and it was decided, 12 years ago, that among the participants directly involved in the war in Viet-Nam, only one -- France -- was a Member of the United Nations. Others were not Members. So there was general agreement that the question should be dealt with outside the framework of the United Nations and, thus, the Geneva Conference took place in 1954. I think the same considerations should apply today. Among the parties principally concerned in the

conflict in Viet-Nam only one -- the United States of America -- is a Member of the United Nations. Others are not Members of the United Nations. So, since there was general agreement in 1954 that the Viet-Nam question should be dealt with outside the framework of the United Nations, I believe the same considerations equally hold true today.

MR. MCKENZIE: But, surely, Mr. Secretary-General, the problem here is that for 13 or 14 months a war, really a major war, has been going on in this area. The Geneva Agreement has not worked, they have not been prepared to reassemble under that aegis outside the United Nations, and yet you stood by, your Organization stood by, apparently impotent, in the face of this really appalling destruction. Now, is there nothing more that the United Nations could do here?

U THANT: Well, as I see the situation, I think this feeling is shared by the vast majority of the Membership. If the Security Council is to be usefully involved in finding a solution to any problem threatening international peace and security, one prerequisite is that the Security Council must be in a position to hear both sides of the question.

In my view, this is a must. Without this prerequisite I do not believe that the Security Council should be involved in any question. So, since the Security Council should hear both sides of the question, let us look into the matter rather closely. As I see it, I am sure everybody will agree with me that Peking or the North Vietnamese Government will not, under any circumstances, appear before the Security Council. Not only because of the fact that they are not Members of the United Nations, but for another additional reason. Peking, for instance, feels very strongly -- rightly or wrongly -- of course I am not identifying myself with that particular point of view -- Peking feels, it has felt all along, that there is someone in the Security Council who is a usurper. Like in the case of an accused who has been summoned to appear before a jury and in the view of that particular accused there is someone among the jury who is inimical to the interests of that particular accused.

MR. MCKENZIE: This is the Formosa Government?

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U THANT: Yes, in the view of Peking. So, particularly because of this reason, I believe Peking will never appear before the Security Council to plead its case. I think that is the most important factor which we all should take into consideration. These are the practical difficulties of why, in my view, the Security Council cannot be involved usefully in finding a solution to the Viet-Nam question.

MR. CHILDERS: Then in terms of the voice of the United Nations, Sir, this leaves you almost alone being able to do something. Now, what are the essential conditions, in your view, towards moving towards negotiations?

U THANT: It is generally known, particularly in United Nations Quarters, that I have been involved in private and very informal negotiations and discussions with the parties principally concerned for the last three years or so, and so far, of course, my attempts, my efforts, are not conclusive. I had made, from time to time, various proposals, some procedural in nature, some substantive in nature, but unfortunately one party or the other could not find itself in a position to accept my proposals. But, of course, I am still continuing with my efforts. But as I see the situation today, what is necessary is that the parties directly involved in the conflict should come out with very clear objectives as to what they want done about the Viet-Nam question.

In my view, this clear definition of the objectives is lacking.

MR. MCKENZIE: Lacking on both sides?

U THANT: On both sides. I think what is necessary today is for the parties principally concerned to come out with very clear objectives. Whether, for instance, they can go along with the modalities to implement the Geneva Agreements of 1954. Or, whether they want some sort of a deviation from the agreements arrived at in 1954. This I am citing as an instance. I think, in my view, there is no clear definition of objectives by both sides.

MR. MCKENZIE: May we bring you back for a moment, Mr. Secretary-General, to your comment on China. Now, if as seems obvious to many of us, the greatest potential threat to a world war is an American-Chinese clash, surely then, if your point was well taken a moment ago, the only possibility of the United Nations playing a decisive role in that kind of situation is if we can ensure Communist China becoming a full Member of the United Nations. Now, how is that going to happen?

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U THANT: Well, regarding this question I think the responsibility is on the entire Membership. As I have stated on a previous occasion, on such questions there are two U Thants. One U Thant as the representative of Burma to the United Nations -- I have some definite views on this -- reflecting the views of the Burmese Government. Another U Thant, as the Secretary-General of the United Nations, cannot speak or act except in the context of the General Assembly resolutions, except through the decisions of the principal organs of the United Nations.

In the latter category, in the second category, my view is that the General Assembly has discussed this question from year to year, and last year, also, it discussed this. My feeling is that the entire membership believes in the principle of universality. But the question is one of definition -- whether this question is the question of admission of China to the United Nations or the restoration of the lawful rights of the People's Republic of China at the United Nations. In other words, the question is whether it is one of admission of China, admission of a new Member State to the United Nations, or the question of representation. This question, I believe, will again be dealt with very comprehensively in the forthcoming session of the General Assembly. But the indications for the moment are that the question will not be solved in the coming twenty-first session of the General Assembly.

MR. CHILDERS: Do you at all share the view, Sir, that we are unlikely to know what Chinese policy would really be, as long as Peking feels ostracized and encircled?

U THANT: Yes, on this also, I have expressed some views on a previous occasion. When a country is regarded as an outcast, as an outlaw, as the villain of the piece, if I may say so, I think that particular country is apt to act in a rather strange way. I feel that countries and States, like individuals, have to undergo certain tensions, certain emotional upsets and even be subject to emotional breakdowns, or nervous breakdowns. From time to time, if you assess the statements of the Chinese leaders coming out from Peking, I get the impression that the Chinese leaders from time to time speak in a rather strange way. Even at times, with hysteria, with a certain degree of arrogance, I think we have to understand their state of mind in the context of the circumstances in which China has been ostracized for so long. I think

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that is the explanation. But, in my view, the Chinese leaders' actions are different from the Chinese leaders' statements.

I do not think we should attach very great importance to the statements coming out from Peking from time to time which are characterized by a certain degree of arrogance, a certain degree of even hysteria.

MR. CEILERS: There have been suggestions in this atmosphere from time to time from Peking, and at one stage from Indonesia, about forming another international organization. Do you think there are any grounds for such fears?

U THANT: I think this idea is as dead as a dodo.

MR. MCKENZIE: Could we bring you, Mr. Secretary-General, to another crisis in which the United Nations has been rather more involved, but by no means decisively involved yet, and that's Rhodesia. Now, what kind of settlement of the Rhodesian problem -- and the negotiations are beginning to re-open now -- what kind of settlement would be acceptable, in your view, to the majority of the United Nations Membership which is, of course, primarily an Afro-Asian Membership?

U THANT: On this question, the United Nations has been seized since 1962, both by the General Assembly and the Security Council. These two principal organs of the United Nations have passed several resolutions, among them, of course, are resolutions relating to the declaration of Southern Rhodesia as a Non-Self Governing Territory: the United Nations has rejected the Constitution of 1961; the United Nations has called upon the British Government to conduct elections on the basis of adult universal suffrage; and the United Nations, through the Security Council, has also called upon the United Kingdom Government to take certain drastic measures to bring about the restoration of justice and fair play. Of course, there is a general consensus among the entire Membership that the present Ian Smith Government is illegal.

MR. MCKENZIE: Well then, Sir, if this Government were allowed to remain in power, and Rhodesia did not get majority rule, which by definition would mean obviously African rule, you are suggesting perhaps that the United Nations would not be satisfied with this as a settlement?

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U THANT: No, the United Nations, as a whole, in my view, feels that further stronger measures are necessary, on the part of the British Government. In the view of the majority of the Membership, further, closer co-operation between London and the United Nations is called for, and I am confident that the British Government, in its wisdom, will take further measures to bring about the implementation of the resolutions adopted by the General Assembly and the Security Council. Of course, on these questions, I have no private views of my own. I have to speak simply within the four corners of the resolutions adopted by the General Assembly and the Security Council.

MR. CHILDERS: Looming behind the Rhodesia issue is the question surely of apartheid in South Africa. Now, you yourself, and the whole United Nations Membership long ago took a clear stand in principle on the question of apartheid, but the plight of the African majority remains very much the same. There, Sir, what now can the United Nations do?

U THANT: Yes, on the question of apartheid there is general unhappiness, if I may say so, distress among the Members of the United Nations regarding the ineffective measures so far taken by the United Nations. On this, in my view, I think substantial progress can be made only on the basis of the agreement between the big Powers. I do not think the small Powers, or medium Powers, can effectively contribute towards the improvement of the conditions in South Africa. I think one prerequisite for bringing about a satisfactory solution of the problem is the unity in any case, some general consensus among the big Powers, regarding the methods to be adopted.

MR. MCKENZIE: Mr. Secretary-General, surely on that point they have all formally condemned apartheid. All the big Powers, as far as I know, have. What remains to be done, what kind of action, in fact, in your view, could alter the apartheid policy in South Africa?

U THANT: The next step, in my view, is enforcement action, of the resolutions adopted of the two organs of the United Nations. This enforcement action can be implemented only with the agreement of the big Powers.

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MR. CHILDERS: These would be economic sanctions? ("Yes").*

The range of measures of this kind required? ("Yes").*

MR. MCKENZIE: Now, as many people see it, Mr. Secretary-General, this kind of intervention by the United Nations, in what some would argue is a domestic policy, in South Africa, really stretches far beyond the original intention of the Charter -- the idea of a threat to the peace. In other words, this was thought to be, by many people, simply international threats, inter-nation conflicts. Now, you seem to be defining the right of the United Nations to move into domestic situations of this kind. If into South Africa, why not concern for Mississippi race policy? Where is the limit?

U THANT: Well, on this, of course, there is a division of opinion, but in the view of the majority of the Member States, the situation in South Africa poses a threat to international peace and security, inasmuch as it involves a question of race, the question of racial inequalities and discriminations, which are sure to have repercussions beyond the frontiers of South Africa. For instance, more than 30 countries in Africa, as you know, are black, their interests are very much involved in the situation in South Africa. It involves problems which go beyond the national frontiers. In the case of Mississippi, of course, these are Americans, whether the Americans are white or black, they are all Americans. But in South Africa the situation is different -- the whites belong to a certain sector of society and the blacks are regarded in the rest of the African States -- African populations in Africa -- as belonging to their races and to their regions. So there is a distinct difference between the two situations.

MR. CHILDERS: When you speak about the necessity of enforcement action, over the question of apartheid, Sir, behind that, again there is the fear that this entire situation is going to degenerate into a very bloody racial war eventually. This would pose the greatest single challenge so far to the United Nations peace-keeping capacity. Now again, is that dependent then on great Power agreement?

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* The Secretary-General replied affirmatively to both questions.

U THANT: Yes, I would say so. As I see the whole situation today, tensions are generated by two or three causes. One reason for tensions is based on political differences in political ideologies. Another cause of tensions is based on economic disparities between the "haves" and the "have-nots". I think the third cause of tension is based on racial discrimination. In my view, the tensions generated by racial discrimination or disparity in treatment among the whites and the blacks, is much more dangerous -- I think, in the long run, much more explosive than the division of the world on ideological grounds. This is, in my view, potentially one of the most serious threats to international peace and security.

MR. CHILDERS: As you have said yourself, a great many of the smaller countries in Africa -- small countries everywhere -- are involved and concerned in this kind of danger. You have spoken of the situation as far as the great Powers are concerned over peace keeping and the whole financial problem; is there anything you feel that the smaller and the medium-sized countries could do to contribute to a solution to this that they are not doing now?

U THANT: Yes, I feel that smaller Powers and medium Powers can and should contribute much more significantly towards a solution of problems of this nature. But, in my view, they have done their best, but because of the circumstances -- I mean the financial situations, the economic situations -- the small Powers and the medium Powers have not been able to contribute as adequately as they would have wished, because of the limitations in their economic and financial resources.

MR. MCKENZIE: Mr. Secretary-General, when you place the onus, understandably, on the big Powers in this kind of situation, does it not raise a danger which is bound to cause uneasiness abroad if you look back, for example, to the debates last November in this country on Rhodesia. The Prime Minister here did make the remark that there was a danger of the Red Army in blue berets showing up in Africa, Presumably implying the possibility of the involvement of the Soviet Union in some kind of United Nations operation. So is it not -- does it not rouse anxieties when you place the onus on the big Powers to take the lead in settling these racial disputes in Africa?

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U THANT: Well, in the matter of peace-keeping operations launched by the United Nations, in about 21 years there has not been one single instance of the big Powers' contributing fighting forces or contingents in any of the United Nations peace-keeping operations, except one. That is in the Cyprus operations. The British forces are there, because the British were more or less involved in the situation in Cyprus for many years, and they are legitimately very much concerned about the situation there. So the United Nations, through the Security Council, has agreed that the British contingents should also be stationed in Cyprus along with other forces. This is the only one single exception, but throughout the history of the 21 years of the United Nations, there has not been a single instance of any big Power providing fighting forces or contingents in any other United Nations peace-keeping operations. So the prospect of the Soviet forces being involved in the Rhodesian situation, for instance, is, in my view, out of the question.

MR. CHILDERS: Sir, you have described this problem between the great Powers over peace keeping as a function of their own tensions among themselves, the lack of a detente. Now, here we come obviously to disarmament between these great Powers. We have had the partial test ban treaty; do you see signs of further progress along that kind of road now?

U THANT: Yes, as you know, the Eighteen-Nation Disarmament Committee is still meeting in Geneva. So far, unfortunately, the progress has been very slow. Understandably they are dealing first of all with the question of non-proliferation of nuclear weapons, and secondly, of course, on the test ban treaty. On the test ban treaty, I have endorsed publicly the proposal of the Swedish Government, but so far the progress has been slow. But it seems with a spirit of "give and take", particularly on the part of the United States and the Soviet Union, there is likely to be some progress in the field of a test ban treaty, including, of course, the underground tests.

MR. MCKENZIE: But again, Mr. Secretary-General, as long as Communist China is outside this operation, too, the situation is slightly ludicrous -- they are proceeding with their bomb tests and so on; they are still in this field, too, an outcast nation. Can we hope to make real progress in this matter till they are in?

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U THANT: That is definitely a very important factor, in any discussion on disarmament, so that is why the General Assembly at its last session has decided to have a universal world-wide disarmament conference, obviously meant to involve the People's Republic of China also. But on this I think there are several factors to be taken into consideration; the feeling of the small Powers -- the feeling of the non-aligned countries particularly -- will be very significant in getting the People's Republic of China involved in such discussions.

Without China's participation, I think the progress of disarmament will be very slow.

MR. CHILDERS: You spoke, Mr. Secretary-General, about the ideological tensions, about racial tensions in the world; there is also along with this the growing gap between the rich white north and the very hungry non-white south of the world. Now, we have the Development Decade of the United Nations at the moment, but surely we are slipping almost backwards in trying to get development in the poor south of the world.

U THANT: Yes, it is true. Since the end of World War II, there is general agreement that the rich countries are getting richer and the poor countries are getting poorer. I think this widening gulf between the "haves" and the "have-nots" constitutes a more serious threat to international peace and security than any other rifts, either ideological or racial. So in this respect the United Nations has launched a Development Decade with effect from 1961. We are now in the middle of this Decade; we have assessed the progress. We did some stock-taking also in the Economic and Social Council. I have to report on the development and the progress at the next session of the Economic and Social Council in July, in Geneva. So far, the progress has been disappointing; the results achieved have been disappointing, so I think the United Nations as a whole has to take more vigorous actions in the second part of the Decade.

MR. CHILDERS: What do you think the biggest cause of disappointment has been, Sir, the amount of money being channelled into development programmes from the richer countries?

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U THANT: Well, there are many factors involved. One of them, of course, is the paucity of the flow of capital from the developed countries to the developing countries. On this, of course, we cannot lay the blame particularly on the developed countries. I think a share of the blame should also go to the developing countries, because of the various circumstances and situations in many poor countries -- they are very wary of capital investments from the rich countries. This is one of the factors.

MR. MCKENZIE: Mr. Secretary-General, could we ask you finally a few questions about your own role in all these events. You used the extremely challenging sentence when you said that you want to be impartial, but not necessarily neutral as Secretary-General. What exactly did you mean?

U THANT: Well, that is my concept of the role of the Secretary-General. I said this before I was appointed as the Secretary-General of the United Nations four and a half years ago. I do not think a Secretary-General of the United Nations should be neutral on questions involving moral issues. He can be impartial, he must be impartial like a judge, but I do not think he should be neutral, particularly on issues involving moral questions. Of course, these are nuances which have certain significance. To illustrate my point, if I am asked, for instance, to join the Communist Party or the John Birch Society, I think I will be neutral, because there are only two choices before me.

But if I am asked to opt for one or the other involving moral questions, or moral issues, I do not think I can be neutral. Of course, I have to be impartial, as far as my understanding of the Charter provisions is concerned. On this, I want to remind you about the proposal of the late President Roosevelt before the United Nations was formed. He suggested, I believe in 1944, that the Chief Executive Officer of the United Nations should be called "Moderator". I think it is a very accurate description of the job I am in.

MR. CHILDERS: I often wonder, Sir, whether you face a dilemma that at times you have a choice between forcing the pace of the growth of the United Nations, because of needs that you see, because of the moral influence that you have, or a feeling that you had better stay within the already accepted views of the Membership. Is this dilemma there that you sometimes want to go a little ahead of what you want actually see on the record of resolutions?

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U THANT: My concept of the United Nations is well known. I believe, very strongly, that the United Nations must develop into a really effective instrument for the performance of all the functions envisaged in the Charter. I do not believe that the United Nations should be just a forum for discussions and debates. I think this view is shared by the vast majority of peoples, a vast majority of the Members of the United Nations.

MR. MCKENZIE: But, Mr. Secretary-General, your predecessor, Dag Hammarskjold, spoke of the intense loneliness of the job -- presumably meaning there was no Cabinet, there was no country on which you can fall back directly. Have you found it that kind of job?

U THANT: Yes, I agree with him entirely on this. It is not only the loneliest job in the world; in my view, it is sometimes the most frustrating job in the world.

MR. CHILDERS: Where do you get the strength that you obviously must have for so lonely a job?

U THANT: On this I do not know. Perhaps it may have something to do with my way of life. I have been trained in a traditional Buddhist environment in my country. I have been trained to cherish certain values which may be alien to the values entertained by many people in the West. I have been trained to value the qualities of patience, tolerance, love, understanding, the philosophy of "live and let live". I think this background helps me a lot in the discharge of my responsibilities of the Secretary-General of the United Nations.

MR. CHILDERS: But this is not the detachment that some people assume in Buddhism, Sir?

U THANT: It is a question of nuance, I believe. Of course, a Buddhist preaches the qualities of detachment. In a way, it is detachment, but it does not mean keeping yourself aloof from developments, but detachment in the sense of emotional detachment, some sort of sentimental detachment when you assess the problems.

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MR. MCKENZIE: Just in one word, Mr. Secretary-General, will you carry on in your job?

U THANT: This question has been raised from time to time in the last two or three months. As I have said on two previous occasions, I think I have to make up my mind definitely perhaps by June this year. If I do decide not to offer myself for a second term, to do justice to the United Nations I have to inform the Security Council well in advance -- perhaps three or four months in advance -- so that the Council may be in a position to look for a suitable successor. I have not made up my mind yet.

MR. MCKENZIE: Thank you Mr. Secretary-General.

U THANT: Thank you very much.

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Press Release SG/T/88
30 April 1966

SECRETARY-GENERAL LEAVES LONDON FOR PARIS

(The following was received from the United Nations Information Centre, London.)

The Secretary-General, U Thant, left London for Paris at 4:30 p.m. BST yesterday.

Among those present at the airport were Kenneth Pridham, head of the Economic and Social Branch of the United Nations Department of the Foreign Office; Jean Roullier, Secretary-General of the Inter-Governmental Maritime Consultative Organization; C.V. Narasimhan, Chef de Cabinet, who later left for Geneva; Sture Linner, Director of the United Nations Information Centre in London; and other officials.

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UNITED NATIONS

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Press Release SG/SM/492
29 April 1966

EXCERPTS OF SECRETARY-GENERAL'S PRESS CONFERENCE IN LONDON

(The following was received from the Information Officer accompanying the Secretary-General.)

Following are excerpts from the press conference held today by the Secretary-General, U Thant, at the headquarters of the Inter-Governmental Maritime Consultative Organization (IMCO), in London:

On the prospects of peace in Viet-Nam, the Secretary-General said he had been involved, privately, in bringing about a settlement for some three years, without success thus far. He explained why the Security Council could not be usefully involved in this context inasmuch as only one of all the parties principally concerned was a Member of the United Nations. Furthermore, Peking believed, rightly or wrongly, that there was someone on the Council who should not be there.

Replying to several questions regarding Rhodesia, the Secretary-General said he had to be guided by the resolutions already adopted by the General Assembly and the Security Council in this regard.

Asked to elaborate what further action the United Kingdom should take, he said: "More courageous action is required in the context of the resolutions already adopted". Pressed further to explain what he meant by courageous, he said he was reflecting the views of the majority of the Members of the United Nations who considered Ian Smith's Government illegal.

Asked if the Council had decided that the situation in Rhodesia was a threat to peace under Chapter VII of the Charter, the Secretary-General said the Council had implied that, but had not definitely decided the issue.

Asked if he would take a personal initiative to break the dead-lock prevailing at the Disarmament Committee in Geneva, the Secretary-General said he did not plan any initiative at this time, and that he was convinced that all members of

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the Committee were seriously trying to make some progress on non-proliferation and the banning of further tests. He added that he had endorsed the Swedish proposal in this respect.

Asked if he would, while in Paris, talk to the French Government concerning its participation in the work of the Committee, U Thant answered that he did not plan to do so at this time. He had raised the matter on a previous occasion.

On the relations between India and Pakistan regarding political discussions, the Secretary-General said the withdrawal of troops, as decided by the Security Council, had already been effected. With regard to the political aspects of the problem, he said the Council may take up this matter at the appropriate time, on the initiative of a Member State.

On the question of the financial crisis of the United Nations, the Secretary-General said the Committee of 33 was meeting today in New York to tackle a task comprising three points: constitutional (Security Council versus General Assembly); financial; and administrative. U Thant added that the Chairman of the Committee had been in consultation with various groups and with the Secretary-General and the Chairman seemed quite hopeful that the financial aspect would be successfully dealt with before the next session of the General Assembly.

Asked if he had any new ideas for a peaceful settlement in Viet-Nam, the Secretary-General said the conflict was getting more difficult and complex as time went by. He believed strongly that the parties should come out with clearer objectives. Asked if he would welcome any initiative from London or Moscow, the two co-chairmen of the Geneva Conference, the Secretary-General said he would welcome any initiative from any quarter, but he believed that such an initiative at this time was difficult.

In response to a question on the talks he has had with United Kingdom leaders here, the Secretary-General described the talks as "very useful", but would not disclose their substance.

Referring to the question of the People's Republic of China joining the United Nations, the Secretary-General said he had no personal views other than those reflecting the decisions of the Assembly. Pressed to say whether it would be useful to have the People's Republic of China in the United Nations, the Secretary-General said: "In the context of universality it would be desirable for a great country like China to be in the United Nations".

Asked if he considered that the Rhodesian problem might represent a danger of racial conflict, the Secretary-General said: "Yes, definitely so".

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Press Release SG/C/19
GA/COL/404

29 April 1966

CYPRUS, LIBERIA PLEDGE CONTRIBUTIONS TO UNITED NATIONS FUND
FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OF BASUTOLAND, BECHUANALAND AND SWAZILAND

Cyprus and Liberia have pledged contributions to the United Nations Fund for the Economic Development of Basutoland, Bechuanaland and Swaziland, established by the General Assembly in resolution 2063 (XX). These three Territories are administered by the United Kingdom.

In letters addressed to the Secretary-General, U Thant, Cyprus stated that it was pledging a token contribution of £100 (approximately \$US 280), and Liberia said it was pledging a sum of \$6,000.

Denmark has informed the Secretary-General that it is in principle favourably disposed towards the idea of voluntary contributions to the development of the economy of the three Territories. It stated that when it is made probable that the Fund would reach such size as to become workable, the Danish Government could be expected, in spite of the reservations it had expressed in the Special Committee of 24 on the ending of colonialism and at the twentieth session of the General Assembly, to propose to the Danish Parliament that Denmark make a contribution to the Fund.

The communications received from these Governments were in response to action taken by the Secretary-General in drawing the attention of States to the resolution establishing the Fund, and requesting them to inform him of the extent to which they would be prepared to contribute to the Fund.

The Secretary-General, in his statement before the Committee of 24 on 8 March, had declared that a positive response from the Governments would constitute a constructive step towards the achievement of the objectives sought by the Special Committee of 24 and the General Assembly in regard to the future development of the three Territories.

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The Secretary-General is required under this Assembly resolution to report on the operation of the Fund to the twenty-first session of the Assembly.

The Fund, according to the Assembly resolution, is to be made up of voluntary contributions and is to be administered by the Secretary-General in close consultation with the Governments of Basutoland, Bechuanaland and Swaziland and with the co-operation and assistance of the Special Fund and the Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance -- which have now become the United Nations Development Programme -- the Economic Commission for Africa and the specialized agencies concerned.

The Fund was established by the Assembly following the recommendations of the Secretary-General that it be created.

The Secretary-General's recommendations were based on the report of a mission which visited the three Territories in May-June 1965 to investigate and advise upon the scope for additional economic and technical assistance to these Territories. The mission consisted of M.E. Chacko, Officer-in-Charge, Department of Trusteeship and Non-Self-Governing Territories, as Chairman, and M. Minchin of the same Department, both of whom were nominated by the Secretary-General; and P.S. McLean of the United Kingdom Ministry of Overseas Development, who was nominated by the United Kingdom.

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Press Release SG/SM/491
28 April 1966

TEXT OF ADDRESS BY SECRETARY-GENERAL, U THANT,
TO UNITED NATIONS ASSOCIATION OF UNITED KINGDOM

London, 28 April 1966

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I am very glad to have this opportunity to meet with you today and to share a few thoughts with you on some questions of vital concern to us all.

Among the members of the United Nations, few States have been so closely involved with the Organization from its very inception and in so many different ways as the United Kingdom. Your country has not, I believe, always found its membership in the United Nations an unmixed blessing. I am aware that there have been times when the United Nations has seemed to some people in Britain to be the very symbol and embodiment of all the pressures and difficulties and frustrations which the radically changing modern world presents to an old and great country. The fact is, however, that the source of much of that change lies here, and it has proved to be in the best interests of the United Kingdom, in spite of many difficulties, to remain a loyal and co-operative member of the United Nations. By doing so your country has served the best interests of the United Nations as well, and has continuously enjoyed the respect and friendship of most of the membership even in times of serious disagreement.

It is true that the United Nations, as the mirror of the world situation, does represent vividly and in highly publicized form the tensions, trends and problems of a changing and developing world. This aspect of the United Nations, which may at times seem irritating, and even offensive, to some members, is very important to the peace of the world. The very existence of a forum where all sorts of views can be expressed and long-term aims pursued provides a most useful mechanism for "letting off steam" and reducing tension. Those who contemptuously dismiss the General Assembly, the Security Council or their subsidiary

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organs as mere "talking shops" are guilty of a rather superficial, if not biased, view of the nature of international relations. The debates in the United Nations, sometimes heated and often long-winded, provide the time and perspective in which a maturer view of critical problems may grow and finally prevail. That this should be so is in the interest of all governments which prefer peace to war.

The last twenty years have been a critical and difficult time for the United Kingdom, as for the world in general. In that time this country has had not only to recover from its human and material losses in the Second World War and to face great changes at home, but also to adjust itself to a world dynamically altered by new ideas and developments many of which originated here. In particular, the process of decolonization, in which the United Kingdom has been a leader, inevitably has imposed great strains, psychological and emotional as well as practical, upon this country and its successive Governments. It is difficult for many people to realize that the very nature of national power, even for the greatest nations, has changed radically in our time. But it is no mean triumph to encompass a great historic transition peacefully and in a way which helps to bring hundreds of millions of people to independence and to greater possibilities of peace and prosperity. This the United Kingdom has striven to do and, given the difficulties inherent in such a vast undertaking, it has, to my mind, carried through its declared aims effectively and well. This is an achievement which, although not yet complete, and somewhat dimmed by exceptions among which Southern Rhodesia now disturbingly stands out, warrants being regarded with pride. The concept of the Commonwealth has served well to ease the difficulties of this time of change and has been, incidentally, a valuable and constructive element in the wider affairs of the United Nations.

The process of granting independence to former colonies and other non-self-governing territories, in which the United Kingdom has been a pioneer and leader, has naturally had profound effects upon the United Nations, as upon the world at large. One of its more obvious results has been to increase greatly the membership of the United Nations and thus, if I may say so, to give the United Nations the benefit of the presence of many new nations with fresh ideas as well as fresh problems. The Organization would have lost touch with the reality of the world itself if it had failed to accept this salutary injection of new blood and new attitudes.

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It is important to understand the process through which the new countries have to go in order to take their place in the world. These new nations must first establish their national roots if they are to survive internationally, and in growing those roots they are bound at times to show a high and even hyper-sensitive degree of nationalism. This is a phase which older and more fortunate nations have for the most part already gone through; the fact of their established nationalism has given them the freedom and confidence to go beyond it into internationalism. At the same time, it is to the advantage of the new nations that they have come to independence in an era of relatively strong international organization, which indeed has played a significant part in the emergence of many of them. They do not, therefore, find their attachment to the principles of international co-operation incompatible with the need to assert their national identities and aspirations. It becomes, in fact, one of the important functions of the United Nations to help the new countries in the initial phases of nationalism to find their footing and their place in the world, and to give them that feeling of security which unquestionably derives from membership in an international community. The pressures of the modern world demand that they mature in this sense far more rapidly than older countries had to do, and this rapidity of adjustment will sometimes give rise to attitudes and reactions which may seem unreasonable. I am sure that you in the United Kingdom are very much aware of the necessity for patience and for understanding of the points of view of the newer countries during this very difficult and crucial phase of their development. Most of the older countries, as I have said, have had similar experiences.

It is sometimes forgotten, especially by those who are not very enthusiastic about international co-operation through the United Nations, that almost all the peace-keeping operations of the United Nations have been made necessary by the aftermath of European colonialism. Moreover, all of the current peace-keeping operations in the Middle East, in Kashmir and in Cyprus, pertain to problems which arose from the process of British decolonization. In fact, one of the most useful achievements of the United Nations has been to stand watch over the power vacuums created by the lapse of European influence and the subsequent process of decolonization in areas such as the Middle East or the Congo, and thus to diminish the risks of a power confrontation between East and West in these areas. Those who still delight in asserting that the United Nations Operation in the Congo was unnecessary, misguided or ineffective would do well to ponder this fact. In several

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areas where the burden has proved too heavy or too complex for a single government to bear alone, the United Nations has provided a vital relief to the former colonial Powers, as well as to the inhabitants of the disturbed areas themselves.

Another function of the United Nations is to provide means through which governments may reconcile their various world commitments. I believe that here too the United Nations has been of considerable assistance to many countries, including the United Kingdom, in a number of situations over the past twenty years, most recently in the conflict between India and Pakistan last September.

I would like to take this opportunity to mention the British contribution to the United Nations operations which, by and large, has kept the peace in Cyprus two full years. You will recall that the United Nations undertook the task at a time when the strife in Cyprus between the Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot communities was giving rise to communal violence, bloodshed, tensions and great hardship, as well as to a serious threat to the wider peace. As yet, regrettably, no long-term solution for Cyprus is in sight, but the fighting has been largely stopped and some of the tensions have been reduced. Much of the credit for this success of the United Nations Force in Cyprus must go to the ready and generous co-operation of the British Government, which had, early in 1964, deployed a peace-keeping force in the island, and to the fine performance of the successive British contingents in the United Nations Force. I may add that the British participation in this operation is the unique exception to the firm, if unwritten, rule that United Nations peace-keeping operations should not include the forces of the permanent members of the Security Council. The exception was made, of course, in the light of the wishes of the parties mainly concerned and of the fact that British troops were already on the ground, and it has, I know, proved to be of benefit to all.

The Government of the United Kingdom has always supported the peace-keeping role of the United Nations, and many people in this country, in unofficial as well as official circles, have shown a keen interest in the future of international peace-keeping. I therefore feel bound to say here that the present prospect for making the peace-keeping role of the United Nations more effective and reliable for the future is, for political and constitutional reasons of which you are well aware, extremely uncertain. However, I must add that the efforts of a number of governments, including your own, in the sphere of earmarking contingents for future United Nations use, are a constructive and welcome initiative. In spite of these

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efforts, I am afraid that in the near future the United Nations may be less able to respond effectively to threats to the peace than hitherto. To give one practical example, I regard the present method of voluntary and optional financing for the Cyprus operation, quite apart from the serious practical difficulties it creates, as a retrograde step in the general development of United Nations peace-keeping capacity. I sincerely hope that this setback is only temporary.

I have stated on previous occasions my own reservations about the idea of a standing international peace-keeping force in the present stage of development of the international organization. I believe that a continuing study of the idea is a valuable investment for the future, but we should not underestimate the difficulties of such a major innovation in international relations, nor the obstacles which have to be overcome. There will have to be major developments in concepts of national sovereignty and international responsibility, in law and in the relations of States to each other, not to mention methods of financing international efforts, before such an advanced idea can begin to come into the realm of practical politics. I point out these difficulties not to discourage those -- and they are many -- who are working for progress in peace-keeping, but to show what great and continuous efforts will be needed to improve on the present situation. It is fortunate that the peace-keeping operations in which the United Nations has engaged up to now have not been impaired in any significant degree by the lack of a standing force.

Your country is, as you know, directly concerned in one of the most difficult and, if I may say so, dangerous situations in which the United Nations has been asked to intervene in recent times. This is the question of Southern Rhodesia. It is well, I think, to put some stress on the fact that it was the British Government itself which brought the problem of Rhodesia, in its present form, to the United Nations immediately upon the unilateral declaration of independence. The Security Council was prompt in endorsing and supporting measures which the British Government had taken in the attempt to regulate what is potentially an extremely explosive situation. Recently, the United Kingdom has again brought the Rhodesian question to the Council. I very much hope that the British Government, which probably knows better than anyone else the serious dangers inherent in the situation, will recognize that further steps are required to bring these perils to an end and will continue courageously to take the necessary measures both within and outside the United Nations. Working together in harmony, the United Kingdom and the United Nations can, I very much

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hope, dissipate the present dangers and see decency, fairness and justice prevail in Southern Rhodesia.

I said last year that we have eventually to reach a state of political maturity in which it will be considered statesmanlike, rather than weak, for even a great country to alter its course or to change its policy in the common interest or in deference to the will of the majority of other nations. Until we reach that stage, it is an important step in the right direction for governments to feel able to bring problems and disputes to the United Nations, no matter how painful or embarrassing they may sometimes seem to be. The United Kingdom has an excellent record in this respect, and I take this opportunity to pay tribute to the present Government and to those who, in the past, despite difficulties and misunderstandings both at home and abroad, have steadfastly tried to conduct their policies and their relationships with other nations according to the principles and precepts of the United Nations Charter, and to use the machinery of the Charter to that end. I know well that this is often a difficult road for governments, hard-pressed abroad and under criticism at home, to follow, and yet, if governments do not increasingly follow it, the prospect for peace and world order is poor indeed.

The United Kingdom continues to make an important and constructive contribution to the longer-term political aims of the United Nations, such as disarmament and the peaceful settlement of disputes. No one should underestimate either the necessity or the difficulty of these efforts.

There are less publicized activities in which the United Kingdom has also made a great contribution to the United Nations -- activities which are no less significant for being seldom in the news. Something like 85 per cent of the total United Nations effort, in terms of men and money, is in the economic, humanitarian and social fields. This fact reflects the probability that the gulf between rich and poor in the world will prove in the long run a far more dangerous problem than the ideological struggle, or even the question of racial conflict. In the face of this challenge, the present activities of the international community, even though large in the relative sense, can only seem pitifully small and inadequate in their actual scale. The consolidated development programmes undertaken by the United Nations and the specialized agencies, the recent establishment of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, and our intensified work in industrialization, are at least a good beginning, and are especially valuable in identifying problems, in pointing the way to solutions and in showing in practical terms what can be done when much larger resources are made available,

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as they clearly must be. To this work the United Kingdom has made great contributions of both money and manpower. In fact, this country has been the second largest contributor to the Development Programme, while it has provided more skilled persons for advisory, training and operational services than any other country in the world. I am confident that the United Kingdom will maintain, and I hope that it will even improve, its leading role in these vital activities.

The contributions to the Development Programme, although voluntary, are, of course, governmental contributions. It is a further measure of the interest and understanding of the people of the United Kingdom in respect of their less fortunate fellow human beings that the funds raised from non-governmental sources in this country for the World Refugee Year and the Freedom-from-Hunger Campaign were the largest contributions to both from any country in the world. The fact that the General Assembly has decided to dedicate United Nations Day this year to the cause of refugees will, I hope, stimulate in your people an even more generous response.

I would like to conclude with a general observation. Two world wars followed by twenty years of radical change of all kinds have inevitably left even the most advanced nations a little out of breath and somewhat uneasy about the seemingly relentless acceleration of the pace of history. All of us, therefore -- governments, peoples, and, if I may say so, international officials -- are faced with the urgent necessity of reshaping our ideas and marshalling our assets. We have been overtaken by history too often not to know the price which we shall inevitably pay if we are overtaken again. The work of associations, such as yours, in promoting constructive thinking about the future is an indispensable part of this process of re-orientation.

It is clear that our most serious problems can only be adequately faced by means of a co-operative effort among sovereign nations. The fact that some dangerous situations, as for example the present tragedy in Viet-Nam, seem for the moment to be beyond the scope of effective United Nations action merely reinforces this conclusion. Twenty years of trying to bring order to international relations has given us experience, time and some encouragement to continue the efforts to strengthen and make more effective our present system of international order. It is the obligation of the United Nations, of its Member States and of people

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everywhere to ensure that these efforts are pursued. In this joint endeavour, idealism, realism and perseverance must be combined. If the margin of safety is slimmer and the scale of possible disaster greater than ever before, the boundaries of opportunity are also far wider. The United Kingdom has always been a proud, forceful pioneering country, prolific in ideas and ideals which have had a great influence on human development. We need those qualities now more than ever in the United Nations, if we are to face with confidence the problems as well as the possibilities which the future holds for us all.

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Press Release SG/T/87
28 April 1966

SECRETARY-GENERAL TO ADDRESS UNITED NATIONS ASSOCIATION IN LONDON

(Received from the Information Officer accompanying the Secretary-General.)

The following is the programme of the Secretary-General, U Thant, in London today:

- 10:00 a.m. -- Meets staff of the Inter-Governmental Maritime Consultative Organization (IMCO);
- 10:30 a.m. -- Presides at meeting of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination (ACC);
- 1:00 p.m. -- Attends luncheon in his honour organized by the United Nations Association. (Among the speakers are: Prime Minister Harold Wilson; Edward Heath, Leader of the Opposition; and the Secretary-General, U Thant.)
- 3:00 p.m. -- Presides at ACC meeting;
- 5:30 p.m. -- Meets members of both Houses of Parliament at the Royal Gallery, House of Lords;
- 8:00 p.m. -- Attends dinner given by Jean Roullier, Secretary-General of IMCO at Anglo-Belgian Club, in honour of the Secretary-General and Heads of agencies attending ACC meeting.

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Press Release SG/T/86
27 April 1966

SECRETARY-GENERAL CONFERS WITH PRIME MINISTER WILSON

(The following was received from the Information Officer accompanying the Secretary-General.)

The Secretary-General, U Thant, opened the meeting of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination (ACC) at 10:30 a.m. today, at the headquarters of the Inter-Governmental Maritime Consultative Organization.

At 1 p.m., U Thant was guest of honour at a luncheon given by Prime Minister Harold Wilson at 10 Downing Street. Those attending were Michael Stewart, Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs; Dennis Greenhill of the Foreign Office; A. Halls and A. Palliser of the Prime Minister's Office; C.V. Narasimhan, Chef de Cabinet; and Sture Linner, Director of the United Nations Information Centre in London.

The Prime Minister and the Secretary-General discussed several matters of common interest, including the problems of Southern Rhodesia and Cyprus.

At 3:30 p.m., the Secretary-General presided over the second meeting of the ACC.

Tonight, U Thant will attend a dinner given by the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs at Lancaster House in honour of the Secretary-General and the heads of the specialized agencies attending the ACC meeting.

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U N I T E D N A T I O N S

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Press Release SG/T/85
26 April 1966

SECRETARY-GENERAL ARRIVES IN LONDON

(The following was received from the Information Officer accompanying the Secretary-General.)

The Secretary-General, U Thant, arrived in London at 7:40 a.m. (local time) today and was met by Mrs. Eirene White, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs of the United Kingdom; Dennis Greenhill of the Foreign Office; Jean Roullier, Secretary-General of the Inter-Governmental Maritime Consultative Committee; C.V. Narasimhan, Chef de Cabinet; and Sture Linner, Director of the United Nations Information Centre in London.

U Thant met Michael Stewart, Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, at 12:20 p.m. at the Foreign Office. The discussions, which lasted about an hour, covered problems of mutual interest including Rhodesia, Cyprus and Viet-Nam. Also participating in the discussions were Mrs. White, Mr. Greenhill and Roger Du Boulay, Acting Head of the United Nations Department of the Foreign Office.

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CAUTION: ADVANCE TEXT

Not to be used before 12 noon (EST)

Saturday, 23 April 1966

CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY

Press Release SG/SM/490

22 April 1966

STATEMENT BY SECRETARY-GENERAL AT CEREMONY

DEDICATING MONUMENT TO MRS. ELEANOR ROOSEVELT

Following is the text of the statement by the Secretary-General, U Thant, at the ceremony of dedication of a monument in memory of Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt, held at United Nations Headquarters on 23 April 1966:

"On behalf of the United Nations, I thank you, Mr. Finletter, and the Trustees of the Eleanor Roosevelt Memorial Foundation for your presentation of this historically significant and very attractive addition to United Nations Headquarters. I greatly appreciate your invitation to me to dedicate this memorial to one of the true pioneers in the work of the United Nations; to one who for so long was among its most devoted and effective friends and supporters.

"It is, as you have intimated, Mr. Finletter, most fitting that we should be at this place on this noonday and that this unique monument to Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt should take its place here in the garden of the United Nations. For that noble woman, who truly loved humanity, was, from the earliest years of the Organization until her death, a staunch believer in the United Nations and a commanding figure in its company. For many years she was a familiar presence in the corridors and surroundings of this house of the world, where she was always very much at home. We who knew and worked with her here -- and we are still a good many -- shall never forget her friendliness and graciousness, her faith in man and his future, her great wisdom always simply expressed, and her sympathy with and understanding of the problems of the common man everywhere, whatever his origin, race or creed.

"Eleanor Roosevelt was not only a stalwart protagonist of the rights of man; she gave an added dimension to man's age-long striving for dignity and self-respect.

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"We in this Organization, which is still less than 21 years old, seek that universality of peoples and nations in the organized international community, that sense of unity and fellow-feeling among all peoples that was the true spirit of Mrs. Roosevelt towards all of her fellow beings. Indeed, and no doubt because of this spirit, it can be said that few persons in our time have been so universally loved and respected as was she.

"It is especially good, therefore, that this monument to her, at once artistic and utilitarian, should be erected here.

"As Eleanor Roosevelt was an oasis of spiritual strength and calm in the vast reaches of contemporary cynicism, this monument in this secluded spot in our grounds will be an oasis for quiet reflection amidst the hustle and bustle and the pervasive pragmatism characteristic of United Nations affairs."

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(FOR USE OF INFORMATION MEDIA -- NOT AN OFFICIAL RECORD)

Press Release SG/SM/489
22 April 1966

TEXT OF MESSAGE FROM SECRETARY-GENERAL TO NATIONAL
INVITATIONAL MODEL GENERAL ASSEMBLY, GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY

Following is the text of a message sent today by the Secretary-General, U Thant, to the National Invitational Model General Assembly, which is being held at Georgetown University, Washington, D.C., from 22 to 24 April:

"I welcome this opportunity to extend my greetings to the students from high schools in many places in the United States of America who are taking part in this useful exercise in the functioning of the United Nations.

"You will be putting yourselves, for a while, in the position of representatives of Governments speaking for most -- although regrettably not yet all -- of the peoples of the world. You will try to look at the achievements, and also the problems, of international co-operation through the eyes of States which, in spite of very wide differences in history, tradition, economic development and political philosophies, find in the United Nations a place for seeking common ground on which to base effective international action for the improvement of the lot of all men and women.

"If you look realistically through these eyes, you will see the world -- and the United Nations itself -- in a light that may differ somewhat from some preconceptions which you may have held. You will find, if you did not know this before, that both virtues and failings are scattered widely through mankind, and that no single nation or people has a monopoly of the qualities which make for peace, prosperity and human dignity or the handicaps which prevent their development.

"I hope that you will see in the United Nations not the 'world government' or supra-national body from which many people still tend to expect too much and to feel that they receive too little, but an organization deliberately designed

(more)

to respect, and not to impose upon, the national sovereignty of its Member States, and to function not by arbitrary decision or decree but by agreements democratically arrived at and by accommodations reached through mutual understanding and a common will for peace and for peaceful development.

"I wish you well in this endeavour to see the world, and the United Nations, as they really are."

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Press Release SG/SM/487
19 April 1966

MESSAGE FROM SECRETARY-GENERAL TO PREPARATORY COMMISSION
FOR DENUCLEARIZATION OF LATIN AMERICA

Following is the text of a message from the Secretary-General, U Thant, to the third session of the Preparatory Commission for the Denuclearization of Latin America which opened in Mexico City today:

"It is a great pleasure to convey my greetings to the third session of the Preparatory Commission for the Denuclearization of Latin America.

"Ever since the General Assembly adopted resolution 1911 (XVIII) on 27 November 1963, the United Nations has lent its encouragement and support to the efforts of States of Latin America to achieve the denuclearization of Latin America. In accordance with the request contained in that resolution, I have endeavoured to extend to them such technical facilities as they required.

"The periodic reports which you have submitted for the information of the Members of the United Nations have been received with great interest and a feeling of satisfaction with the progress you have so far achieved in the preparation of a treaty for the denuclearization of Latin America. It is noteworthy that an increasing number of States from other areas of the world have been sending observers to your sessions.

"I regard the increasing interest in your work as a hopeful development and as an indication of the growing recognition among the Governments and peoples of the world of the need for responsibility and restraint on the part of both the non-nuclear and the nuclear Powers.

"Success in your endeavours will not only be an achievement of great benefit to the States of Latin America, it would indeed be of great importance to the entire world. It could well have a catalytic effect on other initiatives for denuclearization in other areas of the world, and could contribute to one of the main objectives of the international community in preventing the proliferation of nuclear weapons and in facilitating other measures of disarmament. Thus, you can make a most valuable contribution in helping to promote the cause of international peace and security.

"I extend my sincere best wishes for the success of your work."

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Press Release SG/C/18
GA/3169
18 April 1966

BULGARIA CONTRIBUTES \$1,000 TO TRUST FUND FOR SOUTH AFRICA

The Secretary-General, U Thant, has received a contribution of \$1,000 from the Government of the People's Republic of Bulgaria to the United Nations Trust Fund for South Africa established in pursuance of General Assembly resolution 2054 B (XX) of 15 December 1965.

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(FOR USE OF INFORMATION MEDIA -- NOT AN OFFICIAL RECORD)

Press Release SG/SM/486
14 April 1966

SECRETARY-GENERAL SENDS MESSAGE OF SYMPATHY
TO IRAQ ON DEATH OF PRESIDENT

The following is the text of a message sent by the Secretary-General, U Thant, to Abdul Rahman Al-Bazzaz, Prime Minister of Iraq, on the death of President Abdul Salam Mohamed Arif:

"Deeply distressed to learn of the tragic and untimely death in an air crash of President Abdul Salam Mohamed Arif.

"Please accept, and convey to members of his family and to the Government and people of Iraq, my heartfelt condolences."

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U N I T E D N A T I O N S

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Press Release SG/SM/485
CYP/375

14 April 1966

TEXT OF LETTER TO SECRETARY-GENERAL FROM SINGAPORE
ON COSTS OF PEACE-KEEPING FORCE IN CYPRUS

Following is the text of a letter dated 12 April 1966, received by the Secretary-General, U Thant, from the Mission of Singapore regarding the expenses of the United Nations Peace-Keeping Force in Cyprus (UNFICYP):

"I have the honour to refer to your communication reference No. FI 323/3 (18) dated 28th January, 1966 concerning the appeal for voluntary contributions to provide the necessary financial support for the United Nations Peace-Keeping Force in Cyprus.

"The Government of Singapore has asked me to advise you that it has decided to make a token contribution of \$500 towards this purpose. The remittance of this sum will be made direct to the United Nations.

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

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Press Release SG/C/17
14 April 1966

AUSTRIA TO CONTRIBUTE \$1,000,000 IN FOOD AID TO INDIA

The Secretary-General, U Thant, has been informed by the Permanent Representative of Austria to the United Nations, Kurt Waldheim, that the Government of Austria has decided to make a contribution of 25,820,000 Austrian shillings (\$US 1,000,000) for assistance to India in the grave food emergency which it faces.

The funds will be utilized for the purchase and delivery of powdered milk, fertilizers and other commodities.

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Press Release SG/C/16
GA/3168
13 April 1966

TEXT OF LETTER TRANSMITTED BY SECRETARY-GENERAL TO MEMBER STATES
CONTAINING APPEAL FOR CONTRIBUTIONS TO TRUST FUND FOR SOUTH AFRICA

The Secretary-General, U Thant, has received a letter, dated 6 April, from the Chairman of the Committee of Trustees of the United Nations Trust Fund for South Africa, Sverker C. Astrom, Permanent Representative of Sweden to the United Nations, containing an appeal for contributions to the Trust Fund.

Following is the text of the letter, which the Secretary-General transmitted to all States members of the United Nations and the specialized agencies, on 8 April, associating himself with the appeal of the Committee of Trustees:

"The Committee of Trustees of the United Nations Trust Fund for South Africa, established in pursuance of operative paragraph 3 of resolution 2054 (XX), adopted by the General Assembly on 15 December 1965, held its first meeting on 21 February 1966 and began its work.

"The Committee is composed of:

"Sr. Javier Illanes (nominated by Chile)

"H.E.M. Dey Ould Sidi Baba (nominated by Morocco)

"H.E. Mr. J.T.F. Iyalla (nominated by Nigeria)

"Mr. Ahmed Ali (nominated by Pakistan)

"H.E. Mr. Sverker C. Astrom (nominated by Sweden).

"At its first meeting, the Committee elected me as Chairman and H.E. Mr. J.T.F. Iyalla as Vice-Chairman.

"During the course of its work, the Committee has held consultations with the Director of the United Nations Education and Training Programme for South Africans in order to ensure proper co-ordination with that programme, and with the representatives of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees with a view to considering the most appropriate arrangements for the provisions of relief for refugees from South Africa. It has studied communications from voluntary organizations concerning the needs for assistance within the terms of reference of the Trust Fund.

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13 April 1966

"According to the mandate of the Trust Fund, assistance from the Fund will be given by way of grants to voluntary organizations, Governments of host countries of refugees from South Africa and other appropriate bodies engaged in providing assistance and relief to victims of the policies of apartheid. The Committee of Trustees has given careful attention to the procedures for ensuring that grants from the Fund to voluntary organizations and Governments will be used for the purposes laid down by the General Assembly, namely:

- "(a) Legal assistance to persons charged under discriminatory and repressive legislation in South Africa;
- "(b) Relief for dependants of persons persecuted by the Government of South Africa for acts arising from opposition to the policies of apartheid;
- "(c) Education of prisoners, their children and other dependants;
- "(d) Relief for refugees from South Africa."

"It has, in particular, considered procedures to ensure that appropriate reports and financial statements are received from the recipients.

"Finally, the Committee has given consideration, in accordance with its mandate, to steps 'to promote co-operation and co-ordination in activities of voluntary organizations concerned with relief and assistance to the victims of the policies of apartheid of the Government of South Africa'.

"The Committee of Trustees has noted that the number of persons persecuted for acts arising from opposition to the policies of apartheid is in the order of 8,000. A large proportion of these dependants are in need of assistance. The needs for legal assistance are also great as a number of trials are now in progress, and more are expected to follow, under discriminatory and repressive legislation. The prisoners who desire to pursue further education by correspondence courses need assistance to pay the tuition fees. Many children of prisoners are reported to be unable to attend schools as their families are in distress and cannot afford even modest amounts for fees, books, clothes and transportation. Several hundred refugees in neighbouring territories also require relief as they have no opportunities to support themselves.

(more)

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"In its evaluation of the amount of contributions required to enable the Trust Fund to fulfil its mandate, the Committee of Trustees has considered the needs as compared with the financial resources that the voluntary organizations concerned ordinarily have at their disposal. Account has also been taken of the extent to which such organizations are administratively equipped to make use of forthcoming contributions. It is impossible for the Committee to make exact estimates of the amount of money required for the Trust Fund to cover the ever-growing needs of assistance over long periods. But taking into account all information available to the Committee, including the various requests reaching several voluntary organizations interested in such activities, the Committee is of the opinion that a minimum of \$500,000 will be required to cover the needs with which it has to deal in the immediate future.

"In view of the continuing character of the activities of the Trust Fund, the Committee views it as an important goal to build up financial reserves over and above what is needed to cover immediate needs. Such reserves would permit longer-term planning and would make possible for the Committee to deal with emergency situations.

"The Committee of Trustees, therefore, hopes that Governments will consider, as soon as possible, generous contributions to the Trust Fund to enable it to fulfil its mandate in the most effective manner and, furthermore, that they will encourage organizations and individuals in their respective countries to make such contributions.

"Contributions may be paid by check made out to the United Nations Trust Fund for South Africa and sent to the United Nations.

"The Committee would be grateful to receive information on direct contributions to voluntary organizations, if any, for purposes related to the mandate of the Committee so that proper co-ordination may be facilitated.

"The Committee of Trustees has asked me to request you to be good enough to convey this appeal to all States Members of the United Nations and of the Specialized Agencies."

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CAUTION: ADVANCE RELEASE
Not for use before
10:30 a.m. EST 13 April

Press Release SG/SM/484
ECE/138
12 April 1966

TEXT OF SECRETARY-GENERAL'S MESSAGE TO TWENTY-FIRST SESSION
OF THE ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE, 13-29 APRIL

(This release is being issued simultaneously in New York and Geneva.)

"The Economic Commission for Europe (ECE) is an important, and in some respects unique, part of the network of intergovernmental co-operation developed by the United Nations since the Second World War. It is the only inter-governmental organ whose task it is to help Governments deal with the complex regional economic problems facing Europe as a whole and the United States of America. It has established organs and developed techniques which enable it to cope with the particularly difficult problems arising out of co-operation among countries with different economic and political systems. Moreover, the high level of economic strength reached by countries of the ECE region provides a basis for the great potential contribution which ECE Governments can make to the objectives of the United Nations Development Decade, notably by helping the under-developed countries of the world to speed up their industrialization and expand their trade. It is a sign of this strength that countries of the ECE region supply about two-thirds of the technical assistance experts assigned for work in developing countries and that more than half of all the recipients of United Nations Development Programme fellowships are placed in Europe, to draw on its rich resources of experience and know-how.

"I am sure that at this plenary session all participating Governments will make further efforts to enhance the Commission's effectiveness in tackling the many pressing economic problems in its own region, including the further development of east-west trade, and thus to fulfil the Commission's basic task. In this connexion I would like to observe that I have always attached great importance to the universality of co-operation, especially in the economic and social fields. As I have noted before, the regional economic commissions have so far been able to get on with their work in the interests of the economic

(more)

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benefits of their member countries, avoiding as far as possible political considerations. I would therefore hope that ECE would find it possible to facilitate even closer co-operation of all Europe in its work. This work should be carried out not only for its own sake, but also with a deliberate desire to help solve the problems posed by the needs of the people in the less fortunate parts of the world, which are growing at an alarming pace.

"I hope the Commission at its present session can make a great stride forward in meeting the challenging problems which lie ahead, and I send it my best wishes for success in its deliberations."

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Press Release SG/SM/483
7 April 1966

TEXT OF MESSAGE FROM SECRETARY-GENERAL TO FOREIGN MINISTER
OF NORWAY ON DEATH OF AMBASSADOR HANS ENGEN

Following is the text of a message, dated 6 April, sent by the Secretary-General, U Thant, to the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Norway, John Lyng, on the death of Hans K. Engen, Ambassador of Norway to the United States and former Permanent Representative to the United Nations:

"Deeply distressed to learn of sudden passing away of Ambassador Engen. Kindly accept and convey to members of the bereaved family my deepest sympathy."

* *** *

UNITED NATIONS

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Press Release SG/SM/482/Corr.1
6 April 1966

TRANSCRIPT OF PRESS CONFERENCE BY THE SECRETARY-GENERAL, U THANT,
HELD AT UNITED NATIONS HEADQUARTERS ON 6 APRIL 1966

C O R R E C T I O N

In press release SG/SM/482 of 6 April 1966, please make the fourth paragraph of page 15 read as follows:

"The SECRETARY-GENERAL: With respect to the statements by Peking, I am, of course, in the same position as you; I do not think I have any means of assessing the motivations behind such statements."

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UNITED NATIONS

Press Services
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Press Release SG/SM/482
6 April 1966

TRANSCRIPT OF PRESS CONFERENCE BY THE SECRETARY-GENERAL, U THANT,
HELD AT UNITED NATIONS HEADQUARTERS ON 6 APRIL 1966

The SECRETARY-GENERAL: Mr. President and friends, since we met last, on 20 January, my Press Officers have been in daily contact with you, briefing you on current topics of interest to you, and so, in a way, I have been in constant touch with you, though not directly. As a matter of fact, there is no special reason for this conference today, except that it has been scheduled a few weeks ahead.

As this is our first meeting since 20 January, I want to say that I am sure I share the feelings of all of you when I say that we have lost two of our very esteemed friends, Ralph Testorth and Pierre Huss, and we all miss them sadly.

I do not propose to make an introductory statement today, and I invite questions.

QUESTION: Mr. Secretary-General, on behalf of the correspondents, I should like to say that we welcome this opportunity to question you. We also take the occasion to wish you a successful trip in Europe at the end of the month.

If I may ask a first question on behalf of my newspaper: Your views on the universality of the United Nations have often been made known. I wonder, in view of some of the public discussion in some countries recently, if you might give us your ideas on how universality might apply to the independent representation in the United Nations of the Republic of China and Taiwan. Should there be representation here of the People's Republic of China?

(more)

The SECRETARY-GENERAL: On this issue, as I have stated on a previous occasion, I think that there are two U Thants: one representing Burma, up to November 1961, and one as Secretary-General of the United Nations from November 1961.

As a representative of Burma, I had expressed my point of view on this issue, but as Secretary-General of the United Nations, as you will no doubt understand, I have limitations in regard to my statements or actions. I have to speak and act only within the four corners of the resolutions and decisions of the principal organs of the United Nations, such as the General Assembly or the Security Council; so, on issues like this, I do not want to express any opinion one way or the other.

QUESTION: In January you told us that you would have to decide before June of this year whether to make yourself available for re-election for another term as Secretary-General. It is now April; have you yet made your decision?

(more)

The SECRETARY-GENERAL: Well, Mr. MacVane, I do not think I have anything more to add to what I told you on 20 January. As you have rightly pointed out, we have about two and a half months to go, and my feelings remain the same. As I have stated on previous occasions, if the Security Council were in a position to find someone to recommend to the General Assembly to succeed me in November of this year, I would be happy. I have expressed these views again and again to those representatives who sought my private views on this. Of course, it is still too early yet to make an official decision on this, for reasons which you understand. But, in any case, to do justice to this world Organization, if I decide not to stand for re-election, I have to make my decision known -- I believe, some time in June.

QUESTION: Mr. Secretary-General, to what extent do you believe the war in Viet-Nam has become a contest for strategic position among the United States, China and the Soviet Union? What steps could these three Powers take to try to end the suffering of the Vietnamese people?

The SECRETARY-GENERAL: It is difficult to assess the Viet-Nam crisis in the context of the strategic interests of the big Powers. Of course, the term, "strategic interests", is not a very happy one, since it has connotations of military strategy. But I understand that some big Powers have strategic interests in the area as in other parts of the world. To be frank about it, the United States has certain strategic interests in the South Pacific; at the same time, the People's Republic of China must have similar interests.

My feeling is that the Viet-Nam problem could have been solved earlier if there had been a basic acceptance of some fundamental facts. As I have stated on previous occasions, I have all along believed that Viet-Nam could be an independent and non-aligned country as it was envisaged in the Geneva Agreements of 1954. Of course, when I say "independent and non-aligned" it should be preferably guaranteed by the big Powers, including, of course, Peking and Washington. That has been my approach to this problem for the last 11 years. I believed all along that Viet-Nam could be made an independent and non-aligned country.

(more)

That is the reason why, when General de Gaulle came out three years ago with his proposal to make South-East Asia non-aligned or to have a conference to consider the question of non-alignment for South-East Asia, comprising not only Viet-Nam but also Laos and Cambodia, I was among the first to endorse that proposal. I think there were missed opportunities in this regard, if I may say so. What was possible, for instance, in 1964, is, I am afraid, no longer possible today, as I have been saying all along. But I think we should keep on trying.

(more)

But of one thing I am sure. In order to bring peace to Viet-Nam, to find an enduring peace that very unfortunate country, its independence and non-alignment should be the objective of all parties primarily concerned in the conflict, and this concept of independence and non-alignment should preferably be guaranteed by the big Powers, including Peking and Washington.

QUESTION: Mr. Secretary-General, when you and the Pope made your plea for help with food for India, that plea received great acceptance and generous contributions were made. Recently the Prime Minister of India visited you, and she is known to have said that the need is not as great as was sometimes thought -- or at least that was some of the reporting. What is your conclusion? Is the need for food as great as it was? Is the hunger problem as serious as we thought it was?

The SECRETARY-GENERAL: Of course this depends on the vantage point from which you see the situation. My feeling is that the food situation in India is acute and will be acute for at least a few months. About the magnitude of this problem, of course, there may be various opinions, but there is general agreement that the food shortage problem in India is not as acute as the food shortage problem in Bengal, for instance, in 1943.

QUESTION: The Commission on Human Rights has just concluded its session and adopted a number of very important resolutions and draft conventions. I was wondering whether you would care to assess the significance of that session and whether you think the Assembly might adopt those resolutions. A brief question following that. There have been two gentlemen, who called themselves "we, the peoples" -- an Israeli named Abba Nathan, and an Arab named Dr. Mehdi -- who have made certain bold peace moves which have created quite a lot of interest. I wonder whether you would care to comment briefly on the moral value of these moves on the part of those called "we, the peoples".

(more)

The SECRETARY-GENERAL: I do not want to be drawn into a discussion on such topics publicly, and I have not studied the report of the Human Rights Commission as yet. So, I do not think I am in a position to assess the merits of the report and, particularly, your second question, which is very controversial. I hope you will understand if I refuse to be drawn into a discussion on this problem.

QUESTION: To go back to Viet-Nam -- there seems to be a great upheaval in the country today, politically, which is, of course, directly connected with the war. Do you feel that the situation there affords an opportunity for a renewed initiative of some kind in the way of a peace effort, as it appears to me that there has been something of an unhealthy lull in this initiative, as the war is getting more bitter and bitter? Do you feel that there is room here for a turning point?

The SECRETARY-GENERAL: I think one lesson we can draw from the Vietnamese crisis, and for that matter from developments in many parts of the world today, is the fact that nationalism is still the most potent force in the life of a people. Whether you assess the situation in Viet-Nam or Syria or Ghana or Indonesia or elsewhere, I think historians may draw one conclusion: that nationalism, more than any political belief or political ideology or political conviction, is the most potent force in the life of a people. This applies equally to Africa or to Latin America or even to Europe. I think it is misleading to think primarily in terms of political ideologies in the context of the newly emerging nations.

(more)

If my reading of history is correct, the peoples in these newly independent countries are much more obsessed with their economic development and their national identity than they are with their feelings regarding political ideologies or political beliefs. That is my assessment. I think that in all these countries the leaders are more obsessed with economic matters than with political matters. First of all, they are devising ways and means of advancing the economic and social progress of their own peoples -- how to feed their people, how to house their people, how to clothe their people. Man is essentially an economic animal, and only secondarily is he a political animal. I think this basic fact must be understood in any approach to the problems of the newly independent countries.

I should like to make one further observation. After 25 years of war and strife and struggle, no people in the world wants peace more, and deserves peace more, than the people of Viet-Nam.

QUESTION: What might be the conditions for a possible Indonesian re-entry into the United Nations? Would it require formal re-admission by the General Assembly?

The SECRETARY-GENERAL: While, so far, I have been following the newspaper reports on this subject with, of course, very close interest, I have not received anything official from the Government of Indonesia. But of one thing I am sure: if the Government of Indonesia decides to come back to the United Nations, the entire membership will be very delighted to take it back in this family of nations. With respect to procedure, I believe that I have to go through the same motions as those I went through when Indonesia decided to withdraw from the United Nations. As you know, there are no specific provisions in the Charter regarding the withdrawal of membership and, for that matter, there are no specific provisions in the Charter regarding re-entry. But I feel that the same motions have to be gone through.

(more)

QUESTION: If Indonesia applies for re-admission, will it be made a condition under Article 4 of the Charter that she renounce aggression against Malaysia?

The SECRETARY-GENERAL: Of course, the very fact that a country applies for membership or applies for re-admission implies acceptance of the obligations provided for in the Charter. I do not think any special requests or conditions should be made in any particular case.

QUESTION: Mr. Secretary-General, at the Congress of the Soviet Communist Party some important statements were made directly concerning the United Nations. For example, in the report of the Central Committee to the Congress, Mr. Brezhnev said that the Soviet Union strives persistently to facilitate the unity of all States in the United Nations which are against aggression and, thus, to enhance the role of this Organization in the struggle for peace and the independence of peoples. The report also points out that the USSR considers the United Nations as an arena of active political struggle against aggression and for the cause of peace and the security of all peoples. I would like to know your opinion of that statement.

The SECRETARY-GENERAL: I read Mr. Brezhnev's report to the twenty-third Congress with very close attention. I noticed that he made, for the first time to my knowledge, some very important references to the United Nations and, if I may interpret them, a rededication to the Charter principles and a reaffirmation of faith in the future of the United Nations. These statements, in my view, are very positive and very useful, and I want to take this opportunity of expressing my very sincere thanks to Mr. Brezhnev for his references to the United Nations, which I believe are very significant in the context of the present-day realities.

(more)

QUESTION: Mr. Secretary-General, Ambassador El-Farra of Jordan, on behalf of the Arab States, yesterday presented you with an invitation to visit the Palestine Arab refugee camps. Might you tell us what your initial reaction was to that invitation and whether any decisions have been made in this context?

The SECRETARY-GENERAL: Ambassador El-Farra transmitted to me the invitation of the Arab Governments to visit the refugee camps in the Middle East. I have not replied to him officially. I am still studying the implications of this invitation. As you know, Mr. Michelmore, the head of UNRWA, has been directly involved in these matters on behalf of the United Nations and on behalf of the Secretary-General. I have been in contact with him, as you know, and I am still weighing the pros and cons of my visit to the area vis-à-vis the visits which have been made by Mr. Michelmore on behalf of the United Nations. If I see any indication of more positive results by my visit, of course I will be very glad to accept the invitation. If not, I am afraid I will have to decline the invitation. with thanks. As you all know, the plight of the refugees is most pathetic.

QUESTION: Mr. Secretary-General, last fall the Security Council took certain action against Southern Rhodesia, the rebellious government of Ian Smith. To date, those actions have not been very effective in bringing that government into line. Do you have any recommendations to make to the Council or to the General Assembly to bring the Ian Smith government into line? And if these actions are not successful, do you think this is going to hurt the prestige and the effectiveness of the United Nations as a peace-keeping body?

The SECRETARY-GENERAL: I am increasingly concerned about the developments in Southern Rhodesia. Only yesterday I had occasion to discuss this question with the Chairman of the Committee of 24, and I understand that the Committee of 24 is taking up this matter today. I believe the Committee as a whole will take more vigorous action. I also understand that the British Government is actively considering further measures to give effect to its policies, and even economic sanctions under Chapter VII cannot be ruled out.

(more)

QUESTION: Mr. Secretary-General, soon after you issued your appeal for food assistance to India, the Indian budget revealed that it was going to devote \$1,700 million to defence. Sir, as the Secretary-General deeply committed to the maintenance of peace, how do you square this diversion of large-scale funds to defence by India with your own appeal for food assistance?

The SECRETARY-GENERAL: I am afraid I am not in a position to assess the budgetary requirements of a Member Government in the context of the circumstances prevailing in the area. I think I will be in a position to answer this question more fully -- I think much more properly -- after I have studied the full implications of the budgetary allocations of India or Pakistan or other countries in the area. Before that study is made, I am afraid I am not in a position to pass judgement on this particular item.

(more)

QUESTION: You have said some things about Viet-Nam. If you were to suggest one immediate and specific thing which might lead towards peace in Viet-Nam, what would it be?

The SECRETARY-GENERAL: I have been suggesting more than one specific thing for the last three years, unfortunately so far without success, and it is rather difficult to summarize the steps I have proposed in the last two years. I think many of you are aware of the steps I have taken, and for the moment I still feel that the two sides are speaking two different languages. If the objectives and the methods to be applied can be defined more clearly, I think there will be some proximity of positions. For the moment, I am sorry to say, I do not see any immediate prospect of a reconciliation of view-points.

QUESTION: In the same report made by Mr. Brezhnev to the twenty-third Communist Party Conference in Moscow, it was suggested that such steps as the signing of a non-proliferation treaty, the creation of areas free from nuclear weapons in different parts of the world, pledges by the nuclear Powers not to use nuclear weapons and the banning of underground nuclear tests should be undertaken to solve the problem of disarmament. Could you give us your opinion concerning these problems?

The SECRETARY-GENERAL: As I have said before, the question of non-proliferation of nuclear weapons is the most pressing issue before the Eighteen-Nation Disarmament Committee (ENDC), which is still meeting in Geneva. Of course, the ENDC has been running into some snags, and one of them is, as you know, the nature and the character of the participation by one of the members of NATO in the matter of control of nuclear weapons. To my knowledge, this is still a stumbling block, but I very much hope that common sense will prevail on all sides and that we will have the benefit of an agreed text on the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons. On the banning of underground nuclear tests, I am very much interested in the latest formula submitted by Sweden the other day in the ENDC in Geneva. I believe that the Swedish proposal deserves very close attention.

(more)

QUESTION: Regarding the war in Viet-Nam, the consensus among the 18,000 or 20,000 Vietnamese living in Europe, among them about 4,000 doctors, professors and lawyers, mostly residing in Paris, is as follows: they see no immediate, no possible end to the tremendous sufferings of their countrymen at home, and they feel immensely proud to be able to show to the world how a brave small nation can resist victoriously against the first military Power on earth. Even those who were most well known as very pro-American have the strong feeling that while the United Nations is just watching the killing, the United States is conducting an unjust and immoral war with the utmost savagery, with the use of napalm, gas, B-52 airplanes, killing old people, women and children indiscriminately and that the Vietnamese people are serving just as guinea pigs for the Pentagon experiments. They are convinced that, in the end, in a desperate effort, the United States would not hesitate to use atomic and nuclear weapons in case of necessity. Since President Johnson stated last week that, during the last three months, 50,000 Vietnamese have been killed or wounded, they think that at that rate of killing the Vietnamese race will be totally exterminated.

(more)

Now, since they believe that the United States Government would never accept free elections in South Viet-Nam, because there is no doubt that no regime could ever have more than 10 per cent ---

(Interruption by the President of UNCA): Mr. Kee, please state your question. Your statement is --

The SECRETARY-GENERAL: Yes -- please make your question as brief as possible, because of the limited time at our disposal.

QUESTION: My question is this: Should a neutralist regime composed in part of a number of this refugee group -- a kind of government-in-exile -- demand the immediate withdrawal of American troops from South Viet-Nam, and should the United States Government refuse to comply --- as Ambassador Lodge has already said--- can the matter be brought to the Security Council by a Member such as the Soviet Union, France, Albania or Cambodia, or could this government-in-exile request from the Security Council the right to be heard?

The SECRETARY-GENERAL: On the human aspects of the war, I have on many previous occasions expressed my views and my assessments, and I do not think I should go over these again. On the question of Security Council involvement, I am sure my views are well known and I would wish only to give reasons additional to those I have already given on previous occasions.

As you know, I have consistently been opposed to Security Council involvement in the Viet-Nam question for reasons which you know. One of these reasons is that in 1954 the parties directly involved in the conflict decided that the matter should be brought to Geneva outside the framework of the United Nations because of the simple fact that only France, of all the participants, was a Member of the United Nations. The same consideration should apply today; of the parties primarily involved in the conflict in Viet-Nam today, only one, the United States, is a Member of the United Nations. I think the same consideration should apply today as applied 12 years ago.

(more)

But it is not only for the reason that Hanoi is not a Member of the United Nations or that Peking is not a Member of the United Nations. There are other reasons too. As I see the situation, one basic reason is that if the matter is brought before the Security Council, Hanoi, particularly, is afraid that the Geneva Agreements of 1954 might be diluted. Another reason is that from the point of view of Peking -- rightly or wrongly; I am not trying to identify my position with that of Peking, or against that of Peking -- rightly or wrongly, Peking feels, as you all know, that in the Security Council there is a usurper. So, if Peking is asked to appear before the Security Council and plead its case, rightly or wrongly, it feels that it would be in a position somewhat like that of an accused being summoned before a jury where, among the important members of the jury, there is somebody whom the accused considers to be inimical to its interests. That is their position.

(more)

Of course, my attitude regarding Security Council involvement is guided by one single consideration: If the Security Council has to take any action on any dispute, the first prerequisite is that it must be in a position to hear both sides of the question; this is a must.

As in the case of the Arab-Israel dispute or the Indo-Pakistan dispute, the Security Council, before coming to a decision on a particular issue, must be in a position to hear both sides of the case. If both sides were to come and plead their respective case before the Security Council, I will be the first to advocate immediate Security Council involvement. But, as you know, this is not the case; there are no prospects of Peking or Hanoi coming to the Security Council, because of the reasons I have just stated.

QUESTION: Mr. Secretary-General, as you know, it has been reported that Peking of late has been warning its people of the imminence of a war with the United States. Could you assess the seriousness of the threat?

The SECRETARY-GENERAL:

Peking, I am, of course, in the same position as you; I do not think I have any means of assessing the motivations behind such statements.

QUESTION: Could you give us an evaluation of how you regard efforts to use the ICC to bring about an end to the war in Viet-Nam?

The SECRETARY-GENERAL: This matter was discussed by me with some of the delegations that posed this problem in January. At that time, two or three possible means of bringing about a conference were discussed. One was the Security Council involvement; the other was involvement by some of the neutral countries; and the third was the possible involvement by the International Control Commission.

In the context of these discussions in January, my personal feeling at that time was that it was worth exploring the possibilities of a useful ICC involvement in contributing towards the peaceful settlement of the Viet-Nam problem, in preference to the Security Council involvement or the involvement of neutral countries.

(more)

QUESTION: Do you consider that military alliances, such as NATO or SEATO or the Warsaw Pact, in their present form, now constitute a hindrance to peace in Europe or in Asia?

The SECRETARY-GENERAL: In the Charter of the United Nations there are specific provisions permitting regional military alliances or pacts for the purpose of common defence. Therefore, strictly speaking, these military pacts, like NATO or SEATO or CENTO or the Warsaw Pact, do not contravene the provisions of the United Nations Charter. But, of course, the political assessment regarding their effectiveness or necessity or utility is a different matter.

In my view, it would be wise to review the character and functioning of these military alliances from time to time, in the light of the changing circumstances.

QUESTION: It has been taken for granted, in the first part of the discussion of the expected Indonesian request to return to this house, that it would come off. However, the morning paper brings the report that President Sukarno said yesterday that Indonesia would return to the United Nations only when changes were made in the Organization; and he went on to say: "We will only return to the United Nations if changes have been made. If conditions remain as they are at the present, then Indonesia prefers to stay outside the United Nations."

Do you attach great importance to this statement of President Sukarno?

(more)

The SECRETARY-GENERAL: It is difficult to pass judgement on newspaper reports of that kind and, personally, I do not think that it will help if I make any public judgement or assessment of such statements which appear from time to time in the Press.

QUESTION: Do you feel that the application of East Germany is somewhat in the light of a step towards the realization of your own statement made in the Introduction to your Annual Report, in which you thought that divided countries, and all countries, should have posts of observation here at the United Nations?

The SECRETARY-GENERAL: I have stated in my two Introductions to the Annual Report the need for universality in this world Organization. Regarding the specific case which you mentioned, I have acted in a manner from which it is clear that I refuse to define whether any part of a divided country is a State or is not a State. So, that is why I refuse to invoke rules 58 and 59 of the rules of procedure of the Security Council; I do not think that it would be proper on my part to attempt to define whether a part of a divided country is a State or is not a State. I will adopt the same attitude if I receive applications from any part of a divided country, whether Germany, or Korea, or Viet-Nam, if the application is for admission and I am convinced that what I have done is correct.

QUESTION: Is it necessary to re-evaluate the size and the money required for the Mekong Delta project, in view of the destruction now going on in South Viet-Nam?

The SECRETARY-GENERAL: The matter was thoroughly discussed at the recent ECAFE conference in New Delhi, and I would draw your attention to that report; I do not think that I shall be able to do justice in the brief space of a Press conference to an answer to this very important question.

QUESTION: I have just a question of clarification. In one of your earlier answers, you said that Viet-Nam should become a non-aligned and independent country. Did you mean South Viet-Nam, or did you mean a united Viet-Nam?

(more)

The SECRETARY-GENERAL: If we accept the agreements arrived at in Geneva in 1954, it means a united Viet-Nam.

QUESTION: You are aware, of course, of the military take-overs that have occurred in Africa during the last few months. I wonder if you would give us your views on whether or not the United Nations has a role in that situation.

The SECRETARY-GENERAL: I do not really see how the United Nations can be involved in these matters which, strictly speaking, are internal matters. So long as developments in any part of the world do not threaten international peace and security, I do not think that the Security Council can be involved. Of course, if any member or Member State wishes to bring this to the attention of either the General Assembly or the Security Council, these organs have to take them up; but so far as the Secretary-General is concerned, under the Charter provisions he is empowered to bring to the attention of the Security Council only such matters as threaten international peace and security.

QUESTION: According to your schedule, you will be having a private session with the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe and you will also address a session of the Council of Europe and be a guest at another luncheon. Can you tell us what you have in mind concerning this particular visit and meeting. What will you propose to them, if anything?

The SECRETARY-GENERAL: Late last year I received a very kind invitation from the Secretary-General of the Council of Europe to visit Strasbourg and exchange views with the members of the Council when the Assembly is in session and to speak to the Council. I have accepted this invitation as I feel that the United Nations should have closer contact with all regional organizations. As far as the substance of my projected statement is concerned, I have not drafted the speech yet.

(more)

QUESTION: Mr. Secretary-General, the Members of the United Nations agreed last September that when the work of the Assembly was normalized, as it was later, they would all make voluntary contributions to remove the financial difficulties of the Organization, including substantial contributions from developed countries. Now, the Special Committee on Finances has arrived at an estimate of the financial difficulties which allows countries to decide what would be substantial contributions in their cases. How soon do you expect that the developed countries generally, and the Soviet Union and France, in particular, will make pledges of such contributions?

The SECRETARY-GENERAL: In the light of the preliminary report submitted by the Committee of Fourteen, I had discussions with some of the members of the Committee of Fourteen. They seem to be optimistic about the prospective outcome in regard to voluntary contributions towards filling the deficit. Of course, the final report of the Committee of Fourteen is expected to be out only perhaps in July, and I do not know whether these gestures from Member States, in the form of voluntary contributions, will be made in the coming weeks or coming months. But from my talks with some of the delegations, they seem to be optimistic about the outcome.

QUESTION: Mr. Secretary-General, could you say something about the talks you have had with countries which are providing peace-keeping forces in Cyprus, whether any other countries look as if they are going to withdraw their forces there, and whether this is discouraging news in any plan that there may be for putting a United Nations presence in South Arabia in the next two years before independence, as has been suggested?

The SECRETARY-GENERAL: The financial aspects of UNFICYP, of course, have been disappointing as I have stated before the Security Council. As you will recall, I recommended to the Security Council that the financial aspects of the United Nations force in Cyprus should also be considered in their decisions. My recommendation was not taken into account in the resolution that was adopted.

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Immediately after the adoption of the resolution, I also expressed my disappointment at the absence of any reference to the financial aspects of UNFICYP. As a result, as you all know, the Government of Ireland has informed me that it has decided to withdraw its contingent from Cyprus when the rotation time comes on 18 April. Only yesterday I wrote to the Foreign Minister of Ireland asking him to reconsider that decision, and at the appropriate time, of course, I will make that correspondence public.

In connexion with this financial aspect, the system of voluntary contributions that has been introduced in regard to the United Nations Peace-keeping Force in Cyprus, has been very unsatisfactory, as I have been saying all along; and I think the membership should take a closer look into the financial aspects of future peace-keeping operations. As you all know, the Committee of 33 is seized with this problem, among others, and I very much hope that the Committee of 33 will come up with very useful and worthwhile recommendations to the next session of the General Assembly.

The Press Conference rose at 11.50 a.m.

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Press Release SG/T/84
6 April 1966

SECRETARY-GENERAL TO VISIT LONDON, PARIS, STRASBOURG AND GENEVA

The Secretary-General, U Thant, will leave New York on 25 April 1966 for London to preside over the meetings of the Administrative Committee on Coordination (ACC) which will be held in London at the invitation of the Secretary-General of the Inter-Governmental Maritime Consultative Organization (IMCO). These meetings will be held on 27 and 28 April.

During his stay in London, the Secretary-General will also be the guest of the Prime Minister, Harold Wilson, at luncheon on 27 April. The same evening the Foreign Secretary will hold a reception for the officials attending the ACC meeting and this will be followed by a dinner for the Secretary-General, Heads of Agencies and Under-Secretaries.

On 28 April, the Secretary-General will attend a luncheon organized by the United Nations Association of Great Britain and Northern Ireland. The same evening he will meet members of both Houses of Parliament. The Secretary-General and the Heads of Agencies will be the guests of Jean Roullier, Secretary-General of the IMCO, at dinner that night.

On 29 April the Secretary-General will meet press correspondents at 11 a.m. and then attend a luncheon given in his honour by the Foreign Press Association.

That afternoon the Secretary-General will go to Paris at the guest of the French Government. He will have talks with President de Gaulle who will give a luncheon in his honour on 30 April. The same evening the Secretary-General will be received at dinner by the Foreign Minister, M. Couve de Murville.

On 1 May the Secretary-General will leave Paris for Strasbourg by train in the afternoon, reaching Strasbourg the same evening.

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On 2 May he will meet in private session with the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe and lunch with them. On 3 May the Secretary-General will address a session of the Consultative Assembly of the Council of Europe and be the guest at a luncheon given by the President and Bureau of the Consultative Assembly.

On 4 May the Secretary-General will leave Strasbourg for Geneva in the morning. In the afternoon he will address the Nineteenth World Health Assembly and also visit the International School in Geneva.

The Secretary-General will return to New York on 5 May.

The Secretary-General will be accompanied by Ramaes Nassif, Press Officer, Donald Thomas, Personal Administrative Assistant, and Lucien Lemieux, Private Secretary.

P.P. Spinelli, Director-General of the United Nations Office at Geneva will join the Secretary-General in Paris and accompany him to Strasbourg and Geneva.

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Press Release SG/C/15
6 April 1966

AUSTRALIA GRANTS \$8.9 MILLION FOOD AID TO INDIA

The Secretary-General, U Thant, has been informed by the Permanent Representative of Australia to the United Nations, Patrick Shaw, that the Australian Government has offered \$A 8 million (\$US 8,960,000) in emergency food aid to India, as part of the international effort during the present critical food shortage.

The food aid is predominantly in the form of wheat, and also in milk powder; and, subject to further consultations with the Indian authorities, would also include other foodstuffs, handling and storage equipment and pesticides.

The letter states that the first wheat ship carrying 11,190 tons of bulk and 354 tons of bagged wheat arrived in Calcutta on 22 March; that a second ship with a cargo of 3,147 tons of wheat left Australia on 16 March; and four more ships with a cargo of 33,000 tons were currently loading in Australia.

The letter also notes that the Australian Government granted \$A 7.6 million (\$US 8,512,000) worth of wheat to India during the severe food shortage in March 1965.

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Press Release SG/SM/481
5 April 1966

SECRETARY-GENERAL SENDS MESSAGE OF CONGRATULATIONS
TO CHAIRMAN OF COUNCIL OF MINISTERS OF SOVIET UNION

Following is the text of a cable sent today by the Secretary-General, U Thant, to the Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Soviet Union, Alexei N. Kosygin, regarding the flight of Luna 10:

"Please allow me to offer to the Government of the USSR and its talented scientists and engineers my congratulations on the further brilliant step they have taken in the exploration of outer space by placing Luna 10 into orbit around the moon for important scientific purposes. I continue to hope that this achievement, like others before it, will bring all mankind closer to enjoying the benefits of the peaceful use of outer space. Highest consideration."

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Press Release SG/SM/480
5 April 1966

TEXT OF SECRETARY-GENERAL'S STATEMENT
ON UNVEILING DAG HAMMARSKJOLD PORTRAIT

Following is the text of the statement delivered by the Secretary-General, U Thant, at the unveiling of a portrait of Dag Hammarskjold, done by Bo Beskow, which took place today:

"In this Headquarters complex there are memorials to the late Secretary-General, but none as yet which presents a likeness of him. Mr. Hammarskjold is known to have had some strong reservations about the display of portraits or likenesses of himself, and it is a fact that very few portraits of him, other than photographic ones, exist.

"Nonetheless, we have felt that there should be in the United Nations Headquarters a suitable painting of the man who, with rare distinction, carried out the taxing duties of Chief Officer of this Organization for eight years, and died serving it. We are fortunate in having gained possession of a splendid portrait of him by Bo Beskow, who is not only an eminent artist but was also a close friend of Mr. Hammarskjold. In the light of these circumstances, I am sure that Mr. Hammarskjold would understand and even concur in our desire to obtain and display this fine likeness.

"A portrait of the first Secretary-General, Mr. Trygve Lie, also hangs in this building, on the thirty-eighth floor.

"Mr. Beskow devoted work and thought over many years to this picture in the effort to portray on a few square feet of canvas not only the features but the essential character of a most remarkable and many-sided man. As we live with this picture day by day, we shall better be able to judge how successful Mr. Beskow has been, but it is my early impression that he has been very successful indeed. The painting grows on one and conveys life and vitality.

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"It was originally intended that the portrait should be hung in the Hammarskjold Library. After extensive exploration, however, it was decided that there was no wall in the Library Building which was fully suitable to its strength and size. We have, therefore, chosen this wall, where the picture has the necessary space to be seen properly and where many of those who work here, as well as members of the general public, will view it in the course of their daily comings and goings. It thus will hang appropriately enough, in this building where Mr. Hammarskjold, in the course of his eight arduous years here, spent more of his time than anywhere else, including his home.

"The generosity of the Ford Foundation and of the Swedish publishing house of Bonniers has made it possible to acquire this portrait for the United Nations, and to them I express our earnest thanks and appreciation.

"I now unveil this portrait of Dag Hammarskjold.

"I am sure we should all like to hear a few words from Mr. Beskow himself."

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Press Release SG/C/14
4 April 1966

MALTA GRANTS \$111,160 AS FOOD AID TO INDIA

The Secretary-General, U Thant, has been informed by the Permanent Representative of Malta to the United Nations, A. Pardo, that in response to the appeal of Pope Paul VI and of the Secretary-General, the people of Malta has raised the sum of £39,700 (equivalent to \$US 111,160) for the relief of the serious food emergency in India.

The letter, dated 1 April, states that the major part of the sum collected (£37,000) has been forwarded through the Holy See, £2,000 has been sent directly to the Santal area and the remainder has been placed at the disposal of the Director-General of the Food and Agriculture Organization.

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Press Release SG/A/30
SOC/HR/214

4 April 1966

SECRETARY-GENERAL DESIGNATES MARC SCHREIBER
AS DIRECTOR OF DIVISION OF HUMAN RIGHTS

The Secretary-General, U Thant, announced today that Marc Schreiber will succeed John P. Humphrey as Director of the Division of Human Rights when Mr. Humphrey retires from the United Nations Secretariat at the end of April 1966. Mr. Humphrey has been Director of that Division since 1 August 1946.

Mr. Schreiber, who has also been with the Secretariat since 1946, is now Deputy Director of the General Legal Division in the Office of Legal Affairs.

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Press Release SG/SM/479
CYP/370
1 April 1966

TEXT OF NOTE VERBALE TO SECRETARY-GENERAL FROM JAMAICA
ON COST OF PEACE-KEEPING FORCE IN CYPRUS

Following is the text of a note verbale, dated 30 March, received by the Secretary-General, U Thant, from the Permanent Representative of Jamaica to the United Nations, E.R. Richardson, regarding the expenses of the United Nations Peace-Keeping Force in Cyprus (UNFICYP):

"The Permanent Representative of Jamaica to the United Nations presents his compliments to the Secretary-General of the United Nations and has the honour to refer to his Note No.323/3(18) of 28th January 1966, concerning the United Nations Operations in Cyprus.

"In response to the Secretary-General's request the Government of Jamaica has approved a voluntary contribution of \$2,000 for the quarter ending 26th March 1966.

"The Permanent Representative of Jamaica avails himself of this opportunity to renew to the Secretary-General the assurances of his highest consideration."

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Press Release SG/SM/478
1 April 1966

TEXT OF MESSAGE FROM SECRETARY-GENERAL, U THANT,
TO UNITED NATIONS ASSOCIATION OF UNITED KINGDOM

Following is the text of a message by the Secretary-General, U Thant, sent to the annual general meeting of the United Nations Association of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, being held in Cambridge from 1 to 3 April 1966:

"I am glad to be able once again to send my warm greetings to the officers and members of the United Nations Association of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

"Previous occasions of this kind have given me opportunities, which I have welcomed, of expressing my appreciation of the notable contribution your Association has made to the fostering of informed public discussion and realistic public understanding of the purposes of the United Nations and the possibilities as well as the limitations of its functions. I congratulate you for having maintained the level of that contribution during the past 12 months.

"You work, of course, in a country where a relatively high degree of awareness of the United Nations exists. That awareness is reflected in continuous public discussion of the United Nations' activities for peace and for human and material development and, if I may say so, it is reflected also in the increasing extent to which your Government has supported those activities.

"This being so, you will be all the more conscious that the need is growing larger, not smaller, for peoples and Governments everywhere to make greater use of the machinery which our Organization provides for peaceful settlement of disputes and for peaceful works of development. The greatest basic shortcoming of the United Nations is that it is not yet fully engaged in the functions which constitutionally belong to it: partly because it does not yet represent all of mankind, but partly also because Governments are still reluctant to give full practical application to all its principles and purposes.

"To secure greater confidence in and reliance upon the machinery of the United Nations is, I know, the objective of your Association. I wish you well in your further efforts towards that goal."

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Press Release SG/SM/477
CYP/369
30 March 1966

TEXT OF LETTER TO SECRETARY-GENERAL FROM GREECE
ON COST OF PEACE-KEEPING FORCE IN CYPRUS

Following is the text of a letter, dated 29 March, received by the Secretary-General, U Thant, from the Permanent Representative of Greece to the United Nations, Alexis S. Liatis, regarding the expenses of the United Nations Peace-Keeping Force in Cyprus (UNFICYP):

"In answer to the appeal contained in your circular letter No. F 1323/3 (18) dated March 24, 1966, I have the honour to inform you that the Greek Government has decided to make a voluntary contribution of 300,000 dollars to meet the costs of the United Nations Force in Cyprus for the three-month period ending 26 June 1966.

"Thus, the total contributions of the Greek Government to UNFICYP since its inception now amount to 3,850,000 dollars."

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Press Release SG/C/13
30 March 1966

JAPAN GRANTS \$2 MILLION FOOD AID TO INDIA

The Secretary-General, U Thant, has been informed by the Permanent Representative of Japan to the United Nations, Akira Matsui, that in view of the food crisis in India, the Government of Japan has decided to grant 10,000 tons of rice and 8,000 tons of chemical fertilizer, within the total amount of \$2 million to the Indian Red Cross through the Japanese Red Cross.

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Press Release SG/C/12
30 March 1966

TEXT OF LETTER TO SECRETARY-GENERAL FROM CANADA ON FOOD AID PROGRAMME

Following is the text of a letter, dated 29 March, received by the Secretary-General, U Thant, from the Permanent Representative of Canada to the United Nations, Paul Tremblay:

"I have the honour to convey the text of a statement on Canada's food aid programme made by the Secretary of State for External Affairs, the Honourable Paul Martin, to the Canadian House of Commons on March 23, 1966. The text of Mr. Martin's statement is as follows:

'The Government intends to seek Parliamentary approval for a supplementary estimate of forty-five million dollars, largely to meet the emergency needs of India. Added to the thirty million dollars set aside for food in the 1966-67 main estimates, this supplementary amount will raise Canada's food aid to the unprecedented annual level of seventy-five million dollars.

'This will enable Canada to supply India with one million tons of wheat and flour during 1966. The over-all programme will include contributions in kind to the World Food Programme, to the United Nations Programme for Palestine Refugees and to traditional recipient countries such as Pakistan and Ceylon. It is also the Government's intention to supply food aid to Ghana in answer to the recent appeal for economic assistance from the new Government of that country.

'Canada has been providing food as part of its international assistance programme for many years, but food aid was not separated from normal economic and technical assistance until 1964-65, when a new and expanded programme was introduced. At the time, it was announced that the provision of foodstuffs would increase progressively in appropriate relationship to the expansion of other forms of aid. Initially, fifteen million dollars was provided; in 1965 the main estimates called for twenty million dollars and this year they were increased to thirty million dollars.'"

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Press Release SG/SM/476
CYP/367
29 March 1966

TEXT OF LETTER TO SECRETARY-GENERAL FROM AUSTRALIA
ON COST OF PEACE-KEEPING FORCE IN CYPRUS

Following is the text of a letter, dated 28 March, received by the Secretary-General, U Thant, from the Permanent Representative of Australia to the United Nations, Patrick Shaw, concerning the expenses of the United Nations Peace-Keeping Force in Cyprus (UNFICYP):

"I have the honour to advise that the Australian Government will make available a sum of \$US 75,000 in response to Your Excellency's request, made in your note FI 323/3 (18) of 28 January 1966, for voluntary contributions to help meet the costs, for a seventh period of three months in accordance with Security Council resolution 219 (1965) of 17 December 1965, of the United Nations Force in Cyprus, established under Security Council resolution S/5575 of 4 March 1964.

"This agreement to make a further voluntary contribution under the provisions of the sixth operative paragraph of Security Council resolution S/5575 of 4 March 1964 is considered to be without prejudice to the Australian Government's views regarding a satisfactory permanent solution for the financing of United Nations Peace-keeping Operations."

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Press Release SG/C/11
28 March 1966

SAN MARINO GRANTS FOOD AID TO INDIA

The Secretary-General, U Thant, has been informed by the Secretary of State of the Republic of San Marino, Federico Bigi, that the Government of San Marino has decided to contribute 5 million lira* towards alleviating the emergency resulting from the food shortage in India.

The Secretary of State also informed U Thant that a National Committee was established on 14 February to receive donations from San Marino citizens. Until 18 March, the Committee had received 10,718,400 lira. The Committee, with part of this money has bought 1,000 quintals of wheat, which has been placed at the disposal of the Consulate-General of India in San Marino. The Consulate was also requested to state the way the balance of the monies received from both Government and private sources, amounting to 8,418,400 lira, should be employed.

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* Rate of exchange: 623 lira equal one US dollar.



U N I T E D N A T I O N S

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Press Release SG/C/10
28 March 1966

SWEDEN TO CONTRIBUTE \$1,350,000 FOR ASSISTANCE TO INDIA

The Secretary-General, U Thant, has been informed by the Permanent Representative of Sweden to the United Nations, Sverker C. Astrom, that the Government of Sweden has decided to make a contribution of 7 million Swedish kronor (approximately \$US 1,350,000) for assistance to India in the grave food emergency which it faces. The funds will be utilized for the purchase and delivery of powdered milk.

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Press Release SG/SM/475
CYP/364

25 March 1966

TEXT OF LETTER FROM THAILAND TO SECRETARY-GENERAL
ON COST OF PEACE-KEEPING FORCE IN CYPRUS

Following is the text of a letter, dated 21 March, received by the Secretary-General, U Thant, from the Acting Permanent Representative of Thailand, Upadit Pachariyangkun, relating to the expenses of the United Nations Peace-Keeping Force in Cyprus (UNFICYP):

"I have the honour to refer to Your Excellency's letter No. FI 323/3(18) of October 28, 1965, addressed to the Minister of Foreign Affairs in Bangkok, concerning the financing of the United Nations Force in Cyprus.

"I have been instructed to inform Your Excellency that although my Government have always appreciated with sympathy your appeal for voluntary contributions so that, as you may already recall, they have decided to make a voluntary contribution of US \$2,500 towards the costs of the United Nations operations in Cyprus, it would hardly be possible for them this time to try to make any further increase in the voluntary contribution due to our already heavy financial burden brought about by our national development and defence efforts."

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Press Release SG/SM/468
25 March 1966

TEXT OF MESSAGE FROM SECRETARY-GENERAL TO SEMINAR ON AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT
AND EUROPE, CHRIST'S COLLEGE, CAMBRIDGE, 24 - 30 MARCH 1966

"International discussion and action now more positively than ever place the problem of under-development second in importance only to that of disarmament. The two problems are, of course, interrelated, although not by so simple an equation as is sometimes presented by those who would like to believe that the developed nations as a whole would feel able to devote, to the economic and social development of other countries, resources as large as they now expend beyond their frontiers on their systems of military security.

"In any event, it is gratifying to observe that our relatively slow progress towards disarmament has not prevented an impressive measure of mobilization for international action on problems of development during the past several years. While there is a lack of sufficient resources actually available for such action, considerable progress has been made in terms of basic agreements, organization, methods and techniques, and the acquisition of practical experience.

"Within the United Nations system itself we possess and indeed are expanding well-established facilities, on virtually a world-wide scale, for technical assistance, pre-investment activities and development finance. These operate mainly, on the one hand, through the concerted endeavours of the United Nations and its associated agencies in what is now known as the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and, on the other hand, through the World Bank group of institutions and the International Monetary Fund. All of these programmes are planned and implemented with an increasing, although by no means yet perfected, degree of co-ordination among themselves and with the external assistance being provided from other sources, especially under bilateral arrangements. International co-operation within the United Nations is also bringing new facilities into being and, aside from the possibilities of bolder international action suggested by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), the

(more)

multilateralization of food aid through the World Food Programme, the regionalization of development banking exemplified by the recent establishment of the African Development Bank, and the increased emphasis placed on assistance in industrial development are happenings of historical importance.

"The countries of Europe, taken together, are a large and vital source of the funds, equipment and skilled manpower which support both multilateral and bilateral forms of assistance to the developing countries, as well as of the aid, trade and investment policies and practices which affect development. And the nations and territories of Africa have become, especially since the pace of emergence to independence quickened around 1960, one of the principal areas of the application of development assistance. They now receive, for example, approximately one-third of the resources available with the United Nations system for technical and pre-investment assistance.

"When account is taken also of the extent of present and potential development investment in the private sector, it is clear that a substantial tangible context exists for the examination by this Seminar of the relationships between African development and Europe. There is also a less tangible but perhaps more critical side to the picture. This is comprised of such questions as that of the impact of development on African societies and on their relationships with Europe; the political effects and implications of that impact; and the adequacy or otherwise of present development efforts in terms not only of volume but also of quality and kind, and in the light also of the need to promote peace and freedom as well as better living conditions.

"All of this constitutes, indeed, an important field for exploration and discussion, and I wish the Seminar a useful journey through it."

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Press Release SG/SM/474
CYP/363

24 March 1966

TEXT OF NOTE VERBALE TO SECRETARY-GENERAL FROM ITALY
ON COST OF PEACE-KEEPING FORCE IN CYPRUS

Following is the text of a note verbale, dated 24 March, received by the Secretary-General, U Thant, from the Permanent Representative of Italy to the United Nations, Piero Vinci, regarding the expenses of the United Nations Peace-Keeping Force in Cyprus (UNFICYP):

"The Permanent Representative of Italy to the United Nations presents his compliments to the Secretary-General of the United Nations and, pursuant to Note n. 155 dated 18 February 1966, has the honour to inform that the Italian Government will contribute the sum of \$135,000 (one hundred thirty-five thousand) to the cost of the United Nations Peace-Keeping Operations in Cyprus for the three-months period 27 December 1965 - 26 March 1966.

"The aforesaid sum will be placed at the disposal of the United Nations as soon as administrative procedures will be completed."

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Press Release SG/SM/473
24 March 1966

TEXT OF MESSAGE FROM SECRETARY-GENERAL, U THANT,
TO UNITED NATIONS ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH AFRICA

Following is the text of a message by the Secretary-General, U Thant, to the United Nations Association of South Africa on the occasion of its public meeting in Johannesburg on 24 March 1966:

"I am glad to be able to accept the invitation extended to me to send a message to the United Nations Association of South Africa. I have already done so in the case of a number of other national associations, for I have always attached great importance to their efforts to promote support for international co-operation and for the United Nations itself. The United Nations can only benefit from these activities. Its effectiveness depends critically upon public awareness -- and more than that, upon realistic understanding -- of its functions and its possibilities and the extent to which they have been and can be realized.

"In most parts of the world, a basis of such understanding has been established. There cannot be a single Member State whose people and Government do not recognize the United Nations, as far as its authority and the evolution of international relationships allow, to be an indispensable instrument for the maintenance of peace and the promotion of international co-operation.

"In the two decades of its existence the Organization has made some crucial contributions, for which no other practical means existed, to promoting the pacific settlement of disputes, to containing and resolving conflicts, and to assisting the peaceful evolution to independence of peoples in colonial territories. It has also become in a very real sense a centre for directing and providing the resources for substantial programmes of international co-operation in the economic, social and cultural fields. If it has not yet had enough direct influence in resolving the basic issues which divide the great Powers and which therefore leave the whole world insecure, there can be no question but that the United Nations has at least begun -- and made a more substantial beginning than any previous attempt -- to create that climate of experience and understanding in which further co-operation is possible.

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"South Africa, as a founder Member of the Organization, made a significant contribution to the formulation of the United Nations Charter. And I am convinced that South Africa and its people, who have it within themselves to combine for the common good a great variety of cultural and economic backgrounds, experience and skill, can play an even more substantial part in fulfilling the ideals upon which the Charter is based.

"I express this conviction in full knowledge of those present circumstances which may seem, from other points of view, to contradict it. I do not seek to minimize the differences which exist between South Africa and most of its fellow Member States over the questions, in particular, of apartheid and South West Africa, both of which are accepted by the United Nations as a whole as being matters of legitimate international concern. Nor would I wish to minimize the gravity of the situation which has given rise to those differences, or the profound anxiety which exists about those present manifestations of it in southern Africa which are disrupting relations among States, as well as disturbing the conscience of most of mankind.

"I have never concealed my own belief that racial discrimination in any form and in any corner of the world is an odious aberration. I continue to hope, however, that the aspects of governmental policy and public practice in southern Africa which have aroused particular alarm in the United Nations are capable of being corrected, and corrected peacefully. I believe that they represent a distorted and dangerous but passing phase in the adjustment and evolution of human attitudes. And I believe that the resolution of these problems will come about more quickly and more calmly if all of the peoples concerned make a genuine effort to respect one another's legitimate rights, as well as the concern of humanity at large. In doing so, they will contribute to the fulfilment of the principles and purposes of the United Nations Charter in the world as a whole and lay the basis for the more fruitful role which they can play in international relations and particularly within the United Nations system.

"With these reflections I send my best wishes that constructive results will be forthcoming from your discussions."

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Press Release SG/C/9
22 March 1966

GREECE GRANTS FOOD AID TO INDIA

The Secretary-General, U Thant, has been informed by the Permanent Mission of Greece to the United Nations that the Government of Greece has granted 5,000 tons of wheat and 1,000 tons of sultanina raisins towards alleviating the emergency resulting from the food shortage in India.

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Press Release SG/C/8
22 March 1966

CHINA TO CONTRIBUTE 100,000 KILOGRAMMES
OF RICE SEEDS AS FOOD AID TO INDIA

The Secretary-General, U Thant, has been informed by the Permanent Representative of the Republic of China to the United Nations, Liu Chieh, that his Government has decided to contribute 100,000 kilogrammes of rice seeds as food aid to India.

The letter, of 21 March, notes that the contribution would consist of 80,000 kilogrammes of Taichung No. 1 seeds and 20,000 kilogrammes of Tainan No. 3 seeds, both of which have been experimentally planted in Indian soil and found to have yielded excellent crops.

The coming months being the sowing season in India, the Republic of China hoped that speedy arrangements could be made for the transportation of these seeds.

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Press Release SG/1690
L/1554

22 March 1966

INDIA REGISTERS TASHKENT DECLARATION WITH UNITED NATIONS

India today registered the Tashkent Declaration with the United Nations. The Declaration was signed in Tashkent in the Soviet Union on 10 January 1966 by the Prime Minister of India and the President of Pakistan, and witnessed by the Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.

At a brief ceremony in the Secretary-General's office this afternoon, Gopalaswami Parthasarathi (India) handed a copy of the Tashkent Declaration to the Secretary-General of the United Nations, U Thant. Ahmed Ali (Pakistan) and E.N. Makeev (Soviet Union) were present at the ceremony.

Also present were the United Nations Under-Secretaries for Special Political Affairs, Ralph J. Bunche and Jose Rolz-Bennett, the Under-Secretary for Political and Security Council Affairs, Aleksei E. Nestorenko, and the Legal Counsel, Constantin A. Stavropoulos.

The Declaration was deposited under Article 102 of the United Nations Charter, which requires "every treaty and every international agreement entered into by any Member of the United Nations" to be "registered with the Secretariat and published by it".

Text of Tashkent Declaration

The text of the Tashkent Declaration is as follows:

"The Prime Minister of India and the President of Pakistan having met at Tashkent and having discussed the existing relations between India and Pakistan, hereby declare their firm resolve to restore normal and peaceful relations between their countries and to promote understanding and friendly relations between their peoples. They consider the attainment of these objectives of vital importance for the welfare of the 600 million people of India and Pakistan.

(more)

22 March 1966

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"The Prime Minister of India and the President of Pakistan agree that both sides will exert all efforts to create good neighbourly relations between India and Pakistan in accordance with the United Nations Charter. They reaffirm their obligation under the Charter not to have recourse to force and to settle their disputes through peaceful means. They considered that the interests of peace in their region and particularly in the Indo-Pakistan Sub-Continent and, indeed, the interests of the peoples of India and Pakistan were not served by the continuance of tension between the two countries. It was against this background that Jammu and Kashmir was discussed, and each of the sides set forth its respective position.

II

"The Prime Minister of India and the President of Pakistan have agreed that all armed personnel of the two countries shall be withdrawn not later than 25 February 1966 to the positions they held prior to 5 August 1965, and both sides shall observe the cease-fire terms on the cease-fire line.

III

"The Prime Minister of India and the President of Pakistan have agreed that relations between India and Pakistan shall be based on the principle of non-interference in the internal affairs of each other.

IV

"The Prime Minister of India and the President of Pakistan have agreed that both sides will discourage any propaganda directed against the other country, and will encourage propaganda which promotes the development of friendly relations between the two countries.

V

"The Prime Minister of India and the President of Pakistan have agreed that the High Commissioner of India to Pakistan and the High Commissioner of Pakistan to India will return to their posts and that the normal functioning of diplomatic missions of both countries will be restored. Both Governments shall observe the Vienna Convention of 1961 on Diplomatic Intercourse.

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22 March 1966

VI

"The Prime Minister of India and the President of Pakistan have agreed to consider measures towards the restoration of economic and trade relations, communications, as well as cultural exchanges between India and Pakistan, and to take measures to implement the existing agreements between India and Pakistan.

VII

"The Prime Minister of India and the President of Pakistan have agreed that they give instructions to their respective authorities to carry out the repatriation of the prisoners of war.

VIII

"The Prime Minister of India and the President of Pakistan have agreed that the sides will continue the discussion of questions relating to the problems of refugees and evictions/illegal immigrations. They also agreed that both sides will create conditions which will prevent the exodus of people. They further agreed to discuss the return of the property and assets taken over by either side in connection with the conflict.

IX

"The Prime Minister of India and the President of Pakistan have agreed that the sides will continue meetings both at the highest and at other levels on matters of direct concern to both countries. Both sides have recognized the need to set up joint Indian-Pakistani bodies which will report to their Governments in order to decide what further steps should be taken.

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"The Prime Minister of India and the President of Pakistan record their feelings of deep appreciation and gratitude to the leaders of the Soviet Union, the Soviet Government and personally to the Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the U.S.S.R. for their constructive, friendly and noble part in bringing about the present meeting which has resulted in mutually satisfactory results. They also express to the Government and friendly people of Uzbekistan their sincere thankfulness for their overwhelming reception and generous hospitality.

"They invite the Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the U.S.S.R. to witness this Declaration."

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Press Release SG/SM/472
22 March 1966

SECRETARY-GENERAL COMMENTS ON ASIAN ACHIEVEMENTS IN ECONOMIC FIELD

U Thant sends Message to ECAFE Session in New Delhi

The following is the text of a message from the Secretary-General, U Thant, to the twenty-second session of the Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East (ECAFE) which opened in New Delhi today, 22 March. The message was read by C.V. Narasimhan, Chef de Cabinet:

"The opening of the twenty-second session of the Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East (ECAFE) provides us with a salutary reminder that the United Nations was established not only to preserve peace and prevent war, but also with the duty to promote economic and social progress and development.

"You are meeting at a time and in a region in which no reminders are needed of the grave dangers of conflict among nations and peoples. Moreover, these dangers are being faced in circumstances in which a number of your countries are also carrying the heavy economic and social burdens that result from underdevelopment and insufficient production and leave your peoples inadequately protected from the adverse forces of nature.

"This annual session of the Commission is largely designed, by tradition, to provide an opportunity for taking stock, for assessing the achievements of the past and for concerting programmes of action for the future. ECAFE has much to be proud of, not only in its work over almost two decades, but also in its accomplishments of the last year.

"The most recent months have seen the signing of the Charter of the Asian Development Bank, whose authorized capital of one thousand million dollars has been completely subscribed. The Bank is expected to start its work before the end of the present year. I have every hope that it will help to make available to the developing countries of the region additional assistance on a scale much greater than the resources of the Bank itself.

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"The planned development of the Lower Mekong basin, which had its origin in initiatives taken by ECAFE in the early 1950's, is progressively assuming the proportions of a very large undertaking. The past year has seen the further maturing of the scheme from the stage of studies, investigations and blueprints to actual and visible construction projects.

"The Asian Highway, too, is coming closer and closer to reality. In only a few years it will be possible to travel on hard-surfaced roads from one end of Asia to the other, and on to Europe.

"In the vital field of industrial development, your successful Conference on Industrialization has recommended that the Conference become a permanent organ of the Commission and that an Asian Development Council should be established. These measures, all the more important in the light of the General Assembly's decision to establish a new Organization for Industrial Development, should place the Commission in a stronger position to help meet the need and the desire of all countries of the region for further and faster industrial development.

"Among other ECAFE initiatives which are making a real contribution to the development of the region, mention must also be made of the Asian Institute for Economic Development and Planning, which is now entering its third academic year. Almost 300 trainees have benefited from its courses, and I have been happy to learn that the Institute's research and documentation work is being significantly expanded by the generous help of a private foundation.

"These are only some of the achievements -- the more spectacular ones -- which will make possible a higher level of economic activity and of well-being for the peoples of the region. It is perhaps equally important that they represent practical means of strengthening regional economic co-operation. The successes of the past and present will, I am sure, serve as a spur to even greater efforts in the future.

"I send you my best wishes for a successful session."

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Press Release SG/SM/471
CYP/361

21 March 1966

TEXT OF MESSAGE TO SECRETARY-GENERAL FROM GREECE
ON COST OF PEACE-KEEPING FORCE IN CYPRUS

Following is the text of a message, dated 3 March, to the Secretary-General, U Thant, from the Permanent Representative of Greece to the United Nations, Alexis S. Liatis, regarding the expenses of the United Nations Peace-Keeping Force in Cyprus (UNFICYP):

"By your circular letter FI 323/3(18) of 28 January 1966, you appealed to Governments to contribute voluntarily towards providing the necessary financial support for the United Nations Peace-Keeping Operation in Cyprus, which has been extended for an additional period of three months, ending 26 March 1966.

"It gives me pleasure to inform Your Excellency that, in response to your appeal, my Government intends to make a further contribution of \$300,000 for the above purpose. This amount will be forthcoming as soon as the necessary approval of the competent authorities of our Ministry of Finance is obtained, which, I trust, will not take long.

"Needless for me to stress that this new contribution of my Government is fresh proof of its deep appreciation of the valuable work performed by UNFICYP in Cyprus."

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