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UNITED NATIONS  
SECURITY  
COUNCIL



Distr.  
GENERAL

S/10052  
22 December 1970

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

LETTER DATED 22 DECEMBER 1970 FROM THE CHARGE D'AFFAIRES A.I. OF PORTUGAL  
TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

I have the honour to transmit the text of a letter addressed to  
Your Excellency by the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Portugal, dated  
21 December 1970:

"Mr. Secretary General,

As already known to Your Excellency, Radio Conakry has initiated  
since some days an intense propaganda alleging supposed preparations  
for an invasion of the Republic of Guinea, from the territory of Portuguese  
Guinea, and listing the same aspects as are referred to in the telegram  
received by you, and circulated as document S/10045 of 19 December 1970.

For this reason, I deem it useful to inform Your Excellency forthwith  
that the Portuguese Government never authorized any preparations to  
be carried on in Portuguese territory for an invasion of the Republic  
of Guinea, and that there do not exist, at the present moment, along the  
Portuguese frontier with that country, any troop concentrations, besides  
the normal elements of defence, unfortunately necessitated by the attacks  
coming from the territory of the Republic of Guinea, of which our  
populations are the victims. It would appear opportune to remind that such  
attacks are launched, uninterruptedly, over the last seven years, whether  
by the Guinean military forces or by other forces which operate with full  
rights of sovereignty in that country. In any event, Your Excellency  
will agree that the Government of the Republic of Guinea must certainly  
be conscious of the position, contrary to law and morals, which it  
assumes in authorizing that its territory be thus utilized as a base for  
attacks against a neighbouring country.

The new accusations of the Republic of Guinea against Portugal do not  
have the least foundation in truth. They are not based on facts, but are  
solely made with the objectives of maintaining the anti-Portuguese  
propaganda, and of inciting the assailants who disturb the security along our  
frontiers. I am therefore bringing the above to your attention, in the  
conviction that your Excellency will use your valuable influence in an

effort to prevail upon the Government of the Republic of Guinea to respect the norms of international law which have traditionally governed relations between sovereign States.

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

sd. Rui Patrício"

I shall appreciate it if you direct that this letter be circulated as an official document, on the usual terms.

I avail myself of this opportunity, etc.

(Signed) António PATRÍCIO  
Chargé d'Affaires, a.i.

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