



Security Council

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LETTER DATED 17 DECEMBER 1983 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE
OF FRANCE TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF
THE SECURITY COUNCIL

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to inform you of the following:

"Following a consensus arrived at on 3 December 1983 in the United Nations Security Council, and by agreement with the Greek Government, the French Government has decided to assist in the evacuation of Palestinian fighters from Tripoli to North Yemen and Tunisia.

"The assistance will take the following form: vessels of the French navy will escort the five Greek merchant vessels which will take the Palestine Liberation Organization fighters on board and transport them under the United Nations flag. The escort will be provided from the coastal waters off Tripoli to the territorial waters of the final destinations (Hobeida and Tunis).

"The French Government wishes to make it clear that it will regard as a hostile act any attempt to interfere with the progress of the convoy or to board any of the five Greek vessels.

"The Palestinians, for their part, have undertaken not to embark heavy weapons on board the five Greek vessels flying the United Nations flag.

"Embarkation operations are to begin on Monday, 19 December."

This notification has also been communicated to the Secretary-General of the United Nations.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Luc de La BARRE de NANTEUIL
Ambassador, Permanent Representative