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LETTER DATED 8 NOVEMBER 1968 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE
OF IRAQ TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF
THE SECURITY COUNCIL

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to refer to document S/8886 containing a letter dated 5 November 1968 from the Permanent Representative of Israel to the United Nations addressed to Your Excellency.

I am instructed to deny categorically the allegation that the Iraqi forces stationed in Jordan to protect that country against Israeli aggression fired mortar shells across the Jordan River into Israel occupied territory on the night 16/17 October 1968.

Undoubtedly, Israel's aim from these fabrications is to divert attention from its continuous violations of the cease-fire and its repeated acts of aggression and lawlessness against the neighbouring Arab countries. The fact of the matter is that the Iraqi forces are stationed far from the cease-fire lines, and it was Israel which had been firing long-range artillery shells on the Iraqi positions, as was the case on the night of 27/28 October 1968. There is no doubt that the letter of Israel's representative was designed to justify this action, which is a gross violation of the cease-fire accepted by both Jordan and Israel. The Iraqi troops in Jordan are there at the request of the Government of Jordan and are under the joint command whose attitude to the cease-fire is governed by the position of both the Governments of Jordan and the United Arab Republic.

I have the honour to request that this letter be circulated as a Security Council document.

Please accept, etc.

(Signed) Adnan PACHACHI
Permanent Representative of Iraq
to the United Nations