



**Security Council**

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LETTER DATED 21 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

Upon instructions from my Government, I have the honour and the sad duty to inform you that today the Iraqi régime, in continuation of its policy of violation of the rules of international humanitarian law, carried out unprecedented savage attacks against residential quarters in the city of Bakhtaran. At 1230 and 1618 hours - when city streets were most populated - Iraqi warplanes bombarded purely civilian quarters in the city, murdering and wounding hundreds of innocent civilians, mostly women and children; casualties have so far been reported as 88 civilian martyrs and more than 800 wounded.

The serious nature and the escalating trend of Iraqi attacks against civilians during the past weeks pose a grave danger to the civilian populations of both countries. Therefore, it is imperative that the appropriate organs of the United Nations, particularly the Security Council, spare no effort in order to prevent further escalation of these Iraqi acts of lawlessness. In view of the extent and gravity of this latest manifestation of Iraqi disregard for the rules of international law governing the conduct of hostilities, the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran requests that Your Excellency immediately dispatch the United Nations expert team stationed in Tehran on a mission to inspect the sites of these attacks.

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.