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LETTER DATED 10 OCTOBER 1980 FROM THE SECRETARY-GENERAL  
ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

Enclosed for your information is a copy of a message I have sent today to the Presidents of Iran and Iraq. You may wish to bring the text of this appeal to the attention of the members of the Security Council.

(Signed) Kurt WALDHEIM

Annex

Letter dated 10 October 1980 from the Secretary-General  
addressed to the Presidents of Iran and Iraq

I have learned with deep concern of the casualties and damage incurred by international shipping as a result of the hostilities between Iran and Iraq. I am therefore appealing to both Governments urgently to take the necessary measures to ensure the security of peaceful shipping and lawful international commerce in the conflict area. I would hope very much that, as a first step, immediate measures can be taken to allow such ships now immobilized in the area of conflict to leave the area safely.

I fully understand the difficulties of making such arrangements in a conflict situation. I would therefore be grateful to know urgently your suggestions as to the necessary modalities to enable the ships concerned to leave safely. Clearly, such modalities would have to include at least a local cease-fire. My good offices are available to both parties to assist in making any such arrangements. In view of the international concern over this matter, I hope very much to receive a positive and early response to this appeal.

Kurt WALDHEIM  
Secretary-General  
United Nations

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