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CHEMICAL AND BACTERIOLOGICAL
(BIOLOGICAL) WEAPONS

SECURITY COUNCIL
Forty-second year

Letter dated 30 June 1987 from the Chargé 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 and pursuant to my letter dated 29 June 1987 (A/42/371-S/18953) concerning the chemical attacks on civilian quarters of Sardasht by the Iraqi régime, to whose crimes and inhumanity there exist no imaginable boundaries, I have the honour to report to you the gruesome details of the consequences of the said attacks and their toll in human lives.

According to the most recent reports, there was a total of more than 2,000 casualties, 12 of whom were martyred, 650 seriously injured and hospitalized and 1,400 treated as out-patients.

These Iraqi chemical attacks represent a very serious escalation in the Iraqi-imposed war and add a new dimension to the whole question of chemical warfare, in so far as the criminal rulers of Baghdad are now audaciously and indeed impunitively making innocent civilians targets of their illegal chemical bombs. The international community and the Security Council are expected to take definite positions against this instance of Iraqi inhumanity, which is setting a dangerous historical precedent and is to be halted immediately. The attempts by certain members of the Council to conceal the enormity of the crimes of the Baghdad régime have once again proven to exacerbate the shamelessness of the Iraqi war criminals in using chemical weapons on such a large scale and against innocent civilians. Under the present circumstances, it is imperative that the Security Council no longer turn a blind eye to the reality of repeated and increasingly heinous violations of international humanitarian law by Iraq, and immediately take effective measures to halt this inhumanity.

* 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) Mohammad Javad ZARIF
Chargé d'affaires a.i.
