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LETTER DATED 20 FEBRUARY 1998 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE
OF THE UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND TO
THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

I have the honour to bring to your attention the statement by the
Presidency of the European Union on the Iraqi crisis issued on 20 February 1998
(see annex).

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

(Signed) John WESTON
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

Annex

[Original: English and French]

Statement by the Presidency of the European Union on
the Iraqi crisis

The European Union expresses its strong support for and complete confidence in the Secretary-General of the United Nations in his mission to Baghdad to seek a solution to the present crisis in Iraq.

A diplomatic solution to the present crisis is still possible, providing that Iraq respects the resolutions of the Security Council and accepts an arrangement for access to presidential sites on terms consistent with the requirements of the international community.

The European Union urges the Iraqi authorities to seize the opportunity presented by the Secretary-General's mission to announce their intention to comply fully with the relevant Security Council resolutions.
