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WEAPONS

SECURITY COUNCIL  
Forty-second year

Letter dated 21 April 1987 from the Permanent Representative  
of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the United Nations  
addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to forward to you the text of the statement issued on 18 April 1987 by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran concerning Iraqi use of chemical weapons and their baseless allegation of the use of such weapons by Iran.

It would be highly appreciated if this letter and its annex were circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under item 62 of the preliminary list, and of the Security Council.

(Signed), Said RAJAIE-KHORASSANI  
Ambassador  
Permanent Representative

\* A/42/50.

ANNEX

Statement issued on 18 April 1987 by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran concerning Iraqi use of chemical weapons and their baseless allegation of use of such weapons by Iran

The aggressor régime of Iraq, during more than six years that have passed since the inception of the imposed war, has uninterruptedly violated international rules and regulations as well as principles of international humanitarian law in different fields, the most dangerous and important one of which is undoubtedly the repeated resort to chemical warfare by this criminal war monger régime. Such Iraqi violations have, every time, been brought to the attention of world public opinion and relevant international authorities by the Islamic Republic of Iran and they have led to statements by the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the Security Council, which confirmed the use of chemical weapons by Iraq and condemned such acts.

The régime of Iraq, disregarding the rules of international law, has again hastily deployed different types of chemical weapons on 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11 April 1987.

The repeated resort to such crimes clearly indicates that the aggressor Iraqi régime is not prepared, under any circumstances, to respect and implement the principles of international law, particularly the 1925 Geneva Protocol for the Prohibition of the Use in War of Asphyxiating, Poisonous and Other Gases. The Iraqi repeated resort to such anti-human weapons in its imposed war against the Islamic Republic of Iran further proves the aggressive and lawless nature of the Iraqi régime and also its desperation. Iraq's use of chemical weapons at this juncture when the draft of a new convention on chemical weapons is in the final stages of preparation is a move which irreparably weakens this international effort.

In connection with the baseless allegation of Iraq as to the use of chemical weapons by Iran, the Foreign Ministry of the Islamic Republic of Iran, while categorically denying such allegations, wishes to recall that this is not the first time that the Iraqi régime, in order to lessen the international pressure against its war crimes, has resorted to such propagandist lies. Iraq had made a similar claim before the statement of 21 March 1986 by the Security Council in which the use of chemical weapons by Iraq was condemned. The report of the United Nations team of experts dated 12 March 1986 contained in document S/17911, confirming the use of chemical weapons by Iraq not only against Iranian forces but also against Iraqi forces illustrates that the Iraqi régime is willing to expose its own forces to chemical weapons only to produce unfounded allegations against the Islamic Republic of Iran.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran hereby calls upon the Secretary-General of the United Nations and other relevant international authorities to live up to their important international responsibilities and to take urgent and effective measures in order to prevent the continuation of

anti-human crimes by the Iraqi régime. Members of the international community, especially the members of the Security Council, may be reminded that the prevention of war crimes in general and the use of chemical weapons in particular is an international responsibility and that the Security Council is obligated to take more practical steps in this connection.

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