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LETTER DATED 8 JULY 1988 FROM THE CHARGE D'AFFAIRES A.I. OF THE
PERMANENT MISSION OF GHANA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO
THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

On instructions of my Government, I have the honour to transmit the attached statement issued on the shooting down of the Iranian civilian aircraft on Saturday, 2 July 1988.

I should be grateful if you would arrange for the text to be circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) N. K. DUMEVI
Chargé d'Affaires, a.i.

Annex

STATEMENT ISSUED BY THE GOVERNMENT OF GHANA ON THE SHOOTING
DOWN OF THE IRANIAN CIVILIAN AIRCRAFT ON 2 JULY 1988

The Government of Ghana wishes to express its deep consternation at the news of the shooting down by the United States navy of an Iranian civilian airliner resulting in the loss of nearly 300 lives. The Government of Ghana has consistently maintained that the introduction of naval forces of the major Powers into the Gulf area is uncalled for and fraught with danger. The unwillingness to yield to the demand to withdraw these forces has now led to this unwarranted and unacceptable act which has taken away the most basic of human rights, the right to life, from the innocent victims, including over 50 children and babies on board the aircraft. We view it not only as an unforqivable and violent act, but also as a deliberate provocation against Iran that could lead to an escalation of the Gulf war. The Government of Ghana calls for an immediate investigation under the auspices of the United Nations into the circumstances of the shooting down of the airliner. Meanwhile the Government of Ghana wishes to convey its profound sympathy and condolences to the bereaved families of the victims of this outrage.

