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LETTER DATED 26 APRIL 1988 FROM THE PERMANENT  
REPRESENTATIVE OF IRAQ TO THE UNITED NATIONS  
ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to transmit to you a letter dated 26 April 1988 from Mr. Tariq Aziz, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Iraq.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Ismat KITTANI  
Permanent Representative

Annex

Letter dated 26 April 1988 from the Deputy Prime Minister and  
Minister for Foreign Affairs of Iraq addressed to the  
Secretary-General

I have the honour to remind you that Iraq decided to halt its bombardment of Iranian cities with effect from midnight on the night of 20/21 April 1988, thus giving the Iranian régime, in conformity with Iraq's principled pursuit of peace, an opportunity to reconsider its position of aggression against Iraq, and particularly its attacks on Iraqi cities and villages.

Although Iraq faithfully adhered to its announcement and halted its bombardment of Iranian cities with effect from 20 April, the Iranian régime - as it has done on past occasions - failed to comply and instead resumed its past practices of deceit and the infliction of damage on purely residential centres in Iraq. Its forces of aggression struck civilian targets in the governorates of Basra and Sulaymaniyah on 21, 23, 24, 25 and 26 April, using bombs and tube-launcher missiles, firing a total of nine tube-launcher missiles and eight 130-millimetre artillery shells at Basra governorate and fifteen 155-millimetre artillery shells at Sulaymaniyah governorate. The bombardment caused the death of one citizen and injuries to seven others, including three women and one child, as well as the destruction of one house and damage to 19 other houses and six commercial stores.

While warning the Iranian régime of the consequences if it persists in its crimes against the civilian population of Iraq, the Iraqi Government at the same time holds that régime fully responsible for violating the halt to bombardment of the cities and for trying once again to ignite the war of the cities.

It is the hope of the Iraqi Government on this occasion that the international community will persuade the Iranian régime to bow to the logic of peace and to abandon its path of war and aggression.

I request that you have this letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Tariq AZIZ  
Deputy Prime Minister and  
Minister for Foreign Affairs of  
the Republic of Iraq

