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LETTER DATED 10 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 you herewith the text of a message from His Excellency Dr. Ali Akbar Velayati, the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran, on behalf of His Excellency Hojjat-ul-islam Ali Khamenei, the President of the Islamic Republic of Iran, in response to Your Excellency's message of 9 March 1985.

It would be highly appreciated if this letter could be circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Said RAJAIE-KHORASSANI
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

Annex

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

I received your message of 9 March 1985. As you are aware the Islamic Republic of Iran, both before and after the 12 June 1984 Agreement, made every effort and exercised the highest degree of self-restraint in order to avoid any attack against civilian population. However the Iraqi régime by increasing its deliberate attacks on the purely civilian areas of the Islamic Republic of Iran, some of which are already reported to the International Body by the United Nations Team stationed in Tehran, left us with no other choice but resort to a limited retaliatory action.

Your appeal of 9 March 1985 has come at a time when the Iraqi régime has further continued its missile attacks, aerial bombardments, and artillery fire against several of our cities, and thus have inflicted great many losses in life and property upon our purely civilian population. As we have repeatedly announced, my Government is always willing to respect the commitment it made regarding maintenance of the comprehensive validity of your proposed 12 June 1984 Agreement; and in order to demonstrate our good faith once again, we are prepared to welcome your proposal and terminate all our retaliatory military operation against all purely civilian targets in Iraq as of 2359 GMT hours on Monday 11 March 1985, provided that Iraqi régime, too, withholds its attacks against our civilians. Moreover we propose the necessity of serious and effective measures against any violation of this renewed Agreement, in order to ensure its mutual and comprehensive respect.

Needless to mention that my Government reserves for itself the right to retaliate, should the Iraqi authorities continue their violations of the Agreement.

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