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Letter dated 22 June 1987 from the Permanent Representative of
Kuwait to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to forward the text of a letter addressed to Your Excellency from H.E. Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmad Al Jaber Al Sabah, the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs.

I would appreciate that this letter be circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Mohammad A. ABULHASAN
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

Annex

Letter dated 22 June 1987 from the Deputy Prime Minister
and Minister for Foreign Affairs of Kuwait addressed to
the Secretary-General

I have the pleasure to write to you as a matter of urgency, in the light of the current situation in this important and crucial part of the world, and to express full appreciation for the efforts being undertaken by you personally at this time to monitor developments in the Gulf region arising as a result of the continuing war between our two neighbours, Iraq and Iran. I should also like to acknowledge the constructive role you are playing with a view to promoting international efforts to end this tragic war. You will doubtless agree with us in our assessment of the danger posed by the war's continuation for our region and for the security and peace of the world.

We in Kuwait have endeavoured to improve our relations with our neighbour, Iran, but that country has unfortunately not shown any response. On the contrary, it has deliberately escalated its propaganda campaigns and unleashed direct and repeated threats against Kuwait through its senior officials. It is natural that we, and the international community in general, should take such threats seriously, particularly since Iran is continuing to escalate the war and to harass Kuwaiti ships by every possible means.

In view of this situation, Kuwait expects the international community and its principal organizations, foremost among which is the United Nations, to shoulder their responsibilities in accordance with the Charter and give concrete effect to the shared desire to end this dangerous and threatening conflict. It also expects you to take the initiative by rejecting and denouncing these threats against Kuwait, thus reflecting the fundamental opposition to any extension of the scope of the war. We have followed, and are continuing to follow, the increasing positive tendency among permanent and other States members of the Security Council towards full collective agreement on the draft resolution which would be appropriate at this stage, now that so many years have passed since the outbreak of the war and so many international resolutions have been adopted but not implemented, as a result of Iranian rejection.

Our demand that you personally, and the international community, adopt an unequivocal position rejecting and denouncing the threats against Kuwait does not detract from the fact that our concern and desire are firmly focused on the need to end this war and so to rid ourselves of all its consequences. In conclusion, we would like to underline our conviction that the problem of shipping in the Gulf, which is currently attracting conspicuous and justified international attention, is in fact but one of the results of this war, which makes it incumbent on all of us that we should concentrate our efforts on ending the war itself. I should like to assure you once again of our continued desire to co-operate and consult with the United Nations, as represented by yourself, on this important and urgent matter.