

**Small files: South Africa
1953-1961, South-West Africa
1961: Small files: S...**

HS L 179:191



Dag Hammarskjöld's saml.

South Africa

2 April - 9 Sept 60

Fourie, Bernardus G. (Perm. Represent.
of the Union of S. Africa

- Memo conc. meeting D.H. - Fourie (to the U.N.)
- 7 letters from D.H.
- 7 letters to D.H.

Informal Meeting between the Secretary-General and Mr. Fourie, Permanent Representative of the Union of South Africa, on 2 April 1960 at 12.15 p.m.

The Secretary-General stated that he had asked Mr. Fourie to the meeting, knowing that he could not have received any instructions from his government in regard to the resolution adopted by the Security Council on 1 April. He intended merely to give to Mr. Fourie his understanding of paragraph 5 of the resolution, the only paragraph in the resolution which concerned him, because he thought that an early clarification of his position might be helpful to the Union Government. Since he would have to address himself formally to the Union Government within a few days, it might be helpful to the Union Government to have his understanding of his function in regard to the resolution and, conversely, any preliminary reaction by the Union Government might be useful to him.

1. The Secretary-General emphasized that he was only concerned with paragraph 5 of the resolution and not with any of the other operative paragraphs nor with its preamble. In approaching the Union Government he was not acting on behalf of the Security Council, but as Secretary-General of the Organization under his general powers as contained in the Charter.

(The representative of Ecuador in his reply to a question by the representative of the U.S.S.R. had not correctly stated the functions of the Secretary-General in relation to the resolution).

2. The Secretary-General said that he understood the word "arrangements" in the resolution as meaning "practical arrangements" (as contained in some of the earlier informal drafts) and stated that, in consequence, "to make arrangements" could not be construed as involving him in matters of governmental policies, but only in the making of "administrative" arrangements.

3. The Secretary-General further explained that since consultation with the Union Government would be a necessary requirement, he would find it desirable to have, aside from meetings with Mr. Fourie, consultations with the Foreign Minister and the Prime Minister of the Union.
4. The Secretary-General believed that practical administrative arrangements would logically require discussion with the "other side". In reply to Mr. Fourie's inquiry whether the "other side" meant Ghana, Guinea, etc. (apparently the African States who had appeared before the Security Council), the Secretary-General without spelling out the precise meaning, left no doubt that he meant non-European leaders in the Union.
5. The Secretary-General further stated that it followed automatically from the resolution, that he would have to report to the Security Council "whenever necessary and appropriate."
6. The Secretary-General and Mr. Fourie agreed that the press might be informed that this meeting had taken place on the request of the Secretary-General but that it should be made clear that this meeting was not a consultation in the meaning of paragraph 5 of the resolution.

DRAFT

To: Fourie

Dear Mr. Fourie,

In your letter of 7 April you mention the wish of your Government to study the Seco documents before giving me a definite reaction to my suggestion in ^{the} ~~my~~ message of 5 April. In my reply to your letter I noted this, expressing my understanding for the wish of the Government but also my hope that I would have ~~aw~~ a reply within a few days.

Although I appreciate the complications created by the recent shocking attack on the Prime Minister, ^{and} ~~and~~ would believe that the Government will by now have had an opportunity to acquaint themselves with the Security Council documents, and that I should thus be able to get a reply which is urgently needed in view of the development of the situation. ^I ~~I~~ would ask you to transmit to your Government this expectation and my strong sense of urgency. It will not be possible for me to withhold from the Members of the United Nations and from the public for very much longer an account of what steps I have taken in order to fulfill my obligations under the Security Council resolution and of the result of ~~the steps~~ those steps.

18 April 1960

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

Dear Mr. Fourie,

I wish to acknowledge your letter of 16 April 1960 by which you transmitted to me a message from the Hon. Eric H. Louw, Minister of External Affairs of the Union of South Africa.

While it had been my hope that meetings with representatives of the Government of the Union of South Africa might have been arranged at an earlier date, I am prepared to re-arrange my own schedule in such a way as to accept the Minister's suggestion to meet with him and the Prime Minister in London after the conclusion of the Commonwealth Prime Minister's Conference. I presume that this preliminary consultation can be arranged as from 11 May 1960.

In regard to the proposal that it would be better to defer my visit to the Union of South Africa until the Judicial Commission will have completed their enquiry and submitted their reports, I am now so arranging my schedule that I could come to the Union towards the end of July. It will, of course, be appreciated that if circumstances should arise which would make it difficult for me to postpone consultations with your Government until then, the timing of the visit may have to be examined anew.

.....
On the basis of your letter I am proposing to submit tomorrow an Interim Report to the Security Council, a copy of which is appended hereto. I would greatly appreciate your Government's early comments.

Dag Hammarskjöld.

Mr. B.G. Fourie,
Permanent Representative to
the United Nations,
Permanent Mission of the Union of
South Africa to the United Nations,
655 Madison Avenue, 15th floor,
New York, N.Y.

SECRET

Interim Report by the Secretary-General to the Security Council

1. The Security Council, by its resolution S/4300 of 1 April 1960 requested "the Secretary-General, in consultation with the Government of the Union of South Africa, to make such arrangements as would adequately help in upholding the purposes and principles of the Charter and to report to the Security Council whenever necessary and appropriate".
2. In accordance with the request "to report whenever necessary and appropriate" I wish to submit for the Council's information the following interim report.
3. After an exchange of communications between the Minister of External Affairs of the Union of South Africa and myself, through the Permanent Representative of the Union Government, I have accepted ^a ~~the~~ proposal of the Union Government that preliminary consultations between the Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs and myself should be held in London after the conclusion of the Commonwealth Prime Minister's Conference, probably in early May 1960.
4. These preliminary discussion will be preparatory to a visit to the Union of South Africa which I had proposed to take place at the earliest date suitable to the Union Government. The Government of the Union of South Africa has informed me that it would be better to defer this proposed visit until the Judicial Commissions will have completed their enquiry and submitted their reports. It is expected that this visit could take place in the latter part of July or early August 1960.

5. The consultations rendered necessary by the provisions of paragraph 5 of the Security Council's resolution of 1 April 1960 will be undertaken on the basis of the authority of the Secretary-General under the Charter.

It is agreed between the Government of the Union of South Africa and myself that consent of the Union Government to discuss the Security Council's resolution with the Secretary-General would not require prior recognition from the Union Government of the United Nations authority.

22 April 1960

Personal and Confidential

Dear Mr. Fourie,

With reference to your letter of 22 April 1960 I would ask you to inform the Hon. Eric H. Louw, Minister of External Affairs, that I am prepared to begin with the preliminary consultations in London in the afternoon of 12 May 1960.

At a later time, we may have to discuss further the precise time and the place where the meetings can most conveniently be held.

Yours sincerely,

Dag Hammarskjöld.

Mr. B.G. Fourie,
Permanent Representative to
the United Nations,
Permanent Mission of the Union of
South Africa to the United Nations,
655 Madison Avenue, 15th floor,
New York, N.Y.

25 August 1960

Dear Mr. Fourie,

I have received your message of 25 August and would like to ask you to transmit the following reply to His Excellency Mr. Frik Louw.

"I am grateful for your message received today through the intermediary of Mr. Fourie. I had, until the very last moment, hoped that I would be able to follow through our plan as established in London, although with delays unavoidable in the light of circumstances and events which were imposed on me at the very last minute. I am most sorry and I wish to apologize for the inconvenience which the repeated changes of plans must have caused the Prime Minister and you.

After the meeting of the Security Council on 21 and 22 August, which gave us a more stable basis for our activities in the Congo than we have had so far, I had sincerely hoped to be able to come to Pretoria for consultations covering the two days which Prime Minister Verwoerd has so kindly reserved for me. However, the day-to-day experience shows that we are still at a stage where every day, and even every hour, may bring surprises which require my immediate personal attention in order to avoid serious difficulties or a grave loss of ground. I still hope that the near future may be more quiet than the past, but I have to remain personally on the alert. You will certainly understand that in these circumstances I cannot take it on myself to leave even for the important consultations which I had planned to have with you. Thus I must now to my regret note that the further developments in the Congo crisis are such that I have to stay at Headquarters, thus foregoing also this possibility of a visit to the Union.

Naturally, in these circumstances there will be no report from me to the Security Council on my actions under the resolution which we discussed when we met in London in May, until I have had a chance to meet with you. I hope that it will be possible for the Union Government to consider the situation and the question facing us, so that when you come to the fifteenth session of the General Assembly we may find it

H.E. Mr. Bernardus Gerhardus Fourie
Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary
Permanent Representative to the United Nations
Permanent Mission of the Union of South Africa
to the United Nations
655 Madison Avenue, 15th Floor
New York 21, N.Y.

25 August 1960

possible to sit down together and look into matters so that I may fulfill my mandate under the resolution in a way helpful from all points of view.

Thus, I apologize for this final but unavoidable change of plans, expressing, at the same time, my sincere hope that we may consult together after your arrival in New York next month.

Please accept the assurances of my highest consideration,

Dag Hammarskjöld
Secretary-General

Yours sincerely,

Dag Hammarskjöld
Secretary-General



PERMANENT MISSION OF THE
UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA TO THE UNITED NATIONS
15th FLOOR-685 MADISON AVENUE
NEW YORK 21, N. Y.
TELEPHONE TELETYPE 9-4700

REF. 10/3/1

April 7th, 1960

Sir,

With reference to your message of the 5th April to His Excellency Mr. Louw, I have been asked to explain that it is impossible for the Minister to give consideration to your suggestion until he has received and studied all the documents relating to the Security Council discussions.

I may add that these documents have been transmitted, but it takes a little while for our bag to reach Cape Town.

In conveying the foregoing I have been asked to make it absolutely clear that this reply is without prejudice to the Union Government's position and does not imply any recognition of United Nations authority in a matter which is so clearly within the Union's domestic jurisdiction.

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

PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE.

Fourie

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PERMANENT MISSION OF THE
UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA TO THE UNITED NATIONS
15th FLOOR-655 MADISON AVENUE
NEW YORK 21, N.Y.

REF.10/3/1

11th April, 1960

Dear Mr. Hammarskjold,

With reference to your letter of the 7th April, 1960, I have been asked to let you know that in view of the length of the Minister's reply and the danger of faulty telegraphic transmission, which might lead to misunderstandings, the reply is being sent from South Africa by the first available air mail.

I shall transmit the reply to you immediately it is received.

Yours sincerely,

(Signed)

H.E. Mr. Dag Hammarskjold
Secretary-General
United Nations
NEW YORK.

Fourie

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PERMANENT MISSION OF THE
UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA TO THE UNITED NATIONS
15th FLOOR-655 MADISON AVENUE
NEW YORK 21, N.Y.

Ref. 10/3/1

15th April, 1960.

Dear Mr. Hammarskjold,

With reference to my letter 10/3/1 of 11th April, 1960,
I have now been informed telegraphically by which plane the
special airbag carrying the Minister's reply will arrive. I
hope, therefore, to let you have the reply either tomorrow
or Monday.

Yours sincerely,

(Signed)

H.E. Mr. Dag Hammarskjold,
Secretary-General
United Nations,
NEW YORK, N.Y.

COPY

Permanent Mission of the Union of South
Africa to the United Nations
New York, N.Y.

REF. 10/3/1/1

22 April 1960

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

Dear Mr. Hammarskjöld,

With further reference to your letter of the 18th April, 1960, I have been asked to let you know that the Prime Ministers Conference in London will, on the 11th May, still be occupied with the preparation of the final communiqué which will be finalised only on the morning of the 12th.

In the circumstances, it would not be possible for the Minister of External Affairs to be absent from these discussions and the earliest he would be able, therefore, to commence the preliminary talks with you would be the afternoon of the 12th.

Yours sincerely,

(s) Fourie

Mr. Dag Hammarskjöld
Secretary-General,
United Nations,
New York.

Fourie



PERMANENT MISSION OF THE
PERMANENT MISSION OF THE
UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA TO THE UNITED NATIONS
157 FLOOR-855 MADISON AVENUE
NEW YORK 21, N. Y.
TELEPHONE TEMPLETON 8-1700
TELEPHONE TEMPLETON 8-1700

REF. 10/3/1/1

10th August, 1960

Dear Mr. Hammarskjold,

This is to confirm that I have received your message of today's date to the Minister of External Affairs and have cabled it to South Africa.

Yours sincerely,

ACTING PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE.

Mr. Dag Hammarskjold,
Secretary-General
United Nations
NEW YORK.

Fourie



PERMANENT MISSION OF THE
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15TH FLOOR-655 MADISON AVENUE
NEW YORK 21, N. Y.

TELEPHONE TEMPLETON 8-4700

REF. 10/3/1/1

August 25, 1960

Dear Mr. Hammarskjold,

I have been asked by the Minister of External Affairs to transmit the following message to you:

"Thank you for your message of August 18. As you were already advised in my message of 9 August Prime Minister has agreed to be available on 2 and 3 September. These are the only dates available before the session of the General Assembly. Personal regards".

Yours sincerely,

PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE.

Mr. Dag Hammarskjold,

Secretary-General

United Nations

NEW YORK.

Fourie



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PERMANENT MISSION OF THE
UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA TO THE UNITED NATIONS
18th FLOOR-655 MADISON AVENUE
NEW YORK 21, N. Y.
TELEPHONE TEMPLETON 8-1700

REF. 10/3/1/1

9th September, 1960

Dear Mr. Hammarskjold,

As indicated in our letter of the 26th August, 1960, it had been the intention of the Minister of External Affairs to respond before his departure from the Union to your message of the 25th August, and in particular to your suggestion that you might have discussions with him in New York.

I have now been asked by the Minister to let you know that he would like to discuss the matter with you personally after his arrival in New York, and hopes that this would be convenient to you. I may add that Mr. Louw is already on his way here and will arrive in New York on the 16th.

Yours sincerely,

PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE.

Mr. Dag Hammarskjold,
Secretary-General
United Nations
NEW YORK.