

**Security Council**Distr.
GENERALS/21574
21 August 1990

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

NOTE VERBALE DATED 19 AUGUST 1990 FROM THE CHARGE D'AFFAIRES A.I.
OF THE PERMANENT MISSION OF THE SUDAN TO THE UNITED NATIONS
ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

The Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of the Sudan presents his compliments to the President of the Security Council and, on instructions from the Government of the Sudan, has the honour to notify the President of the following:

1. On Saturday 18 August 1990 at noon time and at the vicinity of Agaba strait and on latitude 38/27 and longitude 34/35 a Sudanese commercial liner (Dongola) has been confronted by American military ships currently operating in the Arab Gulf waters and the Red Sea. The said liner belongs to Sudan Shipping Lines and is thus the property of the Sudan Government. It also flies Sudanese flag. This liner which originated from Port Sudan and destined to the Jordanian port of Agaba has been ordered by the American naval forces to return to its point of origination. The mission of the liner was to ferry to Port Sudan around 500 Sudanese families who arrived from Kuwait on their way back to the Sudan. The Sudanese authorities on receipt of above information have immediately ordered the captain of the liner (Dongola) to anchor at mid sea south of the position of confrontation pending further instructions.
2. The liner is still at mid sea with 28 crew on board and very limited capacity of food, water and other necessities.
3. Sudan Government categorically refuses the practice of forced inspection in general, and in particular at high seas which infringes with the established principles of International Law and the freedom of navigation in the high seas, and therefore considers the action of the U.S.A. naval forces unjustified and contrary to the Charter of the United Nations as well as a deviation from the operative provisions of Article 51 of the Charter.
4. The Security Council is requested to give an explicit interpretation of the Security Council resolution 661 and whether it delegates powers to any country to impose a naval blockade on ships of other countries travelling to countries not involved in the conflict.

5. The Security Council is also requested to inform whether the blockade imposed on Iraq also applies to member states who enjoy mutual interest with that country or with other countries not located in the area of confrontation.

6. The Security Council is further requested to inform whether the blockade on Iraq also applies to Jordan.

The Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Sudan would be grateful if the President of the Security Council would have this note verbale circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Salah M. ALI
Ambassador
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

