



**Security Council**

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LETTER DATED 25 DECEMBER 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, I have the honour to transmit herewith a letter dated 25 December 1986 from Mr. Tariq Aziz, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Iraq, informing you of the launching of fresh and large-scale armed aggression by the criminal Iranian régime with the aim of occupying more Iraqi territory.

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

(Signed) Ali SUMAIDA  
Alternate Permanent Representative  
Ambassador

Annex

Letter dated 25 December 1981 from the Deputy Prime Minister  
and Minister for Foreign Affairs of Iraq addressed to the  
Secretary-General

I have the honour to inform you that, at 1910 hours (local time) on 24 December 1986, the armed forces of the Iranian régime launched fresh and large-scale armed aggression in southern Iraq with the aim of occupying more Iraqi territory. The Iraqi armed forces countered this aggression, in defence of the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Iraq, and the fighting continues up to the present.

In numerous letters, the most recent of which was the letter addressed to you by our Permanent Representative yesterday, 24 December 1986, we have repeatedly drawn your attention and that of the Members of the United Nations to the official statements made successively over many months by the leaders of the Iranian régime threatening the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Iraq and revealing the intention of occupying Iraq and establishing an Iranian puppet régime there.

In spite of its knowledge of this fact, which is beyond doubt in all international circles, the Security Council has remained hesitant to assume the responsibility conferred on it by the provisions of the United Nations Charter to take action with regard to the party that persists in war, aggression and expansionism. The most outstanding example of this hesitance is what happened after the Security Council's unanimous adoption of resolution 582 (1986) on 24 February 1986. Instead of there being a real effort on the part of the Security Council and the Secretariat to exert pressure on the transgressor party, expose its positions and intentions and take decisive legal measures to compel it to comply with the provisions of the Charter, after it had been clearly established, in Security Council resolutions and in your most recent report to the Council (S/18480), that a situation existed that presented a threat to regional and international peace and security, the Council merely issued a general statement that added nothing to the situation. This encourages the aggressor party to persist in its aggression, in disregard of the commitments binding on it.

The Iraqi Government requests the Security Council and you yourself to assume full responsibility under the United Nations Charter by condemning the Iranian aggression, by making the Iranian régime bear the responsibility for the continuation of the war and for the human and material losses and the threats to regional and international stability, peace and security resulting therefrom and by determining all the consequences under the Charter.

Tariq AZIZ  
Deputy Prime Minister and  
Minister for Foreign Affairs  
of the Republic of Iraq  
Baghdad, 25 December 1986