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Note verbale dated 16 December 1981 from the Chargé d'Affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Iran to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

The Chargé d'Affaires of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the United Nations presents his compliments to the Secretary-General of the United Nations and has the honour to bring to his attention the attached communiqué received from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran. It would be highly appreciated if the necessary measures could be taken to have this communiqué distributed as an official document of the General Assembly under agenda item 57, and of the Security Council.

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## ANNEX

Based on reports received from eye witnesses as well as reliable military sources of the Islamic Republic of Iran, the regime of Iraq has once again demonstrated its utter disregard for all international conventions pertaining to human rights in war and has acted with utmost barbarity and cruelty against civilian citizens of Iran as well as Iranian war prisoners. Some examples of the criminal acts of Iraq are as follows:

1) On 9 December, the day preceding the International Day for Human Rights, Iraq conducted a series of air and rocket attacks against civilian centers in the city of Ilam which resulted in the martyrdom of 21 innocent civilians including children as young as three years, and the injuring of 50 civilians, including children.

On 10 December, the International Day for Human Rights, Iraq launched a series of air and rocket attacks against civilian centers in the city of Dezful, resulting in the martyrdom of 20 civilians, and the injuring of 110 civilians and the destruction of 100 houses.

On 11 December, the day after the International Day for Human Rights, Iraq launched air and rocket attacks on the city of

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Ahvaz, martyring 9 innocent men, women and children, and wounding 65 other civilians. The abovementioned acts constitute the commemoration by the Iraqi regime of the International Day for Human Rights.

- 2) Iraqi army personnel are engaged continuously in forced violations of the human dignity and honour of Iranian civilians in the areas still under Iraqi military occupation.
- 3) Reports are received continuously of acts of torture and even executions committed against innocent Iranian civilians as well as Iranian war prisoners by Iraqi army personnel.

During the past 15 months of the unjust war that Iraq has imposed upon Iran, the international community has chosen to remain a distant spectator, equating in its mild calls for an end to hostilities, the aggressor Iraq with the victim, Iran, thus prolonging the act of agression by Iraq. The silence of the international community on the crimes of Iraq against Iranians will be recorded in history and the moral responsibility for this silence will be borne by members of the international community themselves. But, in case the United Nations wishes to be informed of the crimes that are being committed by Iraq, a special representative is invited to visit the war zone and report on his observations to the Assembly.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran