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NOTE VERBALE DATED 26 JULY 1974 FROM THE PERMANENT MISSION OF ALGERIA
TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

The Permanent Mission of the Democratic and Popular Republic of Algeria to the United Nations in New York presents its compliments to the Secretary-General of the United Nations and has the honour to request him to circulate, as an official document of the Security Council, the message addressed by Mr. Abdelaziz Bouteflika, Member of the Revolutionary Council and Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Democratic and Popular Republic of Algeria, to Mr. Kurt Waldheim, Secretary-General of the United Nations.

MESSAGE ADDRESSED BY THE MINISTER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF ALGERIA
TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

The aggression of 14 July against the Republic of Cyprus, a founder member of the Non-Aligned Group, constitutes a new threat to peace and security in the eastern Mediterranean, where tensions have constantly increased during the past quarter century. Moreover, it is now established that the Cypriot crisis has its origin in outright interference by a foreign Power. This dual aspect indicates the exceptional gravity of the deterioration of the situation in Cyprus. It calls for prompt and rational action by international institutions, especially the Security Council. What we are confronted with is a civil war having inevitable repercussions on the relations between the two large countries in the area which are directly concerned and whose responsibility should have been limited to a sound interpretation of the agreements of guarantee of 1960.

The Middle East is also a sensitive area, if ever there was one, and, although the affair is complicated, only respect for the independence of Cyprus, the safeguarding of its unity and its territorial integrity, the maintenance of inter-community balance and the application of democratically agreed constitutional principles can prevent in the Mediterranean a new source of tension capable of spreading to the entire international community.

We are sure that the Security Council will discharge its responsibilities by transcending both partisan considerations and strategic calculations so as to place the problem in its true context, namely, the right of peoples to decide their own fate, and the vital need to preserve national peace and security. Our position is certainly in keeping with the concerns of the international community, and in any event with those of all the non-aligned countries.

Abdelaziz BOUTEFLIKA
Member of the Revolutionary Council
Minister for Foreign Affairs of the
Democratic and Popular Republic of
Algeria
