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LETTER DATED 12 AUGUST 1986 FROM THE CHARGE D'AFFAIRES A.I. OF THE
PERMANENT MISSION OF IRAQ TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE
SECRETARY-GENERAL

On instructions from my Government and further to our letters concerning the Iranian régime's strikes against purely civilian targets in Iraq, I have the honour to inform you that last night at 1.55 a.m., Baghdad time, the Iranian enemy aimed one of its missiles at the city of Baghdad. Fortunately, the missile landed in a non-sensitive area.

Today, 12 August 1986, enemy forces bombarded the residential quarters of the city of Basra with long-range artillery, causing the following casualties:

The death of three children; the injury of 18 civilians, including 7 children and 5 women; damage to 7 houses, 1 store and 2 civilian vehicles.

These criminal acts demonstrate categorically that the Iranian leaders are not reluctant to violate the rules of international law and the basic principles of the international community. Given our position of strength and power, we state once again that we have sufficient forces and destructive capability to turn any part of Iran into a pile of ruins. At the opportune moment, the Iraqi armed forces will take all necessary measures to preserve Iraqi civilians from harm and to protect their lives, safety and property.

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

(Signed) Usama B. MAHMOUD
Chargé d'affaires a.i.
