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LETTER DATED 17 JULY 1970 FROM THE CHARGE D'AFFAIRES a.i. OF SENEGAL TO THE
UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

On instructions from my Government and further to my letter of 9 July 1970 (S/9861) I have the honour to bring the following very serious facts to your attention:

On 14 July 1970 Portuguese artillery based in Guinea (Bissau) again shelled the village of Kolondinto-Niako, causing the total destruction of the village and the death of a fifty-year-old woman and eight-year-old girl. Another fifty-year-old woman and a six-year-old girl were wounded in the shelling.

I should like to avail myself of this opportunity to note that Portugal has not only failed to comply with the provisions of Security Council resolution 273 (1969) of 9 December 1969; it has had the audacity to attack very peaceful villages and then at once to utter gross untruths which I am sure the international community will disdainfully reject as it did on 9 December 1969.

I annex hereto a list of the crimes which Portugal has committed against the territorial integrity of Senegal since December 1969.

Particular note should be taken of the following facts which emerge from this list:

There have been practically continuous violations of Senegalese air space by Portuguese aircraft. For example, jet aircraft violated Senegal's air space on 9 December 1969, 5 January 1970, 2 March 1970, 16 March 1970, 9 April 1970, 26 April 1970, 28 April 1970, 26 May 1970 and 13 June 1970.

Other acts of aggression are being perpetrated daily against peaceful populations of the region. They are carried out by Portuguese troops which raid Senegalese territory, and particularly by the Portuguese artillery at bases in

Guinea (Bissau). Systematic shelling of Senegalese border villages by Portuguese artillery has caused and is still causing considerable damage and many deaths.

On 23 May 1970 at 9 p.m. artillery shells fell in the village of Fessane (Diattacounda Arrondissement, Sédhiou Department). The shelling followed an attack by units of the PAIGC (Partido Africano da Independência da Guinéa e Cabo Verde) on the Cambajou base.

Losses: 1 dead, 6 wounded;
7 huts destroyed by fire;
15 sheep killed;
Extensive material damage.

During the night of 23/24 February 1970 the Maricounda quarter at Salikenie was set on fire by Portuguese troops using grenades. Some unexploded grenades were recovered. The fire started by Portuguese soldiers based at Cambadjou, caused extensive damage.

Losses: 11 huts, provisions and other property destroyed;
3 persons slightly wounded.

On 1 March 1970 Portuguese soldiers attacked the village of Médina-Saré-Diao (Tanaff Arrondissement, Sédhiou Department).

Losses: 1 Senegalese killed;
11 huts set on fire;
considerable amounts of provisions destroyed by fire.

On 15 March 1970 Portuguese troops raided Senegalese territory and carried out a systematic combing operation through the villages of Sacré-Wali (Kolda Department) and Babounda (Niassy Arrondissement, Ziguinchor Department).

Losses: 2 villagers taken as hostages.

On 21 June 1970 Portuguese mercenaries entered the village of Saré-Samba-Diael and set fire - with torches - to a number of huts and granaries. The action was combined with artillery shelling.

Losses: 16 huts and a number of millet granaries destroyed by fire;
3 villagers taken.

The inventory of losses - certainly incomplete - caused by these military actions is as follows:

293 houses destroyed;
considerable amounts of provisions destroyed or taken;
more than 31 persons killed, wounded or taken;
287 animals killed or taken.

Senegal requests the Security Council - and particularly its permanent members - to make representations to the Government of Portugal in order that incidents of this nature do not finally compel my Government to take vigorous action to protect its people, whose only wish is to live in peace.

As we have said many times before, Portugal's shameful acts are seriously endangering peace and security in this part of the world.

We continue to believe that the selfish interests of nations must in no case prevail over the principles laid down in the United Nations Charter.

My Government wishes to issue a solemn warning to the Government of Portugal that actions as grave as those we have just reported should stop at once.

I should be grateful if you would arrange for this letter to be circulated as an official document of the Security Council.

Accept, etc.

(Signed) Moustaphe Blondin BOYE
Chargé d'Affaires a.i.
For the Ambassador

Annex

LIST OF FRONTIER VIOLATIONS AND ATTACKS BY PORTUGUESE FORCES
SINCE DECEMBER 1969

I. Violations of Senegalese air space by Portuguese aircraft

The following overflights of Senegalese territory, on the dates indicated, are listed purely for information and by way of illustration:

On 9 December 1969 the Ziguinchor Department was overflowed a number of times by six jet fighters of the Portuguese air force.

On 5 January 1970 a Portuguese jet aircraft made an overflight along the frontier.

On 2 March 1970 a Portuguese aircraft violated Senegalese air space and overflowed the locality of Salikenie (Kolda Department) and a Senegalese national army post. Five rifle shots were fired at the aircraft, which immediately flew away.

On 16 March 1970 the village of Saré N'Diaye (Kolda Department) was overflowed by two Portuguese Fiat G.91 jet aircraft.

On 9 April 1970 at 3.20 p.m. two Portuguese jet aircraft carried out manoeuvres over the village of Salikenie.

On 26 April 1970 at about 5.30 p.m. a Dornier aircraft penetrated Senegalese air space and overflowed the village of Salikenie. A detachment opened fire on the aircraft which immediately turned back towards Guinean territory.

On 28 April 1970 a reconnaissance aircraft from the Coumbadiou base overflowed the entire Salikenie sector at low altitude.

On 26 May 1970 a G.91 aircraft and a Dornier reconnaissance aircraft flew high over the villages of Salikenie and Saré Kobé.

On 13 June 1970 a group of six G.91 fighters overflowed the Senegalese villages of Saré N'Diaye (5.30 p.m.) and Salikenie (6.05 p.m.).

II. Destructive shelling by Portuguese artillery

On 9 December 1969 the Senegalese villages of Kossi, Kanic and Adjiring were shelled by the Portuguese regular army from the Barou and N'Goré bases.

Losses: A number of houses destroyed by fire;

Inhabitants driven out of the villages into the bush.

On 24 March 1970 at about 11 a.m. three artillery shells exploded in the outskirts of the village of N'Pack (Niaguiss Arrondissement, Ziguinchor Department). This shelling, from the San Domingo naval base, was intended to relieve a Portuguese patrol ambushed by PAIGC forces.

Losses: 1 man slightly wounded.

On 23 May 1970 at 9 p.m. artillery shells fell in the village of Fessane (Diattacounda Arrondissement, Sédhiou Department). The shelling came after an attack by units of the PAIGC on the Cambajou base.

Losses: 1 dead, 6 wounded;
7 huts destroyed by fire;
15 sheep killed;
extensive material damage.

On 25 May 1970 at about 3 a.m. shells fell near the village of Toubacouta (Diattacounda Arrondissement, Sédhiou Department). One crater was found about 200 metres south and another 400 metres south of the village.

On 20 June 1970 the frontier village of Saré Samba Diasel (Kounkané Arrondissement) was shelled by Portuguese artillery from the Portuguese base at Badjicounda. The dangerous situation impelled the inhabitants to leave the village and take refuge in the bush.

III. Raids into Senegalese territory and attacks by Portuguese troops

During the night of 23/24 February 1970 the Maricounda quarter at Salikenie was set on fire by Portuguese troops using grenades. Some unexploded grenades were recovered. The fire, started by Portuguese soldiers based at Cambadjou, caused extensive damage.

Losses: 11 huts, provisions and other property destroyed;
3 persons slightly wounded.

On 25 February 1970 Portuguese mercenaries disguised as fighters entered the Senegalese village of Effock (Kabrousse Arrondissement, Oussouye Department) and provoked incidents with Senegalese nationals.

On 1 March 1970 Portuguese soldiers attacked the village of Médina-Saré-Diao (Tanaff Arrondissement, Sédhiou Department).

Losses: 1 Senegalese killed;

11 huts burned;

considerable amounts of provisions destroyed by fire.

On 15 March 1970 Portuguese troops raided Senegalese territory and carried out a systematic combing operation through the villages of Saré-Wali (Kolda Department) and Babounda (Niassya Arrondissement, Ziguinchor Department).

Losses: 2 villagers taken as hostages.

On 30 May 1970 Portuguese armed forces entered the Senegalese village of Saré-Soubam to kidnap a refugee who had been there for five years. The man - Sambarou Balde - was taken away with his wife and son to Dumbéhem.

On 21 June 1970 Portuguese mercenaries entered the village of Saré-Samba-Diael and set fire with torches to a number of huts and granaries. The action was combined with artillery shelling.

Losses: 16 huts and a number of millet granaries destroyed by fire;

3 villagers taken.

On 24 June 1970 at 11 a.m. Portuguese mercenaries entered the village of Panachar and forcibly took away two refugees in the direction of Badjicounda in Guinea (Bissau).

Losses: Two Guinean nationals taken away.

During the night of 26/27 June, Portuguese mercenaries from the Badjicounda base attempted to attack the Senegalese villages of Payoungou and Sinthiang-Diallo (Kounkané Arrondissement) with grenades. The inhabitants retaliated with rifle fire and forced the mercenaries to withdraw.

On 28 June 1970 at 6 a.m. African troops of the Portuguese regular army entered the village of Djiba (Diattacounda Arrondissement, Sédhiou Department) after firing several shots. They committed large-scale theft in the village.

Losses: 60 head of cattle belonging to Mané Mayo taken away to Portuguese Guinea.

On 29 June 1970 at 4.30 p.m. Portuguese soldiers invaded the village of Panaghan (Kounkané Arrondissement, Vélingara Department).

IV. The incidents of 4 and 5 July 1970

During the night of 4/5 July 1970 two Portuguese aircraft overflew national territory - as commonly occurs - in the Wassadou sector.

On 5 July at about 5 p.m. the operation was repeated. The two aircraft then continued their flight in the Barouma sector.

On 6 July at about 6 a.m. the Senegalese villages of Saré Sory and Saré Nafé were set on fire.

The consequences of these incidents have been most serious:

Village of Saré Sory

92 huts and 30 granaries destroyed by fire;

150 sheep;

10 persons captured and taken as hostages to Guinea (Bissau). Their names are Bakary Balde, Ka Balde, Sadio Balde, Dembol Balde, Diomol Balde, Sakamissa Diallo, Samba Dian Balde, Malick Sane, Hassana Balde and Assette N'Pallo.

Village of Firing

150 huts and 72 granaries destroyed by fire;

59 sheep and one ox taken.

Village of Saré Nafé

6 huts destroyed.

The inhabitants of the three villages have abandoned their homes and taken refuge at Ouassadou and Kaone. They are now homeless and in great distress.

