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LETTER DATED 26 FEBRUARY 1986 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE
NETHERLANDS TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

On behalf of the twelve member States of the European Community, of which the Kingdom of the Netherlands is currently the President, I have the honour to transmit to you herewith the text of a joint statement dated 25 February 1986 on the conflict between Iran and Iraq.

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

(Signed) Max VAN DER STOEL
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of the
Kingdom of the Netherlands

Annex

TEXT OF A JOINT STATEMENT DATED 25 FEBRUARY 1986 BY THE
TWELVE MEMBER STATES OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY ON THE
CONFLICT BETWEEN IRAN AND IRAQ

The Twelve are gravely concerned by the renewed escalation of the conflict endangering peace and security in the whole region. They call upon the parties to the conflict to respect strictly the sovereignty and territorial integrity of neighbouring States and not to interfere with third countries' commercial navigation in international waters or with civil aviation in the area.

The Twelve are particularly alarmed by renewed violations of humanitarian law and other laws of armed conflict, including the use of chemical weapons, and they condemn such violations wherever they occur.

The Twelve welcome and fully support the renewed appeal made by the Secretary-General of the United Nations, on 14 February 1986, to the Governments of Iraq and Iran for a cessation of hostilities, in order to facilitate efforts to promote a just and peaceful solution of the conflict. They urge both parties to co-operate with these efforts of the Secretary-General. The Twelve believe that a solution should be based on a thorough examination of all aspects of the conflict. On such a basis they urge both parties to comply with the terms of Security Council resolution 582 (1986), adopted unanimously on 24 February 1986, and to co-operate with the Security Council in its efforts to help achieve a just and honourable peace between Iraq and Iran.

As before, the Twelve are ready to lend their support to these and other endeavours, which have the object of bringing the conflict to a solution in the shortest possible time, thus restoring peace and international security in the area.
