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LETTER DATED 10 JANUARY 1987 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 enclose herewith the text of the letter of His Excellency Dr. Ali-Akbar Velayati, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran addressed to Your Excellency.

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

(Signed) Mohammad Javad ZARIF
Charge d'affaires a.i.

Annex

Letter from the Minister for Foreign Affairs of
the Islamic Republic of Iran addressed to the
Secretary-General

Today, the aggressor and criminal regime of Iraq, in continuation of its persistence on violating the rules of international humanitarian law, and following its massacre of innocent civilians in cities of Esfahan and Susangerd and villages of Jateh and Bin-Ja'afar on 9 January 1987 -- which were brought to Your Excellency's attention by the Permanent Mission of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the United Nations -- attacked purely civilian quarters in the cities of Boroojerd, Dezful, Ramhormoz, and Nahavand. Today's missile and aerial attacks have claimed the lives of more than 90 civilians, wounded more than 290 others, and destroyed several residential units. In addition to these atrocities against innocent civilians, the Iraqi regime, as Your Excellency was informed, resorted to banned chemical weapons several times within the past three days.

As Your Excellency is well-aware, the Iraqi policy of resorting to chemical warfare and attacking non-military and residential centers illustrates the determination of the war-monger regime of Iraq to continue and intensify its aggressive tactics in the imposed war. The decadent regime of Iraq, unable to face the heroism of Muslim combatants in the battlefield, has once again resorted to such despicable atrocities, and has intensified its violation of the most fundamental principles of international law governing the conduct of armed hostilities, thereby adding to the already voluminous record of its war crimes.

It is necessary to note that Iraqi attacks against purely civilian quarters have continued with an increasing trend, and in the absence of meaningful and tangible punitive and preventive measures on the part of the international community, the falling regime of Iraq will find the audacity to continue committing new and more atrocious crimes.

While the Islamic Republic of Iran once again reiterates its continued commitment to the observance of all pertinent rules of international law in the imposed war, it awaits effective measures by Your Excellency to bring Iraqi inhuman practices to an immediate end. In the absence of immediate and meaningful international

action to halt Iraqi acts of aggression, the Islamic Republic of Iran will have no alternative but to resort, reluctantly, to retaliation in exercise of its legitimate right of self-defense against these unprecedented crimes against humanity. Clearly, the aggressor and lawless regime of Iraq will have to bear full responsibility for the consequences of such retaliatory measures.

Ali Akbar VELAYATI
Minister of Foreign Affairs
of the Islamic Republic of Iran
