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LETTER DATED 11 JUNE 1981 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF
THE UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS TO THE UNITED NATIONS
ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

I have the honour to transmit to you the text of a statement by TASS dated 9 June 1981 concerning the act of armed aggression carried out by Israel against Iraq.

I request you, Sir, to have this statement circulated as a Security Council document.

(Signed) O. TROYANOVSKY

Annex

STATEMENT BY TASS

dated 9 June 1981

Expanding the scope of its criminal war against the Arab peoples, Israel has committed a new act of armed aggression - this time against Iraq. The Israeli air force has carried out an air raid on Baghdad with the object of destroying a nuclear research centre.

In that connexion, TASS is authorized to state the following:

This gangster-like act is one of a long series of crimes committed by Tel Aviv, crimes directly participated in and essentially instigated by the ruling circles of the United States of America. Billions of dollars flow in an unending stream from the banks of the Potomac into the Israeli treasury to finance Israeli aggression. The most up-to-date American military technology - including American aircraft, which, as the United States Department of State has officially acknowledged, bombed Baghdad - brings death and destruction to the inhabitants of Arab towns and villages.

Meanwhile, Washington spares no effort in its attempts to provide a cover once again for Israel's criminal actions, stating that the United States had "long been concerned" about the construction of the nuclear reactor in Iraq.

But it is well known that Iraq is a party to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons and, accordingly, all its nuclear activities are under the supervision of IAEA. Israel, in contrast, has long been intent on acquiring nuclear weapons and refuses point-blank to accede to that Treaty.

Obviously, the United States devotees of international justice feel that they and their Israeli protégés are above any law and any generally accepted international procedures. Or do these norms and procedures not extend to the Arabs, on whom, by the way, the same United States persistently foists itself as a "friend"? Suppose that there had been such an operation aimed at the destruction of nuclear facilities in Israel - what would the "law-abiding" people in Washington say then?

After this, what is the use of the talk about "international terrorism" in which the leaders of the United States have recently indulged so earnestly? It is hardly possible to find a clearer and more recent example: Tel Aviv openly commits an aggressive terrorist action at the level of State policy, while Washington supplies it with arms and provides it with political cover!

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Soviet ruling circles categorically condemn the bandit-like raid carried out by the Israeli air force against the capital of Iraq and hold that the responsibility for that raid lies with Israel and with the United States of America, which arms the aggressor and provides it with support of every kind.

This latest armed action carried out by Tel Aviv against yet another Arab State again testifies to the fact that concerted action by the forces of peace to restrain aggression can no longer be delayed.
