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LETTER DATED 19 JUNE 1988 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF
IRAQ TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE
SECURITY COUNCIL

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to inform you that Radio Tehran has reported that Iraq attacked the city of Mehran on six fronts last night and this morning. In addition, the Iranian media claimed today that Iraqi forces had used chemical weapons during the attack.

Those Iranian allegations are completely unfounded. In this connection, Mr. Latif Nasif Jassim, the Iraqi Minister of Culture and Information, has stated that Iraqi forces have not launched any attack on Mehran. He pointed out that it was the national liberation forces of the Iranian opposition, the people's mujahidin, that had launched the attack. This, then, is an exclusively Iranian affair that does not involve Iraq. The Minister categorically denied any use of chemical weapons, and pointed out that whenever the Tehran régime suffered a military defeat or setback, it resorted to the traditional manoeuvre of justifying such misfortunes by invoking the false argument regarding the use of chemical weapons.

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

(Signed) Ismat KITTANI
Permanent Representative