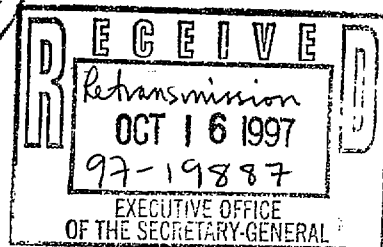


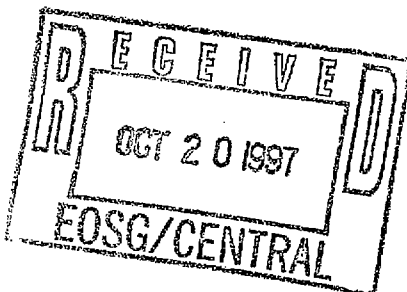
*Angola
Congo*

**Permanent Mission of
The Republic of Angola to the United Nations**

125 East 73rd Street, New York, N.Y. 10021
Tel: (212) 861-5656 Fax: (212) 861-9295

No. 10/010

16 October 1997



Excellency,

I have the honour to forward herewith the Communiqué issued by the Government of the Republic of Angola on October 15, 1997, regarding the reality of facts about the alleged tensions along the border between the Republic of Angola and the Republic of Congo-Brazzaville.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

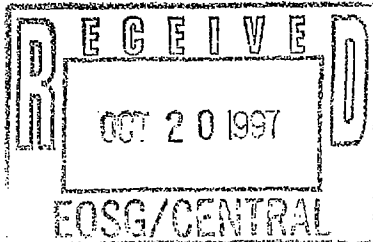
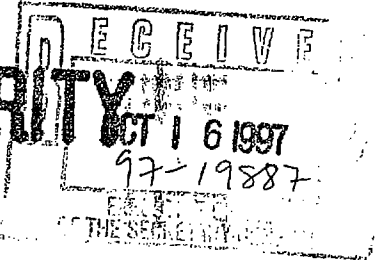
Afonso Van-Dunem
Afonso Van-Dunem "Mblinda"
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

H.E. Mr. Kofi Annan
Secretary-General
United Nations
New York

Angola
Congo



PRIORITY



**Permanent Mission of
The Republic of Angola to the United Nations**
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Tel: (212) 861-5656 Fax: (212) 861-9295

COMMUNIQUE

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Angola to the United Nations presents its compliments to the President of the Security Council of the United Nations and has the honour to bring to his attention this Communique Issued by Government of the Republic of Angola regarding the reality of facts about the alleged tensions along the border between the Republic of Angola and the Republic of Congo-Brazzaville.

1. Taking into account the serious deterioration of the situation in Congo, the Government of Angola has taken some special military measures throughout the border between the Angolan province of Cabinda and the Republic of Congo.
2. Angola is following closely and with serious concern the evolution of the internal situation in that neighbor and sister country, where intense fighting is taking place opposing troops loyal to President Pascal Lissouba and former President Denis Sassou Nguesso since last 5 June 1997.
3. The present situation in Congo is a serious one, but Third Countries cannot and should not be blamed for it. Angola has all along lent its unequivocal and full support to the efforts by the International mediation led by President El Haj Omar Bongo assisted by Ambassador Shannon, Joint Special Representative of the United Nations and the Organization of African Unity, with a view of finding a political and negotiated settlement. In so doing, Angola wishes the rapid restoration of peace and stability in the central sub-region and the creation of necessary conditions for the well being of the Congolese people.
4. As it is well known, Angola was, for many years, a victim of destabilizing actions waged by the so-called "FLEC" as well as UNITA with the backing of the then Republic of Zaire and the Republic of Congo-Brazzaville. Last October 13th, in exercising its right of self-defense, one unit of the Angolan Armed Forces persecuted armed groups of the FLEC and UNITA,

following its attacks against bordering localities in Cabinda province, from the Republic of Congo. This action resulted in some casualties against the armed groups and the Angolan forces returned immediately to their base in Cabinda.

5. Therefore, the Angolan Armed Forces did not whatsoever launch any attacks against the localities of the Republic of Congo as mentioned in its letter of the Permanent Mission of Congo addressed to the President of the Security Council on October 13th, 1997.
6. The Government of the Republic of Angola strongly rejects these accusations which are baseless and senseless.

New York, 15 October 1997





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