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LETTER DATED 8 FEBRUARY 1989 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF IRAO TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to transmit to you a letter from Mr. Tarig Aziz, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Iraq, dated 8 February 1989.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

> Ismat KITTANI (Signed) Permanent Representative

Annex

Letter dated 8 February 1989 from the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs of Iraq addressed to the Secretary-General

As you are aware, the Iranian armed forces for many years occupied a large area of Iraqi territory. The distribution of Iran's occupation of Iraqi territory, before the liberation of that territory began in April 1988, was as follows:

	Location	Area occupied
1.	Al-Faw	235 square kilometres
2.	Shalamcheh	175 square kilometres
3.	Majnoon	1,447 square kilometres, including the surface of the lake
4.	Makhfar Zayd	56 square kilometres
5.	Sayf Sa'd-Sanuba	143 square kilometres
6.	Zubaydat	127 square kilometres
7.	Mehran	182 square kilometres
8.	Halabjah/Panjwin/Mawat	1,899 square kilometres
9.	Hajj Umran	170 square kilometres

The Iraqi armed forces liberated the occupied Iraqi territory, which amounted to 4,434 square kilometres, after a series of battles between April and July 1988. During those battles, the districts of Al-Faw, Shalamcheh, the Majnoon islands, Zubaydat, the area east of Basra, Halabjah and Hajj Umran were liberated.

As you are aware, the Iraqi armed forces, pursuant to the military requirements of the liberation operations, penetrated deep into Iranian territory and took control of territory for a period of time in accordance with the military necessity to drive back the occupying Iranian forces and to relieve them of their weapons and military equipment. The Iraqi forces withdrew as soon as the liberation of Iraqi territory was completed and the Iranian war machine was destroyed. The area of territory involved amounted to 9,619 square kilometres.

We transmit herewith a set of maps showing the Iraqi territory which Iran persisted in occupying for a number of years and from which it refused to withdraw,

These proven facts confirm Iraq's good intentions, its respect for the territorial integrity of its neighbour, Iran, the absence of any designs on its part and its desire to reach a settlement which will ensure the rights and dignity of both parties in accordance with the precepts of international law and the provisions of resolution 598 (1987). It also confirms the essential difference between Iraq's position of principle and the position of Iran when that country occupied Iraqi territory by force and described such occupation as "liberation", referring to the riches and resources on and beneath its surface as if they were already Iranian property. As we had already informed you in many letters which were distributed as documents of the Security Council, this position was indicative of an intention to usurp such territory and to hold it as a base for further acts of occupation and expansion.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(<u>Signed</u>) Tariq AZIZ

Deputy Prime Minister and
Minister for Foreign Affairs
of the Republic of Iraq











