



General Assembly Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

A/42/255 ✓
S/18828
28 April 1987

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Forty-second session
Item 62 of the preliminary list*
CHEMICAL AND BACTERIOLOGICAL (BIOLOGICAL)
WEAPONS

SECURITY COUNCIL
Forty-second year

Letter dated 27 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 bring to your attention the following news from the Islamic Republic News Agency at Bakhtaran on 27 April 1987 concerning the Iraqi inhumane and criminal use of chemical weapons, which has led not only to the injury of Iranian combatants but has also victimized Iraqi people themselves.

Thirty-five chemically wounded Iraqi villagers, who later underwent medical treatment at a hospital at Bakhtaran on 26 April 1987, were the victims of Iraqi war planes that had bombed 24 villages in the Shaqlava region of Erbil Province on 4 April 1987. Several Iraqi villagers had also been martyred, while the number of wounded so far treated in the Bakhtaran hospital alone reached 135.

According to the testimony of the wounded, 12 Iraqi war planes carried out the actual bombings, and Iraqi commanders subsequently forced the villagers to tell a United Nations-dispatched probe team that they had been targeted by Iranian planes carrying chemical bombs.

The criminal régime of Iraq thus continues its abhorrent use of illegal chemical weapons against Iranian and Iraqi civilians in contravention of all rules of international humanitarian law.

* A/42/50.

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It would be highly appreciated if this letter 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
