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NAMIBIAN SETTLEMENT: PROXIMITY TALKS --
NEW YORK, MARCH 19-20, 1979

The Governments of Canada, France, the Federal Republic of Germany, the United Kingdom and the United States, have indicated today that in recent days it has become apparent that a number of concerns of the parties involved in the Namibia settlement effort must be resolved before the United Nations can arrive in Namibia. The five governments believe it important that these concerns be resolved quickly so that the ceasefire and the transitional period can begin and so that the extensive progress which has been made towards a settlement will not be lost.

The five foreign ministers have therefore extended invitations to the Foreign Minister of South Africa, the President of SWAPO, and the foreign ministers of the front-line states and Nigeria, to come to New York for proximity talks on March 19 and 20. United Nations Secretary General Waldheim has advised that he will be available for consultations.