

ny - General: U Thant

15/03/1962 - 24/08/1962

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FILE	<u>7</u>
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Feb 83  
UP



CONSTANTIN A. STAVROPOULOS

To : U Thant  
Acting Secretary-General

1. Attached you will find, for your consideration, the second edition of the draft regarding the Franco-Algerian Arrangement. I have changed the first sentence to speak of "peoples" rather than "States". In the second paragraph, I have reintroduced the sentence relating to De Gaulle, but I have added, in order to balance it, a tribute to the "Algerian leaders".

2. I should like to remind you that I am leaving tomorrow for a few days. In case of need please do not hesitate to call me back at any moment. My office has my address, and I will be ready to return at any moment.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'C. Stavropoulos', with a horizontal line underneath it.

15 March 1962

9/12  
(1573)

Algeria

I was much gratified to learn today of the success of the negotiations at Evian. The peaceful means so diligently pursued there set an example for all peoples in furtherance of the aim mentioned in the preamble to the Charter to practise tolerance and live together in peace with one another as good neighbours.

The end of the conflict in Algeria has been achieved by the exercise of statesmanship on both sides. This historic development is in accordance with the great traditions of France, and the high ideals of its President. Likewise, it reflects the high ideals and traditions of the Algerian people and of their leaders. The wisdom and understanding shown on all sides augur well for future peaceful collaboration.

UNITED NATIONS

Press Services  
Office of Public Information  
United Nations, N.Y.

(For use of information media -- not an official record)

Press Release SG/1155  
19 March 1962

STATEMENT BY ACTING SECRETARY-GENERAL U THANT  
ON CEASE-FIRE ACCORDS IN ALGERIA

The news of the conclusion of a cease-fire in Algeria looking toward self-determination for its people is cause for deep gratification. I am confident that this feeling is shared by all the world.

After more than seven long years of conflict involving heavy loss of human life and property, peace is about to be restored in Algeria.

The peaceful means so diligently followed there set an example for all States in pursuance of the aim set forth in the preamble to the Charter to practice tolerance and live together in peace with one another as good neighbors. The end of the conflict has been achieved by the exercise of statesmanship by all parties concerned, and I wish to pay tribute to those negotiators whose untiring efforts culminated in this happy solution.

It is my earnest hope that the accords just reached will herald a new era of friendship, cooperation and prosperity for the peoples of France and Algeria.

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\* \*\*\* \*

The SC:

As requested - attached  
draft was prepared with  
the help of David Eyley,  
my colleague in press.

F.Y.I. Algerian war  
started on 1 November 1954 -  
General Assembly discussed  
the question, for the first  
time in 1955.

Ramesses Wassif

"It looks more like Toussaint"

The news of the successful negotiations between France and Algeria is a source of deep gratification and relief to me. I am confident that this feeling will be shared by the rest of the world.

After more than seven long years of untold suffering, and heavy loss of human life and property, peace is about to be restored in Algeria.

The Algerian question was discussed many times at the United Nations and it is a cause for great satisfaction that a peaceful solution, in conformity with the principles of the Charter of the United Nations, has at last been achieved.

It is my earnest hope that the agreements just reached will herald a new era of friendship, cooperation and prosperity for the peoples of France and Algeria.

The peaceful means so diligently pursued there set an example for all States in furtherance of the aim mentioned in the preamble to the Charter to practise tolerance and live together in peace with one another as good neighbours. The end of the conflict in Algeria has been achieved by the exercise of statesmanship by all parties concerned, and I wish to pay tribute to those negotiators whose untiring efforts culminated in this happy solution. I am confident that the wisdom and understanding shown on all sides augur well for future peaceful collaboration between France and Algeria.



DRAFT

Algeria

S/C statement

The news of the successful settlement of the Algerian problem is a source of deep gratification and relief to me. I am confident that this feeling will be shared by the rest of the world.

After more than seven long years of untold suffering, and heavy loss of human life and property, peace is about to be restored in Algeria.

It is my earnest hope that the agreements just reached will herald a new era of friendship, cooperation and prosperity for the peoples of France and Algeria.

The peaceful means so diligently pursued there set an example for all States in furtherance of the aim mentioned in the preamble to the Charter to practise tolerance and live together in peace with one another as good neighbours. The end of the conflict has been achieved by the exercise of statesmanship by the parties concerned; and I wish to pay tribute to those negotiators whose untiring efforts culminated in this happy solution. I am sure that the wisdom and understanding shown by all sides augur well for future collaboration between the peoples of France and Algeria.

final  
Rec/Text in Press Release  
of 19/3/62 -



*Algeria*

QUESTION: Sir, do you think that a condemnation from the Secretary-General, with regard to the OAS activities, to stop terrorism, would help the situation? As you know, the Asian-Africans have already made an appeal to the world -- which is not Asian-African -- to give their moral support against these activities. Since you yourself have taken a very active role as a delegate in the Algerian question, do you consider that you will be able to make a declaration on this problem?

Note No. 2603  
5 June 1962

16

The Acting SECRETARY-GENERAL: I do not see how a declaration, or a public declaration, by the Secretary-General on the OAS atrocities in Algeria would help, but, personally speaking, I cannot find words to describe the bestial, beastly and inhuman crimes committed by the OAS in Algeria. I only hope that those responsible for the meaningless killings will come to their senses in time.

*Excerpt from 5/6 Press Conference on 5 June 1962*

UNITED NATIONS

Press Services  
Office of Public Information  
United Nations, N.Y.

(For use of information media -- not an official record)

Press Release SG/1242  
3 July 1962

STATEMENT BY ACTING SECRETARY-GENERAL U THANT  
ON THE ACCESSION OF ALGERIA TO INDEPENDENCE

All the world -- and certainly all members of the United Nations -- rejoice today upon the accession of Algeria to independence.

The long and bloody struggle in that land has finally culminated in a solution that marks a victory for the forces of law and order in both France and Algeria. This new and historic chapter is a realization of the principle of self-determination as embodied in the United Nations Charter.

It is my profound hope that today's proclamation will herald a new era in which the people of independent Algeria will live in harmony and peace with all nations.

In welcoming the Algerian people into the family of free and independent nations, I should like to wish them happiness and prosperity.

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UNITED NATIONS

Press Services  
Office of Public Information  
United Nations, N.Y.

(For use of information media -- not an official record)

Note No. 2647  
24 August 1962

NOTE TO CORRESPONDENTS

Following is the text of a statement recorded by Acting Secretary-General U Thant for television stations of the Arab states\*, during a reception given on 23 August at UN Headquarters by the delegations of the Arab states on the occasion of Algerian independence:

On this auspicious day I am very happy indeed to be able to attend the ceremony celebrating the independence of Algeria.

For this I am very grateful to the Arab states accredited to the United Nations for having made this celebration possible.

My joy is all the greater because of the fact that I personally was very closely connected with the problem of Algeria for four years. The members of the Asian-African group had very kindly made me the Chairman of the Standing Committee on Algeria and I am very gratified that the Algerian problem has come to a very successful conclusion.\*\*

I want to take this opportunity of paying a tribute to the people and leaders of both France and Algeria for having brought about this happy solution and I wish the people of Algeria peace and prosperity for the years to come.

\* \*\*\* \*

\*The statement was recorded by UN correspondent Levon Keshishian of Al Ahram, Cairo, for Morocco Television, to be made available to television stations of other Arab states.

\*\*This paragraph of the statement refers to the time when U Thant was Permanent Representative of Burma to the UN.