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LETTER DATED 5 JUNE 1957 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF SAUDI ARABIA
ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour, upon the instruction of my Government, to inform the Security Council of the United Nations and its Member States of the following developments in the series of provocative and aggressive acts by the Israeli military authorities against the territorial integrity of Saudi Arabia, which became recently the subject of repeated correspondence between the Saudi Arabian Mission and the United Nations Organization.

1. At 2.00 p.m. (Saudi local time) of Monday, 27 May 1957, an Israeli destroyer emerging from the port of Elath in a southerly direction, cruised within the Saudi Arabian territorial waters. The same destroyer bombarded with light and heavy fire the coastal position near Taba. Two other Israeli destroyers, the same day, undertook similar aggressive acts in that locale. It should be pointed out that the locations of such aggressive acts engulf the traditional land and sea routes of Moslem Pilgrimage, intending to perform their annual religious duties in the Holy Places in Saudi Arabia.
2. During the night of 28 May, an Israeli destroyer coming from a northerly direction violated the Saudi Arabian territorial waters in the vicinity of Maqna on the Saudi coast of the Gulf of Aqaba. The destroyer returned back in a northerly direction towards Elath.
3. At 1.00 a.m. (Saudi local time) of the night of Tuesday, 28 May, two Israeli destroyers cruising from Elath opened light and heavy fire on the Al-Tur area. The bombardment lasted over an hour.
4. Just after sunset (2:30 p.m. local Saudi time) Wednesday, 29 May, an Israeli destroyer with three motor boats violated the Saudi Arabian territorial waters in the Aqaba Gulf, subjecting Saudi Coastal positions to powerful search lights. The same Israeli naval units opened light and heavy fire on the coastal area adjoining Al-Tur. The violation of Saudi Arabia's territorial waters by these Israeli units was repeated during the day time.

5. On the night (5:30 p.m. Saudi local time) of Saturday, 1 June, an Israeli destroyer accompanied by two naval motor boats again violated the Saudi Arabian territorial waters, laying anchor opposite the Saudi position in the Gulf of Aqaba at a distance of less than two miles. These naval units continued for a considerable time to patrol the Gulf waters in violation of Saudi Arabia's territorial waters.

The Saudi Arabian Government, while registering with the United Nations and its Security Council, these repeated flagrant violations and provocations, reiterates its right to undertake the necessary measures to safeguard its rights and interests.

It is the desire of the Saudi Arabian Government to have this memorandum circulated to Member States of the United Nations.

(Signed)

Abdullah Al-Khayyal

Permanent Representative of
Saudi Arabia to the United Nations

