



Security Council

Distr.
GENERALS/15909
4 August 1983

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

LETTER DATED 3 AUGUST 1983 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE
ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE
SECRETARY-GENERAL

I have been instructed to bring to your attention the following information. On 2 August, the Iraqi Minister of Culture and Information stated that, if "Iran does not desist its bombardment of civilian targets in Iraq, then Iraq will retaliate severely and will erase the cities of Iran from the face of the earth." As previous experience has demonstrated, such declarations by Iraq only indicate the intention of the rulers of that country to resume their criminal attacks on innocent civilians in the Islamic Republic of Iran. The last series of extensive missile attacks on Iranian civilians followed a statement by the Iraqi Minister of Culture and Information on 2 May 1983 to the effect that "Iraq will bombard Iranian cities in retaliation to Iranian shelling of Iraqi cities." This information was duly brought to your attention in my letter dated 5 May 1983, distributed as Security Council document S/15747. The actual attacks took place on 12 May, the details of which were brought to your attention in my letter of 13 May, distributed as Security Council document S/15763.

Your Excellency's report on the mission to inspect civilian areas in Iran and Iraq which have been subject to military attack, distributed as Security Council document S/15834, clearly demonstrated that, while it has never been the policy of the armed forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran to destroy civilian targets in Iraq or to attack Iraqi civilians, the policy of Iraq's army of aggression has always been "to erase Iranian cities from the face of the earth," as the Minister of Culture and Information of Iraq has stated. In fact the main activity of Iraq's army of aggression during its two years of illegal occupation of parts of Iranian territory was the deliberate eradication of all signs of life in the areas under its occupation to the extent possible. The mission dispatched by you to both Iran and Iraq stood witness to this fact.

The Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran believes that this same objective is what drives Iraq's army of aggression to bombard Iranian border towns with long range artillery now that the Iraqi aggressors have been pushed back from

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most of the areas they had occupied. The latest operations of the Moslem combatants of the Islamic Republic of Iran in late July against the Iraqi aggressors on two fronts were aimed at silencing sources of artillery fire against the towns of Piranshahr and Sardasht from the Iraqi garrison of Haj Umran and also freeing the town of Mehran from the range of Iraqi artillery fire. Any action by the rulers of Iraq to resume barbaric attacks on Iranian civilians will be a futile attempt to overshadow the success of the above operations.

The Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran wishes to reiterate once again its belief that the indifference of the international community and the Security Council to the crimes against humanity committed by the rulers of Iraq constitutes encouragement for those who commit such crimes and reward for their barbaric actions.

I would appreciate if this letter could be distributed as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Said RAJAIE KHORASSANI
Ambassador
Permanent Representative
