

UNITED NATIONS  
GENERAL  
ASSEMBLY



Distr.  
GENERAL

A/4521  
29 September 1960

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Fifteenth session

REQUEST FOR THE INCLUSION OF AN ADDITIONAL ITEM IN THE AGENDA  
OF THE FIFTEENTH REGULAR SESSION: ITEM PROPOSED BY IRAQ,  
JORDAN, LEBANON, LIBYA, MOROCCO, SAUDI ARABIA, SUDAN, TUNISIA,  
UNITED ARAB REPUBLIC AND YEMEN

THE QUESTION OF OMAN

Letter dated 29 September 1960 from the Permanent Representatives of  
Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Saudi Arabia, Sudan, Tunisia,  
United Arab Republic and Yemen addressed to the Secretary-General

Upon instructions from our respective Governments we, the Permanent  
Representatives of Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Saudi Arabia, Sudan,  
Tunisia, the United Arab Republic, and Yemen, have the honour to request that the  
following be placed as an additional item on the agenda of the fifteenth session  
of the General Assembly:

"The Question of Oman"

An explanatory memorandum under the terms of rule 20 of the rules of  
procedure of the General Assembly is attached.

Signed)

Adnan PACHACHI - Representative of Iraq  
A.M. RI'FAI - Representative of Jordan  
Georges HAKIM (Khalil MAKKAWI) - Representative of Lebanon  
M. FEKINI - Representative of Libya  
El Mehdi ben ABOUD - Representative of Morocco  
Zein DABBAGH - Representative of Saudi Arabia  
O.A. Hamid ADEEL - Representative of Sudan  
Z. CHELLI - Representative of Tunisia  
Rafik ASHA - Representative of the United Arab Republic  
Kamil A. RAHIM - Representative of Yemen

## EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

### The Question of Oman

The Imamate of Oman lies at the southeastern tip of the Arabian Peninsula. It is the hinterland of what is erroneously called the Sultanate of Muscat and Oman; in population and area the Imamate of Oman forms the greater part of that territory. As early as 1650, Omani troops succeeded in compelling the Portuguese, who had occupied Muscat in 1507, to evacuate the Imamate, thereby consolidating the independence and sovereignty of Oman.

Since the latter part of the eighteenth century when Britain sought to extend its influence over the southern part of the Arabian Peninsula to protect its imperial communications, it faced constant opposition from the people of Oman. This fact was manifested by the refusal of the people of Oman to accept as Imam, Said bin Sultan, whose rule was imposed by Britain over Muscat during the nineteenth century. Muscat maintained a hereditary Sultanate, while the people of Oman have continued for the past 1,200 years to elect their Imam. At the end of World War I, when the independence of Oman was threatened, a conflict ensued between Muscat and Oman, and led the Omani forces to lay siege to Muscat. When Muscat was about to surrender, the British intervened to settle the dispute and the treaty of Sib was concluded between Muscat and Oman on 25 September 1920. This treaty confirms without ambiguity the independence of Oman.

As is well known the present conflict arose as a result of the constant refusal of the Imams of Oman to grant oil concessions to British companies in their territory. This led to the invasion of Oman by British led forces resulting in the occupation of Nazwa, the capital of Oman, on 17 December 1955. Since then, the people of Oman have continued their resistance to the military aggression directed against their independence.

The British armed aggression against the independence, sovereignty, and the territorial integrity of the Imamate of Oman was brought to the attention of the Security Council on 15 August 1957 (S/3865). It is regretted that in spite of the gravity of the situation, the Security Council failed to deal with this problem. Since then, the situation has further deteriorated and British military intervention continues unabated, causing great suffering and wide-spread loss of

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life and property in violation of the fundamental principles of human rights. On 15 April 1959, the Imam of Oman appealed to the moral conscience of the world to put an end to these acts of repression. In June of the same year the Imam reiterated the firm determination of his people to defend their independence against British aggression.

The traffic situation in Oman, where a relentless war continues, is of great concern to our Governments. The aggression against the people of Oman threatens peace and security in the Middle East, and constitutes a breach of the Charter of the United Nations and the rules of international law.

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