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LETTER DATED 20 OCTOBER 1966 FROM THE MINISTER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS  
OF YEMEN ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

During the last meeting of the Security Council, held on Friday, 14 October 1966, the representative of Israel took the liberty to refer to my country and Government. He made certain allegations and injected in his speech false rumours which the adversaries of the Arabs, including Israel, have tried to propagate.

The fact, Mr. President, are:

1. As I stated in the general debate on 17 October 1966,

"the relationship between the Yemen Arab Republic and the United Arab Republic is based on common heritage, namely, language, religion, origin, customs and traditions, as well as unity of principles, unity of objectives and unity of destiny. The Yemeni people work with full force to achieve complete unity with the United Arab Republic as a first step towards a total Arab unity which is cherished by the millions in the Arab world. Within this framework, the co-operation existing between the Yemen Arab Republic and the United Arab Republic is co-operation between one people. The revolutionary people of Yemen will never forget the sacrifices of the people of the United Arab Republic for the Yemen revolutionary gains."

2. In asking for military support from the United Arab Republic, we are doing so according to already existing treaties and agreements between the two sister Arab countries. Besides, the United Arab Republic is training the armed forces of Yemen so that they will be able to defend themselves against intervention and aggression. In many occasions, numerous violations of Yemen air space have been reported to the Security Council and to the Secretary-General. It was not long ago when the Security Council condemned the British air raids against the Yemen Arab Republic.

3. We strongly believe that Israel co-operated with colonialists in several attempts for intervention against the Yemen Arab Republic.

4. I would like to emphasize the fact that the armed forces of the United Arab Republic, which are in our country as a result of our own request, are helping the Yemeni people to defend themselves and the integrity of their country against foreign intervention and aggression. All the Arabs are duty bound to repel aggression against the Arab homeland, be it anywhere in the Arab world. Syria, likewise, is not alone in defending herself against any foreign aggression, and can depend always on Arab assistance.

I will be grateful, Your Excellency, if you will have this letter circulated as a Security Council document.

Please accept, etc.

(Signed) Mohamed A. SALLAM  
Foreign Minister

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