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NOTE VERBALE DATED 29 JANUARY 1979 FROM THE PERMANENT MISSION  
OF ALGERIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT  
OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

The Permanent Mission of the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria to the United Nations presents its compliments to the President of the United Nations Security Council and has the honour to transmit to him herewith a message addressed to him by His Excellency Mr. Abdelaziz Bouteflika, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria.

The Permanent Mission of the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria to the United Nations would be grateful if the President would have this message circulated as a Security Council document.

ANNEX

Letter dated 28 January 1979 from the Minister for Foreign Affairs  
of Algeria addressed to the President of the Security Council

Last month, when Algeria was deeply concerned over the state of President Boumediene's health, I informed you that on 10 December 1978, at 10.30 p.m., a foreign aircraft flying at low altitude above the sea had dropped a large quantity of weapons, ammunition and explosives 1.5 km from the Algerian coast, due south of Cape Sigli, about 150 km east of the capital.

The security services, immediately alerted by the population, had recovered the entire cargo. Inquiry had established the identity of the aircraft beyond all doubt. It was a Moroccan military aircraft of the Hercules C-130 type. The parachute drop had been organized and carried out from Morocco by the services of the General Directorate of Studies and Documentation, headed by Colonel Major Dlimi. Colonel Harchi, assisted by Lieutenant-Colonel Hosni Mostefa and Captain Hassen, had been responsible for carrying out the operation. The Moroccan C-130, with its cargo, had left the base of Kenitra on Sunday, 10 December 1978, at 7.45 p.m., for the meridian of Cape Sigli.

This act of aggression, premeditated and executed by the Moroccan authorities, constituted a grave offence against our country's sovereignty and territorial integrity and a flagrant violation of the United Nations Charter. It posed a serious threat to the security of the region and a danger to international peace.

The Algerian Government, legitimately concerned over this flagrant violation of its territory and this offence against its national sovereignty, strongly denounced this act of aggression and made a most vigorous protest. Today, while Algeria is still in mourning for President Houari Boumediene and while the meetings of the Fourth Congress of the National Liberation Front are being held, I have once again the painful duty of drawing your attention to the responsibility of the Moroccan authorities for the criminal attempts directed against the Algerian population of Maghnia on 26 January 1979.

On 26 January 1979, that is to say, on the eve of the opening of the Fourth Congress of the National Liberation Front, 17 persons were injured at Maghnia by the explosion of an electrically detonated device placed by a Moroccan national acting at the instigation of the Moroccan authorities. On the same day, a suitcase containing explosives, three grenades and a detonator was discovered at the Oran bus station. Lastly, on 28 January 1979, a Moroccan national carrying a bomb equipped with a sophisticated ignition device was arrested at Maghnia by the security services. The man in question confessed that he had been ordered by the Moroccan services to carry out a criminal act.

Algeria once more draws the attention of the international community to the inevitably grave consequences that could arise from a repetition of such acts of provocation and violence, which follow the repeated threats of violation of Algeria's national frontiers regularly uttered by Morocco.

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Moreover, Morocco is continuing, in disregard of international morality and the resolutions of OAU, the United Nations and the non-aligned countries, to oppose by force the Saharan people's legitimate right to self-determination and independence, which was solemnly confirmed quite recently by the United Nations General Assembly. Thus, Morocco, which has not ceased to interfere with the efforts of everyone to establish peace and to find a just and lasting solution of this problem, a solution desired by the peoples of the region and the entire international community, is today engaging in a new adventure, no doubt thinking that the circumstances now being experienced by the Algerian people might enable it to attack with impunity the sovereignty of that people and the achievements of its revolution.

In denouncing today with the greatest vigour the attitude of the Moroccan Government, I appeal to you, Sir, to see to it that our Organization is duly informed of these facts, of the circumstances in which they arose and of their possible dangerous consequences.

Algeria, fully aware of its responsibilities for the freedom of all the peoples of the region, in particular the Saharan people, and of its unbreakable fraternal ties with the Moroccan people, reserves the right to take, with full legitimacy, all appropriate measures to defend its national sovereignty and the security of its citizens.

In any event, I wish to express to you once more my confidence in all the appropriate measures which, without prejudice to the application of the Saharan people's right to self-determination, you will find it necessary to take in order to help safeguard peace and stability in the region.

Algiers, 28 January 1979

(Signed) Abdelaziz BOUTEFLIKA  
Minister for Foreign Affairs of the  
People's Democratic Republic of Algeria