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Agenda item 44CONSEQUENCES OF THE PROLONGATION OF THE ARMED CONFLICT
BETWEEN IRAN AND IRAQ

Letter dated 5 March 1985 from the Permanent Representative of
the Islamic Republic of Iran to the United Nations addressed
to the Secretary-General*

I have the honour to transmit to Your Excellency the text of the letter of His Excellency, Dr. Ali Akbar Velayati, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

It would be highly appreciated if this letter were circulated as a document of the thirty-ninth session of the General Assembly under agenda item 44.

(Signed) Said RAJAIE-KHORASSANI
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

* Previously circulated as document S/17002.

ANNEX

Letter from the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran addressed to the Secretary-General

As you were informed by my letter of 9 February 1985 (S/16949), various reports of Your Excellency's Mission concerning the Iraqi attacks on non-military and purely civilian areas of the Islamic Republic of Iran have left no doubt, whatsoever, as to the Iraqi definite determination to continue such criminal attacks and to violate the 12 June Agreement.

I would like to draw your attention to the above-mentioned letter in which emphasis was laid on the point that the Islamic Republic of Iran pronounced the last ultimatum and gave the last chance to international organizations to come up with the possible international solution in order to stop the continuous Iraqi attacks, and if such a solution were found, the Islamic Republic of Iran, despite suffering great human losses due to its strict adherence to the 12 June Agreement, would not resort to reciprocal measures.

Your Excellency is no doubt aware that this ultimatum of the Islamic Republic of Iran bore no practical fruit. The Iraqi régime did not take the matter seriously with impunity, but there is no point in lamenting this fact.

Unfortunately, during this period, international organizations did not take any practical measures to preserve the 12 June Agreement. This fact has rendered the Iraqi régime more determined in its acts of aggression.

Regrettably, yesterday the indiscriminate attacks by Iraq against civilian areas took on new dimensions when at 13.35 hours on 4 March 1985 two Iraqi jet fighters attacked Ahwaz. This attack left 11 civilians martyred and 25 injured. Similarly, at 18.00 hours on the same day, there occurred an aerial attack on Bushehr which resulted in damages to the nuclear reactor installation in that city. This recent attack, which is being discussed in disarmament talks under the title of radioactive weapons, has added a new dimension to the already existing aspects of the Iraqi violations of international regulations.

We regret to declare that under circumstances whereby Iraq has left all international appeals to refrain from attacks on non-military and civilian areas unanswered, in spite of our numerous sincere attempts to preserve the authority of the 12 June Agreement, as of this moment we will assume a retaliatory stance vis-à-vis all such Iraqi attacks as the only means of stopping them. Even in this measure, however, all humanitarian concerns will be taken into account and, prior to retaliation, the inhabitants of the Iraqi cities will be informed so as to enable them to avoid danger by evacuating the cities.

Needless to assert that the responsibility for all the consequences will lie with the Iraqi régime.

Dr. Ali Akbar VELAYATI
Minister of Foreign Affairs
of the Islamic Republic of Iran
