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LETTER DATED 1 APRIL 1985 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF
THE ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED
TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

Upon instructions from my Government, I have the honour to bring the following to your urgent attention.

The Islamic Republic of Iran has been forced to take certain retaliatory measures after more than two years of suffering from Iraqi violations of international humanitarian law and other conventions on the conduct of hostilities and since the repeated calls of the authorities of the Islamic Republic of Iran on the international community with regard to such violations were not heeded by the politically motivated organs of the United Nations. However, we have made it clear that the four Iraqi holy cities of Karbala, Najaf, Kazemain and Samera would be spared from any retaliatory measures. Regretfully, we have been informed that the Iraqi rulers are planning sabotage activities in those cities with the purpose of blaming them on the Islamic Republic. While condemning such satanic plans of the Iraqi rulers, the Islamic Republic of Iran reiterates its commitment to refrain from taking any retaliatory measures against the above-mentioned cities. However, we are gravely concerned about the safety of the civilian population as well as the integrity of the Muslim holy shrines and sanctuaries in these cities, and call upon the international community to take the Iraqi rulers to task with regard to this matter.

It will be highly appreciated if this note is distributed as a document of the Security Council, taking into account its urgent nature.

(Signed) Said RAJAIE KHORASSANI
Ambassador and Permanent Representative
