



UNITED NATIONS  
SECURITY  
COUNCIL



Distr.  
GENERAL

S/14210  
7 October 1980

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

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LETTER DATED 6 OCTOBER 1980 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF IRAQ  
TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

Upon instructions from my Government, I have the honour to enclose herewith a declaration issued by the Revolutionary Command Council of the Republic of Iraq on 5 October 1980.

I would kindly request that this declaration be circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Salah Omar AL-ALI  
Permanent Representative

Annex

Declaration by the Revolutionary Command Council

(Sunday, 5 October 1980)

Iraqi troops continue their march, inflicting further defeats on the Persian enemy in view of its non-response to Iraq's unilateral truce that began early Sunday. Iraq will continue its honourable and just battle, whatever the sacrifices, to restore its rights and the rights of the Arab Nation.

Iraq, which has proven its ability to achieve victory, has leaned towards peace and goodness from a position of strength, but the racist Persian clique has tried to describe this position as being due to weakness.

The acts of the Iranian authorities have proven their insistence on continuing their aggressive and expansionist ambitions, neglecting their responsibility towards their people and the peoples of the world.

The reaction of the Teheran authorities to the Iraqi initiative to cease all military operations on the ground, air and sea was a continuation of their aggressive operations against our armed forces in the battlefield and over the Iraqi territories. Iranian ground forces have waged assaults on our forces, their war-planes have raided our civilian areas inside Iraqi territories, and their naval forces have committed similar acts in the water.

The Iraqi Government announces before the world, with good intentions and adherence to its principles and its sincere will to spare bloodshed and achieve a just solution, its adherence to the announcement of Iraq's President and Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces (on 28 September), in which he affirmed Iraq's immediate preparedness to cease fire, if Iran adheres to this sincere appeal, and announced Iraq's readiness to negotiate with Iran to achieve a just and honourable solution that guarantees our rights and principles. The Iranian Government must clearly legally and practically recognize Iraq's historic rights to its lands and waters, adhere to a policy of good neighbourly relations, renounce its racist aggressive and expansionist trends that interfere in the internal affairs of the region's countries and return every inch of Iraqi lands that it usurped, in addition to acknowledging the rights of Iraq and the Arab Nation.

Despite the fact that the Iranian authorities have refused the good initiative, which is highly appreciated by the Islamic Organization Conference and international friendly circles, and in spite of Khomeini's rejection of a cease-fire, the Iraqi Government has adhered to its obligation towards the Islamic States and the world. The Iraqi President and Commander-in-Chief of the Iraqi Armed Forces has ordered our forces to cease ground, air and naval military operations, effective at dawn on Sunday, 5 October 1980.

The Teheran rulers have not responded to this initiative but have continued their aggressive operations against our armed forces.

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Iraq, which was compelled to enter into war in retaliation for continued Iranian acts of aggression, has always emphasized its keenness on maintaining peace and preventing bloodshed, in order to reach a just solution that guarantees the legal rights over its lands and waters, as well as the rights of the Arab Nation.

Stemming from military potency and brave victories on the battlefield, President Hussein, in his historical speech last Sunday, announced Iraq's readiness to cease fire and start negotiation with the Iranian side directly or through a third party or international commission or organization which we respect and have confidence in.

Following the United Nations Security Council resolution calling for a cease-fire on the same day, Iraq expressed its readiness to comply with that resolution in a message sent by the President to United Nations Secretary-General Kurt Waldheim on 29 September 1980. But, the Iranian authorities did not respond to that initiative. On the contrary, they insisted on pursuing an expansionist policy against Iraq and Arab territories, threatening peace and security in the region and neglecting international public opinion.

Several friendly international circles and organizations have been in contact with Iraq, among which are Cuban President Fidel Castro, who is the present Chairman of the Non-Aligned Movement, and Pakistani President Mohammed Zia Ul-Haq, who is the Chairman of the Islamic Conference Organization. Iraq welcomed both initiatives. Those circles and organizations requested that Iraq, being the capable party, start an initiative which saves the other party's dignity. Some described it as an initiative of sympathy to bring about a suitable set of circumstances for the other party to comply with the cease-fire appeals from Iraq and the United Nations Security Council, as well as other international parties.

Stemming from those stands, Iraq's leadership studied President Zia Ul-Haq's proposals and approved Iraq's unilateral cease-fire for a certain period of time within common and practical conditions. That was given to President Zia to be announced during the Islamic Foreign Ministers Conference meeting in New York. President Zia announced Iraq's unilateral initiative for cease-fire effective Sunday, 5 October at dawn until Wednesday, 8 October with the following conditions, the breach of any of which gives Iraq the right to resume military operations:

1. Any military activity against Iraqi Armed Forces, whatever and wherever they take place, including reconnaissance activities.
2. The continuation of anti-ceasefire announcements and the rejection of negotiations coming from responsible political and military Iranian leaderships.
3. Additional military concentrations along the Iraqi borders or on the line of fire between the two armed forces.
4. The elapse of the said period without any frank official statement issued by the highest responsible authority in Iran, accepting the cease-fire and entering immediately into negotiations which aim at respect for Iraq and the Arab Nation's rights, and to legally and actually approve it.

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