



**Security Council**

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LETTER DATED 6 MARCH 1985 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE  
OF IRAQ TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF  
THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to transmit to you the text of a letter addressed to you by Mr. Tariq Aziz, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Iraq, concerning the appeal made by you yesterday, 5 March 1985.

I request you to have this letter and its annex circulated as an official document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Riyadh M. S. AL-QAYSI  
Permanent Representative

Annex

Letter dated 6 March 1985 from the Deputy Prime Minister  
and Minister for Foreign Affairs of Iraq addressed to  
the President of the Security Council

I have been acquainted with the appeal issued by you yesterday, 5 March 1985, relating to the question of attacks on purely civilian locations in the ongoing conflict between Iraq and Iran (S/17004).

I should like to assure you that Iraq has, in all sincerity, adhered to the agreement reached under the auspices of the Secretary-General of the United Nations in June 1984 to prevent attacks on purely civilian targets in the two countries.

The day before yesterday, 4 March 1985, the official Iranian authorities gave vent, without any justification, to a blatant threat to shell the city of Basra. They then went on to carry out that threat yesterday, 5 March 1985, by shelling the city of Basra in a concentrated manner, causing a large number of casualties among the civilian population, to say nothing of the damage to civilian property.

The pretext used by Iran for committing this crime and violating the June 1984 agreement is baseless. Iran has justified this premeditated crime on the grounds that Iraq had bombarded certain areas inside Iran. I should like to inform you that those Iranian targets bombarded by Iraqi aircraft were targets not covered by the June agreement. That is confirmed by the fact that the Iranian authorities did not request the United Nations mission assigned to investigate such cases to visit those targets in order to determine the truth of the Iranian allegations.

Iraq strongly condemns this deliberate violation of the June agreement by Iran. It is to be noted that the violation occurs at a time when the Security Council is considering one of the sensitive and important problems of the war which Iran persists in continuing and escalating, namely that of the prisoners of war.

We hope that the Security Council will take effective measures to put an end to the repeated crimes committed by Iran, to its deliberate violation of the June agreement and to its determination to escalate the state of war.

(Signed) Tariq AZIZ  
Deputy Prime Minister and  
Minister for Foreign Affairs

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