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DEVELOPMENT AND STRENGTHENING OF GOOD
NEIGHBOURLINESS BETWEEN STATES

SECURITY COUNCIL
Thirty-eighth year

Letter dated 24 February 1983 from the Permanent Representative
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 bring to your attention a report published in the Lebanese weekly Al-Hawadeth in its latest issue, dated 18 February 1983, entitled "Al-Hawadeth on the Iraqi Front: The Commander of the Fourth Army: we will redraw the borderline and we will not give up the highlands and the mountains!" In this report, the Commander of Iraq's Fourth Army is quoted as saying:

"Colonialism, which drew the borderline between Iraq and Iran, was on the side of Iran ... as it incorporated all the highlands and mountains within the Iranian border and left the plains and the lowlands to the Iraqis, so that Iraq remains strategically under the mercy of Iran". And he adds:

"As you can see, these mountains and highlands are with us now, and they will remain so and we will not give them up ... and when new borders will be drawn, we will draw them and not colonialism. In other words, the mountains will remain ours." (Unofficial translation from Arabic)

The Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran deems it necessary to draw the attention of the international community once again to the following facts:

1. This is not the first time that Iraqi officials at the highest ranks have confessed to the territorial ambitions that the ruling régime of Iraq has in Iran.

* A/38/50.

2. The western highlands are not the only territories in Iran that Iraq dreams of annexing.

3. Statements like the one quoted above leave no doubt about the true objectives of the Iraqi war of aggression against Iran, namely the destruction of the Islamic Revolution and the annexation of Iranian territories.

4. Iraq has been conducting a vast propaganda campaign during the past three years to deliberately deceive the international community as regards the truth of what is happening on the war fronts. What better proof of the unworthiness of Saddam Hussein's words than the fact that last year he officially declared the complete withdrawal of his troops to international borders for the sake of peace, when the Commander of his Fourth Army was boasting last week of the territories that Iraq still occupies and intends to keep. Saddam Hussein has also declared his respect for the provisions of the 1975 treaty on the Iran-Iraq borderline, while his generals speak of a unilateral redrawing of the borders by Iraq.

5. The fact that the leaders of the Zionist entity and Iraq use similar arguments to justify their expansionist policies is not a surprise to the Muslim people of Iran, because they are aware that the leaders of both countries have been raised within the same imperialistic tradition.

6. In order to comprehend the position of the Islamic Republic of Iran with regard to the Iraqi war of aggression, the international community must closely follow the realities that exist on the battle fronts rather than be influenced by Iraqi-initiated propaganda.

I would like to request that the contents of this letter be distributed as a document of the General Assembly, under item 64 of the preliminary list, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Said RAJAIE KHORASSANI
Permanent Representative
