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CONSEQUENCES OF THE PROLONGATION OF THE
ARMED CONFLICT BETWEEN IRAN AND IRAQ

SECURITY COUNCIL
Forty-second year

Letter dated 19 November 1987 from the Permanent Representative
of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya to the United Nations addressed
to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit to you herewith the text of a letter addressed to you by Mr. Jadalla Azzouz Talhi, Secretary of the People's Committee of the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison, regarding the concern of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya at events in the Arabian Gulf region and at the turn the situation has taken in recent days.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 47, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Dr. Ali Abdussalam TREIKI
Permanent Representative

ANNEX

Letter from the Secretary of the People's Committee of the People's
Bureau for Foreign Liaison of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya

The great Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya is following events in the Arabian Gulf region with extreme interest and deep concern, particularly the turn the situation has taken in recent days. In that connection, we should like to call the attention of the international community to the following facts:

1. Navigation in the Arabian Gulf has come under threat from the stepped-up military presence of the fleets of the United States of America and its European allies to the extent that civilian vessels and even fishing boats are no longer secure from damage by the missiles and guns of those fleets.
2. The pretext offered by the United States of America to the effect that it introduced its fleets into the region in order to protect freedom of navigation in the Arabian Gulf has been demonstrated by events to be false. That is most cogently proved by the fact that a fishing boat has come under fire from a United States warship and one fisherman has been killed. The presence of the fleets in question has thus increased tension in the region and, instead of safeguarding navigation, has placed it in danger.
3. We find ourselves unable to interpret the claim of the United States of America that it is endeavouring to halt the Gulf war other than as a kind of hypocrisy. If it were true, then that would necessarily have been its policy from the outset and not after almost eight years have elapsed since the outbreak of the war. It has, on the contrary, encouraged the continuation of the war to the extent that it has supplied one of the parties to the conflict with weapons and military equipment.
4. The enthusiasm shown by the United States of America for the implementation of Security Council resolution 598 (1987) is surprising. It has not been known for its adherence to or its concern for the resolutions adopted by the United Nations, and its attitude towards resolutions relating to the cause of the Palestinian people and that of the people of Namibia and South Africa can easily be brought to mind. The question then arises of who has appointed the United States of America as proxy for the Security Council in accepting or rejecting interpretations or in assessing the positions adopted by States towards Security Council and General Assembly resolutions.
5. The safety and freedom of navigation in the Arabian Gulf will not be guaranteed by the fleets of the United States and its allies. That can only be ensured by the definitive withdrawal of those fleets from the Gulf and by opening the door to dialogue with a view to serious action for peace in this vital region

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of the world, a peace inconsistent with the presence of United States warships and the guns of its allies, which sow fear, intimidation and menace on the pretext of protecting shipping and ensuring the freedom of navigation.

Jadalla Azzouz TALHI
Secretary of the People's Committee
of the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison
