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LETTER DATED 29 NOVEMBER 1965 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE
OF YEMEN ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

In his letter of 10 November 1965 (S/6887) the Permanent Representative of the United Kingdom deemed it fit to deny the acts of aggression committed by the British military forces stationed in the Occupied South Yemen against the Yemen Arab Republic and which were the subject of my letter of 1 October 1965 (S/6753). However, I should like to assure Your Excellency and the Security Council, and reiterate the fact, that those acts of aggression mentioned in my previous letter were committed against my country by the British forces stationed in the Occupied South Yemen, and any denying statement from the part of the British Permanent Representative can neither change nor hide the truth of his country's aggression against mine.

It is also a fact well known in the United Nations, as well as in Yemen and Britain, that the British forces of aggression in the Occupied South Yemen are being harassed by the Freedom Fighters who resist the British occupation in the South, and that the die-hard, imperialistic-minded authorities in Aden are seeking victory over the National Liberation Movement in the south by hitting the north.

The British denied their violations of Yemeni air space and their organized attacks which took place on 4, 5, 9, 12, 20 and 28 August 1965. Moreover, the British authorities alleged that Yemeni military forces started firing on 26 September 1965 and that the British forces only returned firing in "self-defence". The fact, however, is that on 26 September the British waged unwarranted attacks against the peaceful Yemeni people in Albaidha for more than two hours, causing the destruction of twelve houses, the loss of which is estimated to amount to 5,000.00 ryals, and the burning of farms, the damage to which is estimated to amount to 1,000.00 ryals. Nevertheless, the British letter referred to these costly incidents as "unintended" destruction. Attempting to disclaim any guilt for the violation of our air space at Al Homiqan on the night of 27 August, the

British alleged that any activity in the area was due to "fighting between Yemeni factions". When one realizes that no Yemeni faction has access to planes, such an obviously fallacious charge only discredits further the baseless position of the British. Sir, the British denial and their distortions of the facts serve in no way the peace of the region. On the contrary, they confirm the British determination to continue their acts of aggression against the Yemeni people. In fact, the British forces committed fourteen new acts of aggression and violations to Yemeni space within the last two months.

On 20 October 1965 at 9.30 p.m. local time, British forces opened heavy machine-guns and mortars against the Qataba region. At 2.30 after midnight on the following day, 21 October, the British authorities reopened the fire again, and on 22 October 1965 the British opened fire against Jabal Assalama and Jabal Schdah and attacked military posts in Qataba.

On 24 October 1965 at 5.00 p.m. local time, two British Hawker Hunter planes violated the space of Qataba and Morais in a provocative manner.

On 5 November 1965 at 2.00 p.m. a British plane violated the Yemeni air space over Qataba and flew over Jerbat Elmerfrazeh and over Jabal Moraed in El Mandeb region at a very low altitude.

On 7 November 1965 at 2.00 p.m. a British plane flew over Jerbat Elmerfrazeh and Jabal Moraed in El Mandeb region for reconnaissance purposes. On 13 November 1965 a British military plane flew over the same region at a very low altitude.

On 15 November 1965 at 8.20 p.m. local time, the British forces opened their heavy machine-guns and mortars against the military posts and civilians in Qataba, and on the following day, 16 November 1965, the same was repeated against Qataba at 8.15 p.m.

On 19 November 1965 at 10.00 p.m., the British forces in Mokairas opened their heavy machine-guns and mortars against Albaidha for three hours and at 1.00 p.m. of 23 November 1965 a British plane violated El Mandeb space for ten minutes.

On 20 November 1965 at 7.00 p.m., two British Hawker Hunter aircraft violated the Qataba space.

On 21 November 1965 at 7.40 p.m. local time, four British aircraft violated the air space of Albaidha region and remained in the air space of Qataba for forty minutes, during which time the British artillery opened fire on the town of Qataba.

The irresponsible continuation of the acts of aggression against my country seem to reveal further the intention of the British authorities to plant fear and

terror in the region and to prevent the people from achieving any progress or development in their country. In addition, the explosive situation resulting from these provocative acts of aggression endangers the peace and security in the whole region and may lead to regrettable consequences, the responsibility for which lies squarely on the shoulders of the British authorities.

I am duty bound to assure Your Excellency and the Security Council that my country is being exposed and subjected to continuous acts of aggression and provocation from the part of the British forces day in and day out. We have reason to believe that the imperialistic British authorities take these aggressive actions in retaliation to the popular revolutionary movement in the south which the United Kingdom has failed to suppress. These British acts of aggression and provocation constitute an imminent danger to the sovereignty of an independent Member State of the United Nations and could lead to very serious consequences. These acts testify also to the British insistence to continue their imperialist policy in the south, disregarding the United Nations and its resolutions. This policy would undoubtedly increase the tension in the area, escalate violence, and endanger the peace and security in the region. My country protests in the most vehement terms against these imperialistic policies and aggressive acts of the United Kingdom, draws the attention of the Security Council to this explosive and dangerous situation, and reserves to itself the legitimate and inalienable right of self-defence should the situation deteriorate or persist.

I shall be grateful, Sir, if this letter appears as an official document of the Security Council.

Please accept, etc.

(Signed) Mchsin ALAINI
Permanent Representative

