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LETTER DATED 9 MAY 1988 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF KUWAIT
TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

On instructions from my Government, I wish to reaffirm the clarifications which Kuwait has addressed to all with respect to the allegations made by the Islamic Republic of Iran. Kuwait refuted these allegations in our letter which was circulated in document S/19849 of 28 April 1988.

Kuwait has always affirmed that it is not a party to this destructive war which is now being waged between two neighbours, Iraq and Iran. It has also confirmed that it will not permit any non-Kuwaitis to establish a presence in or to make use of its land, territorial waters or airspace. Iran has been officially informed of this position on numerous occasions.

Kuwait, like all peace-loving countries, has endeavoured to find a just, peaceful and honourable solution to this destructive war. This admirable effort is one of the solid foundations of our policy. However, to our great regret, Iran has constantly and deliberately insisted on making false and unrealistic allegations against Kuwait. The entire international community has observed, particularly of late, an intensification in the language of Iranian threats contained in that country's official notes to the United Nations which are directed against Kuwait, in a manner that suggests the existence of deliberate designs against Kuwait and its territorial integrity.

Kuwait views these notes with deep concern, particularly the latest note from the Iranian delegation, as circulated in document S/19865 of 5 May 1988, which contains a veiled threat against the security and stability of Kuwait. These grave threats directly contravened Chapter I, Article 2, paragraph 4 of the Charter of the United Nations, which stipulates that "All Members shall refrain in their international relations from the threat or use of force against the territorial integrity or political independence of any state, or in any other manner inconsistent with the Purposes of the United Nations".

The Iranian threats, both declared and veiled, flagrantly contravene and violate the Charter, international law and the principles of good-neighbourliness.

While exercising the utmost degree of self-restraint, Kuwait draws the attention of the world community to the gravity of the threats which the Iranians may carry out, especially since they have already fired a Scud missile at Kuwait (on 20 April 1988), of which you were notified at the time.

The continued repetition of such threats seriously increases the tension in the region at a time when Kuwait has been seeking to ease it and to end the tragic war between the two neighbours, Iraq and Iran.

In view of the above, we ask you and the members of the Security Council, particularly the permanent members - who are entrusted with a special responsibility to maintain international peace and security - to take steps to adopt a clear and unequivocal position *vis-à-vis* these Iranian threats against Kuwait.

Kuwait reserves the right to request the Security Council to take any appropriate measures or steps within the context of the Charter with a view to maintaining its security, sovereignty and territorial integrity.

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

(Signed) Mohammad Abdullah ABULHASAN
Permanent Representative

