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LETTER DATED 15 DECEMBER 1986 FROM THE CHARGE D'AFFAIRES A.I.  
OF THE PERMANENT MISSION OF THE ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN TO  
THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

I have the honour to inform you that revelations in today's issue of The Washington Post have once again established the fallacious nature of the American claim of neutrality in the Iraqi-imposed war of aggression against the Islamic Republic of Iran. Although the Iranian people have witnessed first-hand the attempts by the United States to overthrow the Islamic revolution, including encouragement of the Iraqi régime to wage a war of aggression against the Islamic Republic and although the limited revelations in The Washington Post do not introduce new facts to the Iranian people or to impartial international observers, they put on public record the direct involvement of the United States in the criminal policies pursued by Iraq in its war of aggression against the Islamic Republic of Iran.

It is now known that the Iraqi criminal policy of violating international humanitarian principles including the bombardment of civilian areas and the use of chemical weapons were in fact encouraged and supported by the United States. According to The Washington Post, "as far back as 1984, when some people feared that Iran might overrun Iraq, the United States began supplying Iraq with some intelligence assistance. Iraq reportedly used the intelligence to calibrate attacks with mustard gas on Iranian ground troops". Furthermore, The Washington Post claims that indeed the Director of the Central Intelligence Agency encouraged more attacks against Iranian targets in a recent meeting with the Foreign Minister of the criminal régime of Iraq. These attacks have claimed the lives of more than 500 innocent civilians within the past few weeks.

The complicity of the United States in Iraqi criminal policies in the war may indicate why the United States has actively lobbied against any reference to Iraqi violations of international humanitarian law in the Security Council. Nothing else is expected of the accomplices of Iraqi criminals, since as The Washington Post indicates "the intelligence information [provided by the United States] is vital to Iraq's conduct of the war". This military and diplomatic support provided to the Iraqi régime has indeed encouraged it in its criminal policies in the imposed war and its rejection of international appeals to halt its disregard for the rules of

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international humanitarian law, including the moratorium of June 1984 and the Secretary-General's eight-point plan. It is imperative for the international community, and the Security Council in particular, to prevent manipulation by the accomplices of the Iraqi régime and - especially in the light of the recent escalation of Iraqi attacks against the civilian areas - to take effective measures to prevent further violations of international humanitarian law by Iraq.

It would be highly appreciated if this letter were circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Mohammad Javad ZARIF  
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

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