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REPORT OF THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON ENHANCING THE
EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PRINCIPLE OF NON-USE OF
FORCE IN INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

SECURITY COUNCIL
Thirty-eighth year

Letter dated 11 April 1983 from the Permanent Representative of
Iraq to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to enclose the text of a letter addressed to you by
Mr. Tareq Aziz, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs of the
Republic of Iraq on the question of the latest Iranian act of aggression on the
frontier of Iraq.

I should like to request that the enclosed letter be circulated as a document
of the General Assembly, under item 127 of the preliminary list, and of the
Security Council.

(Signed) Riyadh AL-QAYSI
Permanent Representative of
Iraq to the United Nations

* A/38/50.

ANNEX

Letter dated 11 April 1983 from the Deputy Prime Minister and
Minister for Foreign Affairs of Iraq to the Secretary-General

I refer to my telegram dated 7 February 1983 (A/38/89-S/15596) addressed to you, in which I stressed that Iraq had warned repeatedly of the intentions of the Iranian régime to launch a large-scale attack with the aim of crossing the Iraqi frontier and threatening the sovereignty and security of Iraq. That warning proved to be correct when the Iranian attack actually occurred, on the night of 6/7 February 1983. At that time, the Iranian régime issued a statement in which it announced that its forces had launched an attack against Iraq and had crossed the Iraqi frontier and were proceeding to advance in accordance with the objectives laid down for their operations. The Iraqi armed forces were able to repel and destroy the Iranian attack.

In spite of the statement issued by the President of the Security Council on 21 February 1983, (S/15616), the Iranian régime has not desisted from its acts of aggression. During the night of 10 April 1983, it again launched a large-scale attack on the Iraqi frontier, seeking once again to cross that frontier. This was what had been announced one day before the commencement of the aggression by Khomeini himself, who specified the purpose of the attack as entry into Iraqi territory.

We stress once again the gravity of this act of aggression and the disastrous consequences it will have for the security and stability of the region, if the current silence vis-à-vis the policy of aggression followed by the Iranian régime continues and if that régime is given free scope to continue to implement its schemes against Iraq.

In this connection, we wish to stress once again that compliance with and implementation of the resolutions of the Security Council constitute, under Article 25 of the Charter of the United Nations, a clear and unambiguous obligation that is not optional or conditional. We do not doubt that the fact that the organs of the United Nations remain silent and turn a blind eye in the face of the repeated acts of aggression carried out by the Iranian régime against Iraq encourages that régime to persist in its attitude of disdain for the international Organization and for its obligations under the Charter.

We hope that you will make the appropriate move, in accordance with the will of the international community, which has been expressed in the resolutions of the Security Council and the General Assembly concerning the armed conflict between Iraq and Iran.

The United Nations, by virtue of its Charter, is called upon to condemn the new Iranian aggression and to prevent its continuation, in order to maintain international peace and security.

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Once again, I inform you that the Iraqi armed forces have crushed and destroyed the first wave of the Iranian attack and that the battles are continuing for the purpose of crushing the remnants of the forces of Iranian aggression. I wish to stress also that the Iraqi Government would welcome any positive step taken by the United Nations that could contribute effectively to halting the bloodshed and ensure greater participation in and support for the achievement of a peaceful, just and honourable solution to the armed conflict between Iraq and Iran.

(Signed) Tareq AZIZ
Deputy Prime Minister and
Minister for Foreign Affairs
of the Republic of Iraq
