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Syria

1957



UNITED NATIONS
GENERAL
ASSEMBLY



Distr.
GENERAL

A/3739
15 November 1957

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Twelfth session
Agenda item 69

COMPLAINTS ABOUT THREATS TO THE SECURITY OF SYRIA
AND TO INTERNATIONAL PEACE

Letter dated 13 November 1957 addressed to the Secretary-General from
the Permanent Representative of Turkey to the United Nations

New York, 13 November 1957

With reference to a letter dated 6 November 1957, addressed to Your Excellency and circulated in the form of a press release by the Permanent Mission of Syria to the United Nations, I have the honour to inform you of the following:

The Syrian Mission to the United Nations had claimed, in the above-mentioned letter, that unidentified aircraft had flown over the Syrian town of Latakia on 4 November and that Turkish soldiers had made incursions into Syrian territory. The letter did not include any specific information such as dates, names of localities or other facts concerning these alleged incursions which were termed by the Syrian Mission as "provocative acts".

I have the honour to inform Your Excellency that a thorough investigation made by the Turkish authorities on the charges mentioned in the letter of the Syrian Mission has revealed that no Turkish aircraft have flown over any part of the Syrian air space and that the allegations on frontier incidents or incursions by Turkish soldiers into Syrian territory are completely false.

The only recent frontier incident reported by Turkish frontier authorities occurred on 7 October 1957 and resulted in the wounding of a Turkish railway worker by a Syrian guard. A joint investigation made at the time by the Turkish and Syrian frontier authorities had established that this incident was caused through the fault of the Syrian guard. The incident was closed after a joint Turkish-Syrian affidavit was signed to this effect.

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I would be grateful to Your Excellency if the preceding information were circulated to the Members of the United Nations.

(Signed) Seyfullah ESIN
Permanent Representative
of Turkey to the United Nations

UNITED NATIONS
GENERAL
ASSEMBLY



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A/3724
6 November 1957
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: FRENCH

Twelfth session
Agenda item 69

COMPLAINTS ABOUT THREATS TO THE SECURITY OF SYRIA
AND TO INTERNATIONAL PEACE

Letter dated 6 November 1957 to the Secretary-General
from the Acting Chargé d'Affaires of the Permanent
Mission of Syria to the United Nations

New York, 6 November 1957

On the instructions of my Government and with reference to the Syrian complaint which is still on the agenda of the United Nations General Assembly, I have the honour to bring the following to your attention:

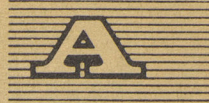
On Monday, 4 November 1957, at 10 a.m. (Syrian time), five aircraft violated Syria's air space by flying over the town of Latakia. The said aircraft, which could not be identified, departed in a westerly direction.

On the same day, at 4.30 p.m. (Syrian time), three aircraft again flew over Latakia and subsequently flew west.

Furthermore, there has been a recurrence of acts of provocation by Turks along the northern frontier of Syria. These provocations include raids by Turkish soldiers into Syrian territory and the abduction of Syrian civilians by Turkish authorities.

I should be grateful if you would take the necessary steps to have the above facts communicated without delay to all Member States of the United Nations.

(Signed) Jawdat MUFTI
Permanent Mission of Syria
to the United Nations



UNITED NATIONS

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6 November 1957
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: FRENCH

Twelfth session
Agenda item 69

COMPLAINTS ABOUT THREATS TO THE SECURITY OF SYRIA
AND TO INTERNATIONAL PEACE

Letter dated 6 November 1957 to the Secretary-General
from the Acting Chargé d'Affaires of the Permanent
Mission of Syria to the United Nations

New York, 6 November 1957

On the instructions of my Government and with reference to the Syrian complaint which is still on the agenda of the United Nations General Assembly, I have the honour to bring the following to your attention:

On Monday, 4 November 1957, at 10 a.m. (Syrian time), five aircraft violated Syria's air space by flying over the town of Latakia. The said aircraft, which could not be identified, departed in a westerly direction.

On the same day, at 4.30 p.m. (Syrian time), three aircraft again flew over Latakia and subsequently flew west.

Furthermore, there has been a recurrence of acts of provocation by Turks along the northern frontier of Syria. These provocations include raids by Turkish soldiers into Syrian territory and the abduction of Syrian civilians by Turkish authorities.

I should be grateful if you would take the necessary steps to have the above facts communicated without delay to all Member States of the United Nations.

(Signed) Jawdat MUFTI
Permanent Mission of Syria
to the United Nations

57-30828

NATIONS UNIES
ASSEMBLEE
GENERALE



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A/3724
6 novembre 1957
ORIGINAL : FRANCAIS

Douzième session
Point 69 de l'ordre du jour

PLAINTÉ CONCERNANT DES MENACES A LA SECURITE DE LA SYRIE
ET A LA PAIX INTERNATIONALE

Lettre en date du 6 novembre 1957 adressée au Secrétaire général
par le Chargé d'Affaires a.i. de la Mission permanente de la Syrie
auprès des Nations Unies

New-York, le 6 novembre 1957

D'ordre de mon gouvernement et en référence à la plainte syrienne qui est maintenue à l'ordre du jour de l'Assemblée générale de l'Organisation des Nations Unies, j'ai l'honneur de porter à votre connaissance ce qui suit :

Le lundi 4 novembre 1957, à 10 heures a.m. (heure syrienne), cinq avions ont violé l'espace aérien syrien, en survolant la ville de Lattaquieh. Ces avions qui n'ont pu être identifiés ont rebroussé chemin en direction de l'ouest.

Le même jour, à 16 heures 30 (heure syrienne), trois avions ont survolé de nouveau Lattaquieh et se sont dirigés ensuite vers l'ouest.

En outre, une recrudescence des actes provocateurs turcs, le long de la frontière syrienne du nord, a été notée. Ces provocations comprennent, entre autre, des incursions de soldats turcs en territoire syrien et des enlèvements, par les autorités turques, de civils syriens.

Je vous prie de vouloir bien prendre les mesures nécessaires pour que les faits ci-dessus relatés soient communiqués d'urgence à tous les Etats Membres de l'Organisation.

(Signé) Dr. Jawda MUFTI

Mission permanente de la Syrie
auprès des Nations Unies



PERMANENT MISSION OF SYRIA
TO THE UNITED NATIONS

515 Park Avenue

6 Novembre 1957

Monsieur le Secrétaire Général,

D'ordre de mon Gouvernement et en référence à la plainte syrienne qui est maintenue à l'ordre du jour de l'Assemblée Générale de l'Organisation des Nations Unies, j'ai l'honneur de porter à Votre connaissance ce qui suit:

Le lundi 4 Novembre 1957, à 10 heures a.m. (heure syrienne), cinq avions ont violé l'espace aérien syrien, en survolant la ville de Lattaquieh. Ces avions qui n'ont pu être identifiés ont rebroussé chemin en direction de l'Ouest.

Le même jour, à 16 heures 30 (heure syrienne), trois avions ont survolé de nouveau Lattaquieh et se sont dirigés ensuite vers l'Ouest.

En outre, une recrudescence des actes provocateurs turcs, le long de la frontière syrienne du Nord, a été notée. Ces provocations comprennent, entre autre, des incursions de soldats turcs en territoire syrien et des enlèvements, par les autorités turques, de civils syriens.

Je Vous prie de vouloir bien prendre les mesures nécessaires pour

que les faits ci-dessus relatés soient communiqués d'urgence à tous
les Etats Membres de l'Organisation.

Je saisis cette occasion pour renouveler à Votre Excellence
les assurances de ma très haute considération.

Dr. Jawdat Mufti
Chargé d'Affaires a.i. de la
Mission Permanente de la Syrie
auprès des Nations Unies

Son Excellence Monsieur Dag Hammarskjöld
Secrétaire Général de l'Organisation
des Nations Unies
New York, New York



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GENERAL
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A/3717
1 November 1957
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: FRENCH

Twelfth session
Agenda item 69

COMPLAINT ABOUT THREATS TO THE SECURITY
OF SYRIA AND TO INTERNATIONAL PEACE

Letter dated 31 October 1957 to the Secretary-General from the
Acting Chargé d'Affaires of the Permanent Mission of Syria

New York, 1 November 1957

I have the honour to transmit herewith the text of a resolution adopted unanimously by the Council of the League of Arab States at its meeting of 31 October 1957.

I should be grateful if you would take the necessary steps to have the text in question brought immediately to the attention of Member States.

(Signed) Jawdat MUFTI
Acting Chargé d'Affaires of
the Permanent Mission of Syria

Text of the resolution adopted unanimously by the Council
of the League of Arab States on 31 October 1957

1. All the Arab States unanimously condemn the campaign against Syria, of accusation, pressure, and threats, of concentration of troops on its frontier and attempts to interfere in its domestic affairs, in contravention of the Principles of the United Nations and the provisions of its Charter;
2. The Arab States reaffirm the absolute right of Syria to exercise the prerogatives of its national sovereignty;
3. The Arab States once again proclaim their complete solidarity with Syria, espouse its cause and regard any aggression directed against Syria as directed against all the Arab States. They undertake to co-operate in repelling such aggression in accordance with their obligations under the Pact of the League of Arab States and the Defence and Economic Co-operation Treaty.

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30 October 1957

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Twelfth session
Agenda item 69

COMPLAINT ABOUT THREATS TO THE SECURITY OF SYRIA
AND TO INTERNATIONAL PEACE

Canada, Denmark, Japan, Norway, Paraguay, Peru, Spain: draft resolution

The General Assembly,

Having considered the complaint of Syria regarding threats to its security and to international peace,

Recalling Article 33 of the Charter which provides that parties to any dispute shall first of all seek a solution through peaceful means of their own choice,

Noting that efforts consistent with Article 33 are being made,

Desiring to bring about an easing of tension in the area,

Expresses its confidence that the Secretary-General, in the exercise of his responsibilities under the Charter, and without prejudice to efforts being made under Article 33, will be available to undertake discussions with representatives of Syria and Turkey, in consultation with such other representatives as may be useful, and can proceed, if necessary, to the countries concerned in connexion with the performance of his task.

not voted



UNITED NATIONS
GENERAL
ASSEMBLY



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A/L.226
30 October 1957

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Twelfth session
Agenda item 69

COMPLAINT ABOUT THREATS TO THE SECURITY OF SYRIA
AND TO INTERNATIONAL PEACE

Syria: draft resolution

The General Assembly,

Having discussed the complaint by the Government of Syria regarding threats to the security of Syria and to international peace,

Considering that the General Assembly may take appropriate measures for the purpose of maintaining peace in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations,

Decides to:

1. Constitute a fact-finding Commission for the purpose of investigating the situation on the spot in the area of the Syrian-Turkish border both within the territory of Syria and the territory of Turkey. The said Commission shall be composed of representatives of seven Member States, two of which are to be designated by Syria and Turkey respectively and three by common agreement between Syria and Turkey within a period of three days from the date of the adoption of the present resolution;
2. Invite Syria and Turkey each to appoint a representative to assist in the work of the Commission in a liaison capacity;
3. Request the Commission to proceed to the area immediately, and to submit to the General Assembly and to the Security Council a preliminary report on the said situation within two weeks from the date of the adoption of the present resolution;
4. Request the Secretary-General to provide the Commission with such staff and facilities as may be deemed necessary for the prompt and effective fulfilment of its task.

not voted.

TURKISH PERMANENT MISSION
TO THE UNITED NATIONS

New York, 25 October 1957

Unofficial Translation

For Immediate Release

SECOND JOINT TURCO-SAUDI COMMUNIQUE ISSUED
ON THE 25 OCTOBER 1957

His Majesty King Saud I of Saudi Arabia has received the Turkish Minister of State, His Excellency Fatin Rustu Zorlu, for a second time on October 24, 1957, at 9 o'clock GMT, and has had a long conversation with him.

At this audience were also present His Excellency Djemal Husseyini, King Saud's personal adviser, and His Excellency Irfan Karasar, Minister of the Turkish Republic in Djeddah.

The subject of these conversations were the questions which have arisen between Turkey and Syria and the offer made by His Majesty the King which has been accepted by Turkey.

Fatin Rustu Zorlu expressed the value which Turkey attaches to the preservation of the independence, territorial integrity and sovereignty of Syria and at the same time reiterated, on behalf of his Government, as it was expressed in the statement of September 24, 1957, by the Prime Minister of Turkey, that Turkey has in no

way any aggressive policy against any of its neighbors, including Syria.

In spite of the concern felt in Turkey over the situation in Syria, Turkey has shown good will and has accepted with gratification the offer of mediation made by His Majesty the King.

This good will shown by the Turkish Government has met with the satisfaction and gratification of His Majesty the King.

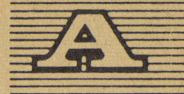
The Turkish Minister of State, Fatin Rustu Zorlu, has expressed the agreement of Turkey to remain in close cooperation with His Majesty the King on the benevolent efforts which His Majesty will make for the solution of the questions which have arisen between the two countries.

His Majesty King Saud has reiterated that he will be constantly in contact with Their Excellencies the President of the Republic and the Prime Minister of Turkey in the efforts which he will make in order to find a solution to this situation.

His Majesty the King has expressed the hope that the doubts and anxieties which have arisen between the two parties will be dispelled through the assistance and cooperation of the Turkish and Syrian Governments to the benevolent efforts which will be made by him.

These conversations have taken place in an atmosphere of the most sincere efforts directed towards the solution of the matter in question and have been based on the preservation, to the utmost, of the reciprocal interests, honor and dignity of the parties involved and on the principles of justice and equity.

May God render these efforts successful.



UNITED NATIONS

GENERAL
ASSEMBLY



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A/3702
18 October 1957

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Twelfth session
Agenda item 8

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA OF THE TWELFTH REGULAR SESSION
AND ALLOCATION OF ITEMS TO COMMITTEES

Fifth report of the General Committee

1. The General Committee, at its 116th meeting on 18 October 1957, considered a request by Syria for the inclusion in the agenda of the twelfth session of an additional item entitled:

"Complaint about threats to the security of Syria and to international peace." (A/3699).

2. The Committee decided without objection to recommend the inclusion of the item in the agenda and its consideration in plenary meeting without reference to a Committee.

Furthermore, the fact should be taken into account that the United States, while prodding Turkey to commit aggression against Syria, is urging that this operation should be carried out with lightning speed and that the United Nations should be confronted with a fait accompli so that it may have no time to take steps to prevent aggression. Evidently, the United States intends in this case to apply in Syria the methods already used by it to suppress the independence of Guatemala.

In these circumstances the duty of the Member States of the United Nations, clearly provided for by the United Nations Charter, is to intervene immediately to eliminate the possibility that war may break out and spread.

The Soviet Government supports the proposal by Syria that the General Assembly should consider without delay the threat of an armed attack on Syria which would endanger general peace. The Soviet Government also supports the proposal that a special United Nations commission be set up forthwith to investigate thoroughly the situation on the Syrian-Turkish frontier. The commission should be requested to submit its conclusions and considerations to the Security Council and General Assembly of the United Nations within two weeks.

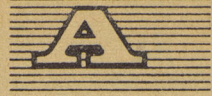
Moreover, the Soviet Government, in view of the growing military danger in the Near and Middle East area and the need to take effective steps to put a stop to possible aggression, makes the proposal that, should Turkey break the peace on the Syrian frontier and attack Syria, the Member States of the United Nations should immediately render Syria the armed assistance necessary to put a stop to aggression. The Soviet Government, for its part, declares that the Soviet Union is prepared to take part with its forces in suppressing aggression and punishing the violators of peace.

The Soviet Government considers it necessary to stress, furthermore, that in the interests of maintaining peace and of the security of the countries situated in the vicinity of the area in question, immediate action must be taken by States in case of the violation of the Syrian frontier and of the invasion of Syria by Turkish forces.

A/3700
English
Page 4

The Soviet Government expresses its confidence that the General Assembly of the United Nations will consider with due attention this matter which has the closest relation to the interests of peace and the security of nations.

(Signed) A. GROMYKO
Head of the Delegation of the USSR



UNITED NATIONS

GENERAL
ASSEMBLY



Distr.
GENERAL

A/3699
16 October 1957

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Twelfth session

REQUEST FOR THE INCLUSION OF AN ADDITIONAL ITEM IN THE AGENDA OF THE
TWELFTH REGULAR SESSION: ITEM PROPOSED BY SYRIA

COMPLAINT ABOUT THREATS TO THE SECURITY OF SYRIA
AND TO INTERNATIONAL PEACE

Letter dated 15 October 1957 from the Minister of Foreign Affairs and Chairman
of the delegation of Syria, addressed to the Secretary-General

New York, 15 October 1957

The Syrian delegation, acting upon instructions of its Government, has the honour to request the inscription on the agenda of the current session of the General Assembly of an item entitled:

"Complaint about threats to the security of Syria and to
international peace."

An explanatory memorandum is hereto attached.

The Syrian delegation would appreciate greatly an urgent meeting of the General Committee for the purpose of considering the inscription of the proposed item and its examination by the General Assembly, in accordance with rule 15 of the rules of procedure.

(Signed) Salah BITAR
Minister of Foreign Affairs
Chairman of the Syrian
Delegation

57-28718

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EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

For more than a year now, foreign actions affecting Syria and endangering its security and independence, as well as general peace, have been continuing. These actions have been increased and intensified during the last two months, and more so during the last two weeks.

At present there exists an actual military threat to Syria, resulting from the heavy, unprecedented and unwarranted concentration of Turkish troops, up to several divisions, in close proximity to the Syrian-Turkish border. These troops are being constantly reinforced. They are now massed mainly in a small sector, and have taken a disposition which presages imminent attack. The Turkish troops have apparently been given a slogan, "To Aleppo!" which they now publicly repeat.

Acts of a provocative nature have been happening. Foreign military airplanes have recurrently flown over Syrian territory near the Turkish border and at the Syrian coast, thus violating Syrian air space. Armed raids from Turkey into Syrian territory, clashes and shooting on the border and similar actions have become frequent.

The military pressures on Syria and threats to its security are connected with other actions, such as interference in the affairs of Syria to sway its policy or overthrow its Government. Foreign activities of that nature have been going on. One of them was discovered, and those implicated in it were turned over to the courts of justice, convicted and condemned. More recently, another attempt to overthrow the Government of Syria by violent action was discovered.

Some of the accused in these attempts were able to escape justice. They have somehow gathered in Turkey. From there they have been active in their efforts to overthrow the Government of Syria with foreign help, and to set up for Syria a government which would fall in line with the policies of some foreign Powers.

A few days ago substantial amounts of hidden arms were discovered. They had been smuggled into Syria and were intended for use in violent action prepared against Syria and its Government.

The above-mentioned actions have been accompanied by other foreign pressures on the Syrian people and Government, in order to create conditions which would bring about internal unrest and international strife. Besides pressures of a political

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nature, there is a campaign of propaganda that has been mounted, ordained and directed to create animosity towards Syria, in order to pave the way for adventurous action against Syria.

It is evident that the security and independence of Syria are being endangered. The present situation has indeed reached the point whereby measures by the United Nations, in fulfilment of its Charter, are necessary. Serious international frictions have developed. A war starting in the Middle East would, we are certain, cause wide international complications. The present situation is one which actually endangers general peace.

As this situation was developing, and in order to prevent any deterioration in it, the Syrian Government through diplomatic channels repeatedly called upon the Member States concerned to end their activities against the security of Syria and general peace. Unfortunately, no fruitful results were realized.

The Syrian Government also called attention to the concentration of Turkish troops near the Syrian-Turkish border, by the letter of the Syrian delegation to the Secretary-General dated 8 October 1957.

Despite all diplomatic and other efforts, the situation went on deteriorating rapidly in the last few days, until it now has become intolerably dangerous.

In the circumstances, the Syrian delegation feels it necessary that the General Assembly deal urgently with the proposed item, and take such measures as called for by the Charter of the United Nations.

The Syrian delegation deems it appropriate that a commission be set up by the General Assembly to investigate the situation on the Syrian-Turkish border and report to the Assembly. An impartial and international investigation of that nature would surely help to lay the facts before the United Nations.

In proposing this item, the Syrian Government is moved by its responsibility to its own people and to the international community. All that Syria seeks is to live securely in peace and to co-operate with other countries in accordance with the spirit of the Charter of the United Nations.



UNITED NATIONS
GENERAL
ASSEMBLY



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A/3700
17 October 1957
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: RUSSIAN

Twelfth session

REQUEST FOR THE INCLUSION OF AN ADDITIONAL ITEM IN THE AGENDA
OF THE TWELFTH REGULAR SESSION: ITEM PROPOSED BY SYRIA

COMPLAINT ABOUT THREATS TO THE SECURITY OF SYRIA
AND TO INTERNATIONAL PEACE

Letter dated 16 October 1957 from the Head of the delegation of the
Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, addressed to the President of
the General Assembly

New York, 16 October 1957

The situation arising in relation to Syria is a very tense one, and it is fraught with the possibility of an armed conflict which may break out at any moment.

This is borne out by the continuing military preparations made by Turkey on its frontier with Syria where large forces of the Turkish army, known as the Hatai mobile group are now concentrated. This group is at present composed of two infantry divisions, including a division of gendarmerie, four separate infantry regiments, three armoured brigades, approximately 500 tanks and self-propelled guns, aircraft and artillery. The concentration of Turkish forces on the Syrian frontier is continuing, and now numbers 50,000 men. There is reliable information that the Turkish General Staff, together with American military advisers, has worked out detailed plans for an attack by Turkey on Syria, which they intend to carry out immediately after the elections in Turkey on 27 October of this year. The present attempts to make it appear that the tension in connexion with Syria has decreased is mere camouflage designed to mislead public opinion, both in Turkey itself and in other countries, and to ensure the element of surprise in the attack on the peace-loving Syrian State.

Armed interference in the domestic affairs of Syria, a Member of the United Nations, has as its purpose the extinction of the independent State of Syria which, with the support of its Parliament and people, is pursuing a consistent policy of defence of national independence and non-participation in aggressive blocs.

It must be recognized that if an armed attack is made on Syria by Turkey, a member of the North Atlantic bloc (NATO), the conflict is bound to extend to other countries. The United States of America, NATO's leading member, situated on another continent some 9,000 kilometres from Syria, is already openly declaring its intention to intervene directly with its armed forces on the side of Turkey in the hostilities against Syria and it is prodding Turkey to commit aggression against Syria. Such a declaration, which is in flagrant contradiction to the purposes and principles of the United Nations, testifies to the intention of the United States to involve other countries of the North Atlantic bloc in the armed conflict.

One must be devoid of all sense of reality not to realize that Syria would not remain alone in its struggle against aggression. We know that the Government of Egypt has already declared it would give unlimited support to Syria if aggression were committed against that country.

It is known also that a number of other Arab countries have spoken in support of an independent Syria and of the necessity to give assistance to Syria if aggression were committed against it. Also on the side of Syria are the peace-loving peoples of other countries, in particular of the Soviet Union which cannot regard impassively the military provocations that are being planned in the immediate proximity of the southern frontiers of the USSR.

The Soviet Government has authorized me to state that it is highly disturbed by the alarming situation that is developing in the Near and Middle East in connexion with the developments in relation to Syria. The Soviet Government believes that the unleashing of the armed conflict that is being planned in that area by the ruling circles of Turkey and the United States is fraught with grave danger to the maintenance of general peace. The United Nations cannot by-pass such events, it cannot remain passive.

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