



## Security Council

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LETTER DATED 13 OCTOBER 1997 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 inform you as follows:

1. At 1730 hours on 5 October 1997, two Kuwaiti patrol boats, each of them gun-metal grey in colour, armed with a medium-sized machine-gun and carrying a crew of three, were observed within the demilitarized zone.

2. At 2330 hours on 5 October 1997, two Kuwaiti patrol boats, each armed with a medium-sized machine-gun, opened fire in the direction of an Iraqi coastguard vessel within Iraqi territorial waters.

I request your intervention with Kuwait with a view to inducing it to desist from such provocative practices, which are in violation of the Charter of the United Nations and the norms of international law. In accordance with the principle of State responsibility, I also affirm the legally established right of the Republic of Iraq to seek compensation for the damage caused to it by these acts of aggression.

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

(Signed) Nizar HAMDOON  
Ambassador  
Permanent Representative

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