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LETTER DATED 26 MAY 1985 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE
OF THE ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN TO THE UNITED NATIONS
ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

Upon the instruction from my Government and in pursuance of my letter of 25 May 1985 (S/17220), I have the honour to inform you that, as it was predicted in our said letter, the Ba'thist rulers of Iraq carried out their threats and attacked our civilian population centres in many cities.

At 0230 hours local time of Sunday, 26 May 1985, Iraqi airplanes bombarded Teheran and inflicted many losses in life and property upon innocent civilians. Number of casualties until 0945 hours local time rose to five with many more to be discovered from under the rubble. Moreover, further aerial attacks on the cities of Ilam, Gilan-e-Gharb, Karand and Baneh, and missile attacks on Bakhtaran and Isalam Abad were launched which left behind scores of martyrs and injured, and great losses and damages in property.

Excellency, while trying to exploit the recent and fortunately unsuccessful attempt against the life of the Emir of Kuwait, the falling régime of President Saddam attacked our cities under the guise of defending Arab States in order to disturb the existing friendly bilateral relations between us and our Arab neighbours, and also to further misrepresent to the Arab public opinion the substance of his war of aggression as an Arab-Persian conflict, hoping to attract regional support and thereby save itself from an inevitable collapse. With such ill-omened, cheap and criminal tactics President Saddam is bombarding our civilians in so many places, and while counting on the precedence of ineffectiveness and acquiescence of the Security Council, he wishes to impose his so-called negotiated peaceful settlement upon us by bombarding our innocent people.

We expect the international body to stand up to its constitutional responsibilities, condemn the Iraqi aggressors, take the necessary measures in order to immediately stop the violation of all rules of international humanitarian law by Iraq and condemn its resumption of aerial and missile attacks on civilians.

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We earnestly hope that the Secretary-General of the United Nations, whose trip to the two capitals has already created the expectation of serious and effective measures on his part toward the termination of Iraqi violations of international humanitarian law, will take decisive measures in order to bring the present escalation of Iraqi attacks on civilians to an end. Or else the Islamic Republic of Iran will be once again left with no option other than retaliation. We expect prompt and effective action that can relieve us from the burden of taking retaliatory measures, which we hate to carry out against our civilian brothers and sisters in Iraq.

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
