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LETTER DATED 7 AUGUST 1961 FROM THE REPRESENTATIVE OF TUNISIA
ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to bring to your attention the fresh acts of aggression which the French armed occupation forces are continuing to commit against my country.

Attached hereto is a table of the violations of our air space and of Tunisian territorial waters committed by the French Army in the course of 2, 3 and 4 August 1961.

Furthermore, the French Army, intensifying its occupation of the town of Bizerta and its persecution of Tunisian citizens, has reinforced the barbed wire entanglements so as to encircle the old town of Bizerta (the Medina) and the area from "La Pêcherie" to "Sidi Ahmed", which has thus fallen wholly into the hands of the French parachutists.

All this has made it extremely difficult for Tunisian citizens to move about freely within their own city, a part of our own national territory. In the course of their "checking" operations, the parachutists are committing repeated acts of intolerable extortion.

Lastly, French sailors forced the crews of four Italian trawlers, which owing to bad weather had sought shelter in the outer harbour of Bizerta, to haul down the Tunisian flag, which they were flying in accordance with international law, alleging that they were "in a French port". The four Italian trawlers in question are the "Nicolas Andrea", the "Pascale Pache", the "Enrico Padre" and the "Risorgimento".

I desire once again to convey to you the indignation of my Government at the disgraceful behaviour of the French armed forces which, thanks to the use of aggression, are occupying part of the territory of a sovereign State, a Member of the United Nations.

I should be glad if you would circulate this document, which is for the information of the members of the Security Council, as a United Nations document.

I have the honour, etc.

(Signed) Mongi Slim
Representative of Tunisia
in the Security Council

61-19581

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VIOLATIONS OF AIR SPACE
(2 August 1961)

GOVERNORATE	NUMBER OF AIRCRAFT	OBSERVATIONS
TUNIS AND SUBURBS	2	(Low-flying fighter aircraft, Tunis-Bizerta road)
BEJA	4	
SOUK EL ARBA	2	
LE KEF	3	
GAFSA	1	
KAIROUAN	1	
SOUSSE	1	
CAPE BON	4	

(3 August 1961)

GOVERNORATE	NUMBER OF AIRCRAFT	OBSERVATIONS
BIZERTA	Several	(B-26, reconnaissance aircraft, bombers)
SOUK EL ARBA	15	(Mostly B-26, medium and low altitude, bombs and rockets dropped causing fires in the Sriraegle area)
TUNIS AND SUBURBS	5	
BEJA	4	
KASSERINE	1	
GAFSA	1	

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(3 August 1961) (continued)

GOVERNORATE	NUMBER OF AIRCRAFT	OBSERVATIONS
LE KEF	3	
KASSERINE	3	(Very low altitude)
GABES	23	
SFAX	2	
CAPE BON	2	

VIOLATIONS OF AIR SPACE BY B-26 AND OTHER AIRCRAFT
 (4 August 1961)

GOVERNORATE	NUMBER OF AIRCRAFT
BIZERTA	Several
SOUK EL ARBA	6
LE KEF	5
KASSERINE	1
BEJA	9
GABES	5
SFAX	13
SOUSSE	2

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MOVEMENTS OF FRENCH WARSHIPS
(3 and 4 August 1961)

Place	Number and type
TABARKA	3 fleet escort vessels
BAY OF BIZERTA	7 fleet escort vessels, one of which ordered a merchant vessel bound for Bizerta to alter course, and one (1) minesweeper
LAKE OF BIZERTA	1 fleet escort vessel (manoeuvring)
SOUSSE	2 fleet escort vessels
GABES	4 fleet escort vessels
SFAX	3 fleet escort vessels
BAY OF BIZERTA	6.15 a.m.: supply vessel (proceeding towards Bizerta)
BAY OF BIZERTA	6.30 a.m.: supply vessel (proceeding towards Bizerta) loaded with military supplies
BAY OF BIZERTA	8 a.m.: TUG (left Bizerta to moor naval floating targets)
GULF OF GABES	10 p.m.: FLEET ESCORT VESSEL (patrols, coastal probes - Elbibene)

