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LETTER DATED 12 JUNE 1981 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF INDIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to transmit to you a statement issued by the official spokesman of the Ministry of External Affairs of the Government of India on an attack on the Iraqi Osirak Atomic Reactor by Israeli war planes on 7 June 1981. I should be grateful if you could have the text of the statement circulated as a decument of the Security Council.

(Signed) N. KRISHNAN
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of India
to the United Nations

Annex

Statement issued by the Official Spokesman of the Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India, on 9 June 1981

The Government of India have learnt with grave concern and a sense of deep indignation the destruction of the Iraqi Osirak Atomic Reactor by the Israeli war planes on 7 June. This Israeli action is stark adventurism and blatant intervention and aggression deserving condemnation.

Iraq has repeatedly stated that its programme in the nuclear field is confined to the utilization of nuclear energy and technology for peaceful purposes. There is, therefore, also no basis for the Israeli contention that Iraq was on the verge of producing atomic weapons.

The aggressive, expansionist and anti-Arab policies of Israel have been a source of instability and tension in the region. This highly reprehensible act of unprovoked and unjustified attack on the Iraqi atomic reactor has made a mockery of accepted norms of international conduct and behaviour and sets a most unfortunate precedent.