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LETTER DATED 26 SEPTEMBER 1980 FROM THE SECRETARY-GENERAL
ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

With reference to my letter of 24 September (S/14193) enclosing the text of the appeal I had addressed to the Presidents of Iran and Iraq, I attach a copy of the response I have received from His Excellency Mr. Saddam Hussein, President of the Republic of Iraq. I also enclose the text of a further message I have addressed to him.

(Signed) Kurt WALDHEIM

Annex I

Letter dated 26 September 1980 from the Permanent Representative
of Iraq to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to enclose herewith a letter addressed to Your Excellency by His Excellency Mr. Saddam Hussein, President of the Republic of Iraq.

(Signed) Salah Omar AL-ALI
Permanent Representative

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Enclosure

Letter dated 26 September 1980 from the President of Iraq
addressed to the Secretary-General

I have been informed of your appeal to us of 22 September 1980, and of the text of your letter of 25 September 1980 in which you also appealed to us to exercise utmost restraint and to do all we can to negotiate with Iran a solution to the existing problem.

While I express to you our profound appreciation for your initiatives which derive from your personal convictions and responsibilities, I should like to emphasize to you that Iraq is very keen that international peace and security should not be threatened and that economic and oil interests of States should not be exposed to danger. We have already outlined to Your Excellency the position of the Government of the Republic of Iraq in the letter addressed to you by our Foreign Minister on 22 September 1980.

On this occasion I should like to repeat that Iraq has not interfered with the interests which affect the peace, security and economy of the world. What we have done was simply to adhere to, and restore, our legitimate rights. Instead of rationally responding to the legitimacy of our actions, the Iranian Government escalated the situation by its indiscriminate strikes against our vital interests and those of the region and of the whole world in a manner which left us no choice but that of preventive self-defence in order to protect all those interests. However, I should like to emphasize to Your Excellency that Iraq's objective is only to gain Iran's irrevocable recognition of Iraq's rights in its lands and sovereignty over its national waters. Is Iran prepared for that? Any positive information relating to this matter provided to us by Your Excellency will make us happy. For in such a case we will bless such a move and endeavour to take the necessary measures to consider the subject in any manner whether it be international, regional or bilateral.

In addition, Iraq would wish to ask whether Iran is ready for a cease-fire and whether such was requested from it by Your Excellency or whether Iran has expressed its views on it in any form. This information is obviously important in considering our position.

Saddam HUSSEIN
President of the Republic of Iraq

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Annex II

Message of 26 September 1980 from the Secretary-General
addressed to the President of Iraq

I wish to thank you for your prompt response to my messages of 22 and 24 September (S/14193 and Corr.1).

I have informed the members of the Security Council of the substance of your message.

With regard to your question concerning the Iranian position on the cease-fire, I wish to inform you that the request for a cease-fire was made to Iran in exactly the same terms as it was made to Your Excellency. I am awaiting the response of the Iranian Government to this request. Naturally your own response to the appeal for a cease-fire is also of vital importance. I hope therefore that both responses will be forthcoming at the earliest possible time.

Kurt WALDHEIM
Secretary-General
United Nations
