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LETTER DATED 29 NOVEMBER 1976 FROM THE CHARGE D'AFFAIRES, A.I.,
OF THE PERMANENT MISSION OF OMAN TO THE UNITED NATIONS
ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

Upon instructions from my Government, I have the honour to inform you of the following:

On 24 November 1976, an unarmed Iranian Air Force aircraft, while on a training flight over the State of the Sultanate of Oman, was shot down from across the border of the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen.

The aircraft is part of the Iranian contingent which was requested from this neighbouring and friendly State when the aggressive designs of the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen were made manifestly clear to us, through a series of continuous acts of aggression against our territorial integrity and political independence.

Once again, the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen has unhesitatingly violated the accepted norms of international law, the Charter of the United Nations and every concept of truth. Today, the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen appears, without disguise, as a flagrant aggressor.

The Government of the Sultanate of Oman strongly condemns this act of aggression which unfolds the sinister plans of the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen. Through a policy of aggression and intervention, it is threatening peace and security in the area and is evidently trying to undermine the meaningful talks which prevailed throughout the Gulf Foreign Ministers' Conference which took place in the capital of the Sultanate of Oman three days ago.

The Government of the Sultanate of Oman is adamant in maintaining peace and security in the area through the co-operation of friendly and neighbouring States. The aid and support which is being offered by sister States in the area is a practical evidence of such regional co-operation.

The Government of the Sultanate of Oman while fully respecting the principles of international law, national independence and sovereignty and non-interference in the internal affairs of other States, is also aware that any act of aggression automatically brings into play the right of self-defence.

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Accordingly, we reserve the right to take the appropriate action, if and when it is deemed necessary.

I would be grateful if you would kindly have this letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Seif A. SULAIMAN
Chargé d'Affaires, a.i.
