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LETTER DATED 8 SEPTEMBER 1954 FROM THE  
REPRESENTATIVE OF THE UNITED STATES OF  
AMERICA ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF  
THE SECURITY COUNCIL

A United States Navy P2V aircraft, on a peaceful mission over high seas, was attacked without warning by two MIG type aircraft with Soviet markings at 1818 hours on September 4 (local time). This attack took place over international high seas. As a result of this unwarranted and hostile attack, the United States Navy aircraft was destroyed. To this hour all survivors have not been recovered.

The United States Government has directed a protest to the Soviet Government against this unprovoked attack and requested that measures be taken not only to subject those responsible to immediate and appropriate punishment but also to prevent recurrence of such wanton attacks. The United States has reserved all rights to claim damages for loss of property and life and for other circumstances.

The United States believes that this incident is of a type which might endanger the maintenance of international peace and security, and desires to bring this matter to the attention of the Security Council. Consequently, I am instructed by my government to request you, Mr. President, in confirmation of my telephone request, to call an early meeting of the Council to consider this matter.

Accept, Excellency, the renewed assurances of my highest consideration.

Henry Cabot Lodge, Jr.