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QUESTION CONSIDERED BY THE SECURITY COUNCIL AT ITS 749TH AND
750TH MEETINGS HELD ON 30 OCTOBER 1956

Letter dated 3 November 1956 from the Permanent Representative of Syria
to the United Nations, addressed to the President of the first emergency
special session of the General Assembly

New York, 3 November 1956

I have the honour, on the basis of official information received from my Government, to communicate to you the following:

The letter dated 3 November 1956 from the Israeli Permanent Representative addressed to the President of the first emergency special session of the General Assembly, and contained in document A/3277, is a clear distortion of the facts, for the following reasons:

1. The Government of Syria did not declare its purpose to initiate hostilities against Israel on the basis of its military alliance with Egypt.

The Government of Syria declared that it is bound by the Joint Defense Treaty, concluded between Egypt, Saudi Arabia and Syria, and duly registered with the United Nations, to fulfil its obligations arising of the above-mentioned treaty, regarding the implementation of the guarantee of mutual assistance in case of an armed attack directed against anyone of the afore-said countries.

2. The official information available so far, does not indicate that Syrian troops entered Jordan. Such movements however would be amply justified by the reliable information already received that Israel is planning an armed aggression against Jordan.

3. The Joint Defense Treaty between Syria, Egypt and Saudi Arabia, is not an aggressive military pact aimed at Israel's destruction, but a defense treaty compatible with the provisions of Article 51 of the Charter, and providing for mutual assistance in case of aggression, of the nature of the latest Israeli aggression, directed against anyone of the three aforementioned countries.

4. The expression of Israeli deep concern for the cause of peace is hard to understand in the light of the Israeli armed aggression launched against Egypt, in flagrant violation of the Charter of the United Nations and the Armistice Convention.

5. The distortion of facts in the letter reproduced in document A/3277 may be aimed, according to our past and recent experience, at paving the way for a new Israeli armed aggression on Jordan.

I have the honour to request that this letter be circulated to all the Members of the United Nations.

(Signed)

Rafik ASHA
Permanent Representative
of Syria to the
United Nations