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LETTER DATED 19 OCTOBER 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 inform you that on Tuesday, 11 October 1983, Iraq committed another crime against humanity by conducting new bombardment raids against innocent Iranian civilians in the town of Marivan. Those attacks resulted in the death of 3 and the injury of 20 persons and the destruction of a number of residential buildings. Aerial attacks also took place against residential quarters of Baneh on 15 October, resulting in 20 people dead and 50 injured, and several residential quarters destroyed.

Those attacks were the latest of numerous acts of barbarism committed by the Ba'thist régime of Iraq subsequent to the publishing of Your Excellency's report of the fact-finding mission dispatched to both Iran and Iraq to assess damages inflicted on civilian life by deliberate military action. The report, though not perfect because of time limitations, clearly demonstrated Iraq's total disregard for international humanitarian law regarding civilian life in time of war.

The persistence of Iraq in repeating its criminal acts against Iranian civilians is the direct result of the fact that the international community and the Security Council have tacitly supported such action by Iraq through their silence. The inaction of the Security Council on the report of the fact-finding mission stands witness to the aloofness of the Security Council with regard to the realities of the ongoing conflict between Iran and Iraq. The people of Iran consider the crimes committed by the leaders of Iraq against civilian life in Iran a major cause for the continuation of the conflict between the two countries and believe that before any step can be taken to establish real peace, those responsible for these crimes must be brought to justice.

I would appreciate it if this letter were distributed as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Said RAJAIE KHORASSANI  
Ambassador  
Permanent Representative