

Security Council

Distr. GENERAL

S/19282 19 November 1987 ENGLISH ORIGINAL: ARABIC

LETTER DATED 19 NOVEMBER 1987 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF IRAQ TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to inform you that, because of the utterly criminal nature of their souls, the leaders of the aggressive and expansionist Iranian régime are not even sparing hospitals and the sick people in them.

On 18 November 1987, at 1507 hours local time, the criminal Iranian régime sent one of its aircraft to bomb the hospital of the town of Dohuk. Nine civilians, including six women and one small girl, who were in the hospital at the time, were killed, and 64 other civilian patients, including 10 children and 41 women, were wounded, as was reported today by representatives of the entire international press. The office of the International Committee of the Red Cross was also requested to send a team to the scene of this crime.

The Iranian régime has thus added an ignoble crime to the long list of its criminal activities, which are in complete contradiction to the fundamental principles of humanitarian international law. It is well known, furthermore, that the international community long ago decided that hospitals and other medical centres were objectives against which any military activity whatsoever was prohibited.

The Government of Iraq requests you, and all the competent organs of the United Nations, to condemn this Iranian crime, an act which proves once again that the time has come to punish the Iranian régime appropriately for its rejection of all the principles and values that govern international relations.

I should be grateful if you would have the text of this letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

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(<u>Signed</u>) Ismat KITTANI
Permanent Representative

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