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LETTER DATED 8 DECEMBER 1961 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE
OF PORTUGAL ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

Under instructions of my Government, I have the honour to communicate to
Your Excellency the following:

As this Mission informed the Security Council in due time, the Government of
the Indian Union declared that it did not exclude the use of the Indian army to
annex the Portuguese territory of Goa. Information reaching the Portuguese
Government in the last few days confirms that directive. In fact, important
movements of Indian naval units have been observed near the territorial waters of
Goa. The plan of attack would comprise the use of five frigates, the cruiser
"Mysore" and the aircraft carrier "Vikrant". The same plan would also include
bombing by air and in this connexion the Indian Defence Minister declared in
New Delhi on 7th inst., in a speech made in the Parliament, that the Indian Air
Force had been alerted in view of developments in Goa and five air squadrons have
been concentrated for the purpose.

The Portuguese Government is also in possession of information to the effect
that big movements of military forces are under way. Trains have been
requisitioned for the transport of troops to the frontier, where big formations of
armoured regiments have been concentrated in a total of over 30,000 men.

On the other hand, at 8.15 (local time) of 7th inst., an Indian Plane of troop-
carrier type, bearing the marking "773" violated the air space over Damão, having
flown at low altitude. On the same day at 9.40 (local time) a four-engined plane
displaying the Indian flag and bearing the marking "S D 4" violated the air
space over Dia, having flown over the respective aerodrome at an altitude of about
100 metres. Also, on the same day, an Indian military plane circled over the
Portuguese merchant ship "Lurio" which was carrying passengers and goods from Diu
to Goa. Again, on the same day, machine-gun fire was opened from the Indian
territory on the Portuguese village of Fquirpató.

In another sector, the Indian radio, press and other media have launched a violent campaign of false charges against Goa and against the Portuguese Government. The most seriously defamatory statements have been made in respect of the situation in the Portuguese territory and the conduct of the Portuguese authorities. Apparently, basing himself on these false charges, the Indian Prime Minister declared on the 7th inst. in New Delhi, that he had decided to reinforce the Indian military potential near and around Goa and that his decision was being carried out.

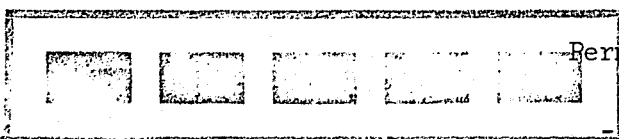
While taking the above-mentioned facts to the knowledge of the members of the Security Council, the Portuguese Government desires to stress the following points:

1. There have been violations of Portuguese territory with violent and aggressive acts;
2. The internal situation throughout the territory of Goa is perfectly calm and normal, the Indian accusations being completely baseless;
3. Such accusations are designed, in accordance with the well-known technique, only to arouse an emotional climate calculated to justify a premeditated aggression;
4. The Portuguese authorities have not replied to the provocations, in order to avoid incidents and so that their peaceful intentions may be quite clear and also so that the exclusive responsibility for the incidents may be well defined.
5. The concentrations of military forces, naval, land and air, can only find an explanation in the Indian objective of violent conquest of a foreign territory by force of arms.

In these circumstances and for such purposes as the Council may deem appropriate, the Portuguese Government wishes to inform the Security Council of the foregoing and that it considers that it is being made a victim of unprovoked aggression on the part of the Indian Union and that, in accordance with the general principles and the unequivocal letter and spirit of the Charter of the United Nations, such aggression constitutes a grave threat to peace and security.

Under instructions of my Government, I request Your Excellency to be good enough to have this communication circulated immediately among all members of the Security Council.

Please accept, etc.



(Signed) VASCO VIEIRA GARIN
Permanent Representative of Portugal
to the United Nations