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LETTER DATED 7 MARCH 1988 FROM THE ACTING PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE
OF THE ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO
THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

I have the honour to enclose herewith the text of a note verbale dated
18 February 1988 from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of
Iran to the Embassy of Italy in Tehran.

It would be appreciated if this letter and its annex were circulated as a
document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Mohammad Ja'afar MAHALLATI
Director-General of International
Affairs and Acting
Permanent Representative

Annex

Note verbale dated 18 February 1988 from the Ministry
of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran
addressed to the Embassy of Italy in Tehran

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran presents its compliments to the Embassy of Italy in Tehran and has the honour to inform that according to the information provided by the pertinent officials of the Islamic Republic of Iran on 17 January 1988, at 0905 hours, Italian ship No. 572 at the position of 2631 N and 5622 E warned an Iranian sea-patrol aircraft at the position of 2642 N and 5624 E, flying over Iranian territorial waters, not to fly closer to the ship.

In view of the fact that the action of the Italian ship was in contravention of all rules of international law and violated the sovereign territorial rights of Iranian aircraft to overflight in Iranian territorial waters, the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran strongly protests against such actions and demands an immediate end to them.

Evidently, responsibility for the consequences of all such future actions lies directly with the Government of Italy.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Embassy of Italy the assurances of its highest consideration.

Hoping for the victory of the oppressed over oppressors.

