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REQUEST BY THE PERMANENT MISSION OF NIGERIA

The attached text of a letter which was addressed to the Austrian newspaper "Die Presse" by the Permanent Mission of Nigeria and was published in the 18 August 1987 issue of "Die Presse" is being circulated at the request of the Permanent Mission.

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ATTACHMENT

TEXT OF A LETTER TO "DIE PRESSE" FROM THE
PERMANENT MISSION OF NIGERIA

"My attention has been drawn to a news item which appeared in your issue of Thursday, 13 August 1987 entitled 'Nigeria fordert eigene, schwarze Atombombe',^{1/} and attributed to the Foreign Minister of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, Professor Bolaji Akinyemi.

"I have been directed by my Foreign Minister to state that your report is a gross distortion of a lecture which he recently gave. He wishes to re-affirm Nigeria's strong commitment to the non-proliferation regime. As is well-known, Nigeria is one of the earliest countries to sign and ratify the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT) and she has been active in different international fora in seeking to enhance and consolidate the non-proliferation regime to which she is and will continue to be deeply committed. This is the policy of Nigeria and there is no departure therefrom. I will also add that Nigeria is an active member of the International Atomic Energy Agency and has consistently supported the objectives of the organization including its safeguards functions."

(signed)

T.S.O. Olumoko
Chargé d'Affaires
Embassy/Permanent Mission of
the Federal Republic of
Nigeria

^{1/} "Nigeria demands its own atom bomb."