

Security Council

Distr. GENERAL

9/19874 10 May 1988

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

LETTER DATED 10 MAY 1988 FROM THE CHARGE D'AFFAIRES A.I. OF THE PERMANENT MISSION OF THE ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

Upon instructions from my Government, I have the honour to inform you that on 3 May 1988, at 2010 hours, an American ship at a distance of seven miles from the Resalat oil platform in the Persian Gulf, by using light signals, gave a warning to "Mehrab" supply ship of the Iranian Falat-e-Ghareh company, en route from the Lavan Island to the Salman oil platform, to stop. The radar of the "Mehrah" was simultaneously jammed by the American ship for the duration of 45 minutes. According to information received, the said American ship was escorting a fleet of oil tankers passing through the Persian Gulf. It was only subsequent to the exit of the tanker fleet from the area that "Mehrah" was allowed to resume its voyage.

The Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran strongly protests this act of the American ship in contravention of all recognized rules of international law, which in fact interfered with the free passage of a commercial ship in international waters.

It would be highly appreciated if this letter were circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(<u>Signed</u>) Mahmoud Sadat MADARSHAHI Ambassador Chargé d'affaires a.i.

