

LETTER FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF GREECE TO THE
UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL
DATED 24 APRIL 1947

Mr. Secretary-General:

Under instructions from my Government, I have the honour, in reference to the letter under date of the 12th instant of the Representative of Albania to you regarding alleged new provocations and violations of Albanian territorial waters by Greek ships, to inform you of the following:

- (a) Not only from 2 April to 4 April 1947, but never have Albanian territorial waters been violated by Greek ships;
- (b) The sole Greek coastal guard craft stationed in the waters of Corfu since February last never violated Albanian territorial waters;
- (c) Standing formal orders for the non-violation of Albanian territorial waters are strictly and meticulously adhered to; whenever the coastal guard craft above-mentioned is moving in the northern waters of Corfu she steers within 200-400 meters from the island's coastline. There has been no other unit of the Royal Greek Navy during the period in question in the above-mentioned area save for the craft mentioned under letter (b);
- (d) With reference to the violations by a Greek tanker and a Greek motorboat on 2, 3 and 4 April 1947, alleged by the Albanian Representative, I am directed to inform you that the Greek Naval Authorities in Corfu do not possess craft of this description nor are there any operated by a private party in the whole area of the Heptanese;

/(e) Greek

(e) Greek naval circles are inclined to believe that the explanation of the alleged provocations and violations of Albanian territorial waters above-mentioned is probably that the troops manning the Albanian coastal posts ignore the new Albanian flag and report movements of their own ships as due to Greek ships;

(f) In the afternoon hours of 2 April 1947, an Albanian coastal guard craft was observed on the course Santi-Quaranta-Tetranissia and back to Santi-Quaranta; further, in the evening hours of 4 April 1947, an Albanian coastal guard craft from Santi-Quaranta steered close to Greek territorial waters and returned to Santi-Quaranta;

(g) Following the accident through mines of 23 October last to two British destroyers, the Straits of Corfu has been classified by the British Naval Authorities in the Mediterranean as a zone prohibited to navigation.

I would be grateful, Mr. Secretary-General, if you would kindly arrange to have the foregoing circulated to the organs to which the letter of the Albanian Representative above-mentioned was communicated.

I avail myself, Mr. Secretary-General, of this opportunity to renew to you the assurances of my highest consideration.

THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF GREECE

(signed) V. DENDRAMIS
Ambassador

His Excellency
Mr. Trygve Lis
Secretary-General, United Nations
Lake Success, New York