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LETTER DATED 16 JULY 1984 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF
THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED
TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

I have the honor to refer to the letter dated 5 July 1984 addressed to you from the Permanent Representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran contained in document S/16656. That letter transmitted the text of an alleged news item from IRNA containing accusations against the United States which are totally false and groundless.

The United States Government has never provided Iraq with chemical warfare agents or components. There were no "special flights Nos. SR-71-E and SR-02-F" or any other United States military flights on 21 January or at any other time, as alleged in the IRNA statement. The numbers cited are not designations that the United States Government uses for flights. The name cited of "a United States Military Officer, Major P. R. Prices" (or "Price"), accused of signing an alleged "letter on the transfer of the chemical", does not appear anywhere on duty rosters of the United States military services.

United States government policy prohibits the transfer of compounds to Iran and Iraq which could be used in the manufacture of chemical weapons. That policy has been and will continue to be strictly enforced. Moreover, it has been the long-standing policy of my Government to prohibit the export of chemical weapons or chemical-weapons components from the United States to any country.

The United States has condemned the use of chemical warfare agents consistently over a span of many years, regardless of the circumstances of the country illegally using such weapons. The United States will continue to do so, just as we will continue to support international efforts to end all use of chemical weapons in violation of international law and agreements.

I request this letter be circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Jeane J. KIRKPATRICK