



Security Council

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LETTER DATED 14 MAY 1996 FROM THE CHARGE D'AFFAIRES A.I.
OF THE PERMANENT MISSION OF IRAQ TO THE UNITED NATIONS
ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to inform you that violations of Iraq's airspace by United States, British and French aircraft continued over the period 15-30 April 1996 and that those aircraft carried out reconnaissance and engaged in acts of provocation. The details are as follows:

1. In the northern region 79 sorties were flown at speeds of 600 to 900 kilometres per hour and at altitudes of 6,000 to 9,000 metres over the following Iraqi cities and towns: Mosul, Irbil, Dohuk, Zakho, Aqrah, Amadiyah and Tall Afar.
2. In the southern region 980 sorties were flown at speeds of 600 to 900 kilometres per hour and at altitudes of 6,000 to 9,000 metres over the following Iraqi cities and towns: Nasiriyah, Samawah, Jalibah, Artawi, Busayyah, Qurnah, Chabaish, Khidr, Shatrah, Hamzah, Qal'at Salih, Basra, Salman, Amarah, Shanafiyah and Lasaf.
3. On 19 occasions a United States TR-1 reconnaissance aircraft flying at speeds of 600 kilometres per hour and at altitudes of 20,000 metres violated the Republic of Iraq's airspace in the southern region before leaving in the direction of Kuwait.
4. At 1225 hours and 1258 hours on 26 April 1996 a hostile formation dropped 15 heat flares 20 kilometres south of Dohuk, five heat flares 20 kilometres east of Saddam Dam and 10 heat flares on the Qush region in Ninawa Governorate.
5. At 0920 hours on 27 April 1996 a hostile aircraft dropped leaflets over the Dayr region in Basra Governorate.
6. Between 0830 hours and 1005 hours on 28 April 1996 four hostile helicopters coming from Kuwaiti airspace at speeds of 180 kilometres per hour dropped enemy leaflets over parts of Basra and Safwan in Basra Governorate and returned in the direction of Kuwaiti airspace.

You are requested to intervene with the States in question with a view to bringing a halt to actions that, as flagrant violations of the Charter of the United Nations and the norms of international law, pose a threat to the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Republic of Iraq.

These actions continue to alarm the civilian population and to cause serious damage to private and public property. The Republic of Iraq asserts its right to seek legal compensation for the damage being inflicted on the Iraqi people and the Iraqi State.

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

(Signed) Saeed H. HASAN
Chargé d'affaires a.i.
