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LETTER DATED 27 NOVEMBER 1958 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF SAUDI ARABIA
ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

Upon instructions of my Government, I have the honour to submit for the consideration of the members of the Security Council, the following information on the violation of Saudi Arabian territorial integrity by an armed aggression, planned, organized and effected by the United Kingdom of Great Britain.

Early in November 1958, detachments of several hundred of the United Kingdom colonial forces, operating from the Sheikdom of Abu Dhabi, led by British military officers, occupied the area of Khor al-Udaid, a Saudi Arabian territory lying south of the Persian Gulf.

The Saudi Arabian Government, in conformity with its obligation under the United Nations Charter to resolve international disputes by peaceful means, and in order to maintain its policy of arriving at a peaceful solution with the United Kingdom has protested against this aggression and as a first step, warned the United Kingdom Government, through the good offices of the Pakistani Embassy in London, to withdraw its military occupation of the Saudi territory of Khor al-Udaid.

As of this date, the Saudi Arabian Government's protest was not answered by the Government of the United Kingdom, nor were the armed forces withdrawn. It becomes necessary, therefore, that the United Nations Security Council be notified of this British armed aggression on Saudi Arabian territorial integrity, which constitutes a violation of the letter and spirit of the United Nations Charter. Furthermore, the Saudi Arabian Government maintains that this military aggression on the part of the United Kingdom, apart from its being a flagrant violation of the Charter, is also a breach of the United Kingdom's bi-lateral commitment with Saudi Arabia to refrain from changing the status quo regarding the disputed territories in the fringes of the Arabian Peninsula. It should be

stated that the United Kingdom is under international contractual obligation to refrain from military intervention in those areas by virtue of the "Standstill" agreement and the Arbitration Agreement between Saudi Arabia and the United Kingdom.

The Saudi Arabian Government concludes that the United Kingdom's armed aggression in Khor al-Udaid was designed to incite Saudi Arabia into an armed conflict in that area, with a view to disturbing the peace in the region and foster British colonialism in the Arabian Peninsula. In view of the obligation imposed on the membership of the United Nations to maintain peace and order in the conduct of their international relations, the Saudi Arabian Government felt itself committed to draw the attention of the Security Council of the United Nations to this serious situation.

The military aggression by the British colonial forces in Khor al-Udaid is attended with several preparatory arrangements of a military nature calculated to expand militarily British colonial policy within and around Saudi Arabian territory.

The Saudi Arabian Government, despite its declared policy to seek peaceful solutions to any international dispute, will not hesitate to take all the necessary measures provided for in the Charter to protect and preserve its territorial integrity vis-a-vis British colonialism in that area. It has already demanded of the Government of the United Kingdom to withdraw its armed colonial forces from Khor al-Udaid; and the United Nations Security Council is hereby requested to take note of Saudi Arabia's determination to take all measures of self-defence against this aggression. The Government of the United Kingdom, by virtue of its commitment under the Charter, is under clear obligation to notify the Security Council of the immediate withdrawal of its armed colonial forces from Saudi Arabian territory.

The Security Council, as the United Nations organ primarily responsible for the maintenance of international peace and stability should no doubt be concerned with this British colonial, militant expansion in the Arabian Peninsula; which, in addition to its violation of the territorial integrity of a member state of the

United Nations, constitutes a serious disturbance of peace and security in the entire region. Committed by a permanent member of the Security Council, this armed aggression of the United Kingdom should call for the grave concern of the members of the Council.

The Saudi Arabian Government, in notifying the Security Council of this matter reserves, nevertheless, for itself the right to undertake all the necessary national, regional and international measures to safeguard its territorial integrity against this British colonial aggression.

It is the desire of the Saudi Arabian Government to have this note circulated to member states of the Security Council.

Please accept, etc.

(Signed) Ahmad Shukairy
Minister for United Nations Affairs
Permanent Representative of Saudi Arabia
to the United Nations