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LETTER DATED 26 AUGUST 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 of further violations of the cease-fire by the Iraqi forces.

1. At 8:25 hours, on 21 August 1988, Iraqi forces fired a 120 millimetre artillery shell at Sumar at the geographic co-ordinates of 609-521 N while the United Nations observers were present.
2. Between 15:40 and 15:50 hours, on 22 August 1988, an Iraqi helicopter penetrated Iranian airspace by 1 kilometre and flew over Iranian territory within an area of 5 kilometre width.
3. On 23 August 1988, a number of Iranian military personnel in the Pichangiz and Sharhani areas as well as in the north of Fakkeh were captured by Iraqi forces:
  - From Sarab Brigade 40, 16 officers and 130 soldiers were captured.
  - From infantry unit 77, 53 officers and 467 soldiers as well as a cleric were captured.

The above arrests were made in the presence of United Nations observers. But, the Iraqi commander has denied capturing any Iranian personnel. Furthermore, in this area, Iraqi forces have refrained from withdrawing their forces now stationed 2 kilometres from the west side of the Viraj River.

In the Sharhani-Chamsari area, the general area of Einkhosh and Dezful, after consultations with the United Nations observer team, Iraqi forces retreated to their original positions but refused to release seven captured Iranian officers, seven soldiers and all their individual guns.

At 10:15 hours, two United Nations observer officers went to the Sarab Brigade 40 station and then, accompanied by Iranian officers, went to the defence posts of the Iranian forces to witness Iraqi violation of the cease-fire; these forces were advancing with 25 tanks and armoured vehicles along the route leading to Chamhendi. The Iraqi forces ignored all warnings by United Nations observers and advanced to the rear of Iranian forces.

4. At 6:00 hours on 25 August 1988, an Iranian military personnel was hit by an Iraqi bullet and martyred in the Khosroabad in Abadan.

5. At 11:15 hours on 25 August 1988, Iraqi forces fired an artillery shell in the north of Fakkeh at the geographic co-ordinates of 56500-51500.

It should be noted that if the above violations and provocations by Iraqi forces continue, the Islamic Republic of Iran will have no option but to exercise its right to retaliation in kind. Any responsibility for the consequences thereof will then lie with Iraq.

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

(Signed) Mahmoud Sadat MADARSHAHI  
Ambassador  
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

