



Security Council

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ORIGINAL: ARABICLETTER DATED 16 DECEMBER 1993 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE
OF KUWAIT TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF
THE SECURITY COUNCIL

On instructions from my Government, I should like to draw your attention to the contents of an interview with the Iraqi Minister of Culture and Information, Hamad Youssef Hammadi, on the subject of Kuwait, published on 14 and 15 November 1993 successively in the Jordanian newspapers Al-Dustur and Sawt al-Sha'b. It confirms, beyond any doubt, that the ciphers of the Iraqi regime, while asserting that they are committed to the implementation of Security Council resolution 687 (1991), which was accepted unconditionally by the Iraqi regime, are, we find, openly continuing to shirk compliance with the essence and core of this resolution, which calls upon Iraq to respect the sovereignty and independence of Kuwait in accordance with its international boundaries.

The Minister of Culture and Information was asked the following question by a correspondent from the Jordanian newspaper Al-Dustur: "How do you view Kuwait today? Is it still a part of Iraq? What is your position?"

The Iraqi Minister replied: "The major Powers may change geography, but they cannot change history. This is not an emotional observation; the examples are numerous. Take the Palestinian issue, for example. However many partial solutions there are, they do not mean an end to the issue or an end to Palestine is finished. China did not forget Formosa. Western Germany did not forget East Germany. And Kuwait was a part of Iraq."

In the other interview, conducted by Sawt al-Sha'b, the Iraqi Minister of Culture and Information says, in a similar statement: "Why does Japan not forget its islands held by Russia? Why did Western Germany not forget East Germany? The issue is not Kuwait but the fact that Kuwait was a part of Iraq until 1961, when the British made it a State, and that situation persisted until 1990."

As you are aware, Mr. President, these allegations are the major motive for Iraq's invasion of Kuwait, and the continued espousal of these allegations by Iraqi officials and their repetition by the various media, even after the liberation of Kuwait, is clear proof that the motives for the invasion are still

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in existence and that Iraq's unconditional acceptance of resolution 687 (1991) was only a cover to hide Iraq's real intentions.

Accordingly, we believe that it is incumbent on the Security Council, on the basis of its responsibility to ascertain that its resolutions, particularly those adopted under Chapter VII of the Charter, are fully respected and implemented, to take appropriate measures and to demand that Iraq affirm its respect for and implementation of paragraph 2 of resolution 687 (1991) and Security Council resolution 833 (1993). Without such compliance by Iraq, Iraq can absolutely not be deemed to have fulfilled its commitments under resolution 687 (1991), not to mention the essential requirement thereof, namely, respect for Kuwait's sovereignty and independence.

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

(Signed) Mohammad A. ABULHASAN
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

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Annex

Al-Dustur, Sunday, 14 November 1993 - No. 9422, Vol. 27

"How do you view Kuwait today? Is it still a part of Iraq? What is your position exactly?"

"The major Powers may change geography, but they cannot change history. This is not an emotional observation; the examples are numerous. Take the Palestinian issue, for example. However many partial solutions there are, they do not mean an end to the issue or an end to Palestine is finished. China did not forgotten Formosa. Western Germany did not forget East Germany. And Kuwait was a part of Iraq."

Annex

Al-Sha'b, 24-150

The Minister of Information of Iraq pointed out that the major Powers could change geography but could not change history and that that was a fact and the examples were numerous. Why did Japan not forget its islands in Russia? Why did West Germany not forget East Germany? "The issue is not Kuwait but the fact that Kuwait was a part of Iraq until 1961, when the British made it a State, and that situation persisted until 1990.

"What happened was that the boundary with Kuwait was not demarcated during the British mandate, as is evident from the fact that Kuwaiti passports were issued from the Matla' area, which is 80 kilometres distant from Safwan. What also happened, however, was that a part of Iraq was severed and used against the motherland, Iraq. Prior to 1989, when Iraq was busy with its war with Iran, the Kuwaitis were asking Iraq for demarcation of the boundary, and when Iraq made the same request, after this date and after the victories which it had achieved over Iran ...".
