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REPORT OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

Letter dated 26 October 1990 from the Permanent Representative of
Kuwait to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General*

On instructions from my Government, I wish to transmit the following information:

The succession of inhumane practices perpetrated by the Iraqi occupation authorities, of which we have already informed you of many examples, has continued. Although we believed that there could be no further escalation beyond the last such example, it is now clear that the Iraqi régime and its occupation forces in Kuwait know no bounds in the depth and extent of the crimes which they are prepared to carry out. They are encouraged in this attitude by the determination of the ruling clique in Iraq to go against all norms of humanitarian, civilized and moral behaviour and to commit any sin or misdeed without batting an eyelid. We are informed by impeccable sources in Kuwait's health institutions that the Iraqi occupation authorities have carried out the following brutal crimes, which may be described as crimes against humanity:

1. The delicate medical equipment used in the intensive care units of many Kuwaiti hospitals has been seized and taken to Baghdad. This has led to the death of many patients who were receiving intensive care.
2. The incubators in maternity hospitals used for children suffering from retarded growth (premature children) have been removed, causing the death of all the children who were under treatment.
3. Plasma deposits at the blood bank have been removed and transferred to Baghdad.

* Previously issued as document S/21713. The letter is being issued as a document of the General Assembly at the request of the Mission of Kuwait.

4. The inmates of mental hospitals and centres for the disabled have been released and allowed to roam in the streets without any care or attention.

We urge you to make every effort to put pressure on the Iraqi régime and to force that régime to preserve the lives and welfare of Kuwaiti citizens and residents of Kuwait. We also hope that the International Committee of the Red Cross will be able to send a delegation to Kuwait, as its presence may serve to deter the occupation authorities from continuing to commit these atrocities and also provide a form of protection to civilian citizens there. In calling upon the international community to speak out loud against the savage practices of the Iraqi régime, the Government of Kuwait affirms that it will spare no effort to pursue and prosecute the new war criminals, no matter how long it may take.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as a document of the General Assembly under agenda item 12.

(Signed) Mohammad A. ABULHASAN
Permanent Representative
