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COMPLAINTS ABOUT THREATS TO THE SECURITY OF SYRIA  
AND TO INTERNATIONAL PEACE

Letter dated 13 November 1957 addressed to the Secretary-General from  
the Permanent Representative of Turkey to the United Nations

New York, 13 November 1957

With reference to a letter dated 6 November 1957, addressed to Your Excellency and circulated in the form of a press release by the Permanent Mission of Syria to the United Nations, I have the honour to inform you of the following:

The Syrian Mission to the United Nations had claimed, in the above-mentioned letter, that unidentified aircraft had flown over the Syrian town of Latakia on 4 November and that Turkish soldiers had made incursions into Syrian territory. The letter did not include any specific information such as dates, names of localities or other facts concerning these alleged incursions which were termed by the Syrian Mission as "provocative acts".

I have the honour to inform Your Excellency that a thorough investigation made by the Turkish authorities on the charges mentioned in the letter of the Syrian Mission has revealed that no Turkish aircraft have flown over any part of the Syrian air space and that the allegations on frontier incidents or incursions by Turkish soldiers into Syrian territory are completely false.

The only recent frontier incident reported by Turkish frontier authorities occurred on 7 October 1957 and resulted in the wounding of a Turkish railway worker by a Syrian guard. A joint investigation made at the time by the Turkish and Syrian frontier authorities had established that this incident was caused through the fault of the Syrian guard. The incident was closed after a joint Turkish-Syrian affidavit was signed to this effect.

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I would be grateful to Your Excellency if the preceding information were circulated to the Members of the United Nations.

(Signed) Seyfullah ESIN  
Permanent Representative  
of Turkey to the United Nations