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LETTER DATED 20 SEPTEMBER 1974 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF IRAQ
TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

On instructions from my Government and with reference to the letter addressed to you on 11 September 1974 by the Permanent Representative of Iran to the United Nations (S/11504), I would like to state that I do not wish to take the valuable time of the members of the Council with a detailed reply to the contents of the Iranian letter, to comment on its tone and language, or on its distortions, especially in its interpretation of paragraph 35 of the Secretary-General's report. I shall merely refer the members of the Council to my previous communications concerning the situation on the Iraqi-Iranian borders.

It is most regrettable that these borders have witnessed over the last few months, and continue to witness, what amounts to an almost daily violation of the territorial integrity of Iraq. The Iraqi authorities have informed their Iranian counterpart of Iraq's readiness to establish a joint commission for the withdrawal of their respective troop concentrations from the border areas. The Iranian Government has not yet replied to the Iraqi proposal.

In bringing these facts before the Council, Iraq is not interested in scoring propaganda points; it is only interested in informing the Council of the real developments in the situation and in confirmation of Iraq's seriousness and good faith in implementing Security Council resolution 348 (1974). We hope and expect that the Iranian Government would act in the same spirit.

I would kindly request that this letter be circulated as an official document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Abdul Karim AL-SHAIKHLY
Permanent Representative