



Security Council

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LETTER DATED 19 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 the Iraqi régime, in continuation of its persistent policy of resorting to chemical weapons, attacked several Iranian villages with chemical agents during the past two days.

On 17 May 1988, villages of Molla-Sheikh and Bazileh in the vicinity of Sardasht were targets of Iraqi aerial attacks using chemical agents which caused injury to 150 people.

On 18 May 1988, intruding Iraqi fighters dropped chemical bombs on the village of Ney in the vicinity of Marivan, which caused the martyrdom of three and injury to eight others.

These latest manifestations of declared Iraqi policy of persistence in the illegal and savage use of chemical weapons once again illustrate the disastrous effects of lack of effective punitive and preventive measures on the part of the international community. It is now abundantly clear that the failure of the United Nations machinery to take the Iraqi régime to task for its genocidal use of chemical weapons in Halabja and other large-scale resorts to chemical warfare against both Iranian and Iraqi targets is at least partially responsible for the continuation and escalation of the criminal behaviour shown by Iraqi aggressors.

The Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran, warning the United Nations about the grave consequences of its expedient inaction, wishes to place an official request for the immediate dispatch of a complete team to investigate the extent of the latest Iraqi crimes.

Furthermore, the Security Council - which in accordance with paragraph 5 of its resolution 612 (1988) is "seized of the matter" and has expressed its "determination to review the implementation of this resolution" - is duty-bound to take these renewed resorts to chemical warfare into serious consideration and take effective punitive and preventive measures in this regard against the criminal Iraqi régime which is in clear violation of Security Council resolution 612 (1988).

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

(Signed) Mahmoud S. MADARSHAH
Ambassador
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

