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LETTER DATED 6 MARCH 1974 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE  
OF IRAN TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF  
THE SECURITY COUNCIL

On instruction of my Government, I have the honour to bring the following to your attention for the information of the members of the Security Council.

On 4 March, at 0300 hours local time, Iraqi forces opened fire with heavy military equipment on the Iranian border posts of Zeynal Kosh, Amineh, Reza Abad and Tangabkohneh in the area of Khan Leili of Ghasre Shirin which lasted for several hours. On 5 March, Iraqi forces resumed the shelling of Iranian border posts in the area of Khan Leili. Iranian border patrols, acting in self-defence, returned the fire. So far, one Iranian soldier has been killed and three have been injured. A detailed account of these incidents shall be forwarded to you under a separate cover.

This latest example of Iraqi violations not only reflects hostility towards Iran but is a manifestation of contempt for the Security Council, of which Iraq is a member. My Government finds it incomprehensible that a State placed by the members of the United Nations in a position of primary responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security can, when the ink thereon is hardly dry, flout a consensus which it sought, in the framing of which it participated and to which it pledged its support and co-operation. By continuing its unprovoked acts of hostility, Iraq has put itself in defiance of a consensus of the Council, which has, inter alia, appealed to the parties to refrain from all military action and from any move which might aggravate the situation.

The Government of Iran has made a formal protest to the Iraqi Embassy in Teheran on 6 March.

I have the honour to request that this letter be distributed as an official document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Fereydoun HOVEYDA  
Permanent Representative of Iran  
to the United Nations