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LETTER DATED 24 SEPTEMBER 1980 FROM THE CHARGE D'AFFAIRES OF THE
PERMANENT MISSION OF IRAQ TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE
PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

Upon instructions from my Government, I have the honour to enclose herewith
the text of a letter addressed to Your Excellency by His Excellency
Dr. Saadoun Hammadi, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Iraq.

It is requested that his letter be circulated as a document of the Security
Council.

(Signed) Saib BAFI
Chargé d'Affaires

Annex

Letter dated 24 September 1980 from the Minister for
Foreign Affairs of Iraq addressed to the President of
the Security Council

Pursuant to the statement made by Your Excellency on Tuesday night, 23 September 1980, I should like to bring to your attention and that of the distinguished members of the Council the following:

1. The Government of the Republic of Iraq decided on 17 September 1980, to consider the Algiers Agreement of 6 March 1975 as terminated, after Iran, through its conduct terminated it, on the ground of paragraph 4 thereof, which clearly provided that the arrangements of the said Agreement are to be considered as an indivisible element of a global settlement and that any breach of any of the said elements shall be regarded as against the spirit of the Agreement. As to the unequivocal evidence supporting the Iraqi position, I should like to refer you and the distinguished members of the Council, to the letter dated 21 September 1980, addressed by me to His Excellency the Secretary-General, to be circulated as a document of the General Assembly and the Security Council (S/14191).
2. The Government of the Republic of Iraq, having exhausted all the peaceful means at its disposal for a period of over three years to have Iran honour its obligations under the Agreement referred to above, yet our persistent efforts went in vain. Hence, my Government was left with no other alternative than to reassert its rights against Iran, which were unjustly denied, in accordance with international law. In this connexion, my Government has on more than one occasion made it clear that we harbour no expansionist territorial designs against Iran. This policy was clearly stated in the statements emanating from the highest authorities of my Government.
3. The Government of the Republic of Iraq has clearly stated its position, that it is not interested in escalating the conflict with Iran. But unfortunately Iran escalated the conflict by its indiscriminate actions against the interests of Iraq, the region, and the international community. Consequently, my Government was left only with a narrow choice, namely, to act in self-defence.
4. When called upon, Iraq will be ready to present its point of view before the Council, as we have nothing to hide.

I shall be grateful if you would kindly circulate this letter to the distinguished members of the Council.

Dr. Saadoun HAMMADI
Minister of Foreign Affairs of the
Government of the Republic of Iraq
