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LETTER DATED 10 JULY 1959 FROM THE REPRESENTATIVES OF AFGHANISTAN, BURMA, CEYLON, FEDERATION OF MALAYA, GHANA, GUINEA, INDONESIA, IRAN, IRAQ, JORDAN, LEBANON, LIBERIA, LIBYA, MOROCCO, NEPAL, PAKISTAN, SAUDI ARABIA, SUDAN, TUNISIA, UNITED ARAB REPUBLIC AND YEMEN ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

We, the representatives of Afghanistan, Burma, Ceylon, Federation of Malaya, Ghana, Guinea, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Liberia, Libya, Morocco, Nepal, Pakistan, Saudi Arabia, Sudan, Tunisia, United Arab Republic, Yemen, have the honour, upon instructions from our respective Governments, to bring to your attention, under Article 35, paragraph 1 of the Charter of the United Nations, the grave situation in Algeria as set out in the enclosed memorandum, which has become of such a nature as to endanger the maintenance of international peace and security.

We beg to request Your Excellency to circulate this letter among the members of the Security Council.

The Permanent Representatives to the United Nations of:

Afghanistan	A.R. Pazhwak	Liberia	Charles T.O. King
Burma	U Thant	Libya	Fekini
Ceylon	C. Corea	Morocco	El Mehdi Ben Aboud
Federation of Malaya	N.A. Kamil	Nepal	Rishikesh Shaha
Ghana	F.S. Arkhurst (Chargé d'Affaires)	Pakistan	Agha Shahi
Guinea	D. Telli	Saudi Arabia	Zein Dabbagh
Indonesia	Ali Sastroamidjojo	Sudan	Abdel Karim Mirghani
Iran	Dr. F. Adamiyat	Tunisia	Mahmoud Mestiri
Iraq	Adnan Pachachi	United Arab Republic	Omar Loutfi
Jordan	A. Rifa'i	Yemen	Kamil A. Rahim
Lebanon	Georges Hakim		

MEMORANDUM

It may be recalled that the Algerian question was initially brought to the attention of the Security Council on the fifth of January 1955 by the Government of Saudi Arabia (S/3341), and later on by a letter dated 16 April 1956 submitted by seventeen Asian and African Member States (S/3589).

Subsequently, in a letter dated 13 June 1956, thirteen Asian and African Member States requested, under Article 35, paragraph 1 of the Charter of the United Nations, that a meeting of the Security Council be held to examine "the grave situation in Algeria". (S/3609)

This step was followed by the inscription of "The Question of Algeria", upon requests from several Asian and African Member States, on the agenda of the eleventh, twelfth and thirteenth regular sessions of the General Assembly.

The memoranda attached to these requests emphasized, in particular, the legitimate demands of the Algerian people and the declaration of the Bandung Conference concerning Algeria. They also draw attention to the continued refusal of the French Government to enter into negotiations with the representatives of the Algerian people.

French official reports from Algeria have put the casualties at 4,000 a month. Testimony of leading French personalities and particularly of Church authorities reveals the continued excesses by the French Army including torture. The French forces continue to disregard the Geneva Conventions relating to the treatment of prisoners during armed conflicts.

Moreover, the latest reports from French sources concerning the forcible displacement of about 1,000,000 persons, compel us to call the attention of the Security Council to the fate of those Algerians whose physical condition is such that, according to these reports, there are cases where "medication no longer can help".

Furthermore, in connexion with the military operations in Algeria, the Security Council must be aware of the grave consequences of this policy to international peace and security. In this respect, the Security Council was seized of the complaint of the Tunisian Government following the bombing of the Tunisian village of Sakiet-Sidi-Yousef by French planes on 8 February 1958.

In our opinion, therefore, the United Nations cannot remain indifferent to the situation in Algeria which is a threat to international peace and security, involves the infringement on the basic right of self-determination, and constitutes a flagrant violation of other fundamental Human Rights.

