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LETTER DATED 22 NOVEMBER 1970 ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE
SECURITY COUNCIL FROM THE CHARGE D'AFFAIRES OF PORTUGAL

I have the honour of referring to the letter of the Permanent Representative of Guinea to the United Nations published as a document of the Security Council (S/9987, of 22 November 1970), in which Portugal is accused of being involved with certain acts which are allegedly taking place in the Republic of Guinea.

2. Acting on express instructions from my Government, I am authorized to categorically deny the accusations contained therein for it, by no means, corresponds to the actual facts.

3. The matter which the aforementioned letter refers to does not concern Portugal and my country is not willing to get in internal affairs of a neighbouring country which has been following a policy of endossing to us the responsibility for its internal difficulties which we are, by no means, connected to.

4. The Portuguese Government had often had its opportunity of defining the fundamental principles of its policy, from which it has no intention of deviating, namely the scrupulous respect for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of countries bordering Portugal, notwithstanding aggressions committed by those less respectful of the international law that rules relations between States.

5. The Portuguese Government hopes, therefore, that the Security Council will reject as groundless the accusation levelled by the Republic of Guinea trying to ascribe to third parties responsibilities for the troubles occurring on that country.

6. I should appreciate it if Your Excellency would be good enough to have this letter published in the usual manner as a document of the Security Council.

I avail myself of this opportunity to renew to Your Excellency the assurances of my highest consideration.

(Signed) António PATRICIO
Chargé d'Affaires, a.i. of
Portugal to the United Nations