



**Security Council**

Distr.  
GENERAL

S/17226  
30 May 1985

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

---

LETTER DATED 29 MAY 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 transmit herewith the text of a letter dated 29 May 1985 from the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran addressed to Your Excellency.

It would be highly appreciated if this letter and its annex were distributed as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Said RAJALE-KHORASSANI  
Ambassador  
Permanent Representative

ANNEX

Letter dated 29 May 1985 from the Minister for Foreign Affairs  
of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the Secretary-General

As you are already aware, the Iraqi attacks against civilian quarters and particularly cities inside the Islamic Republic of Iran have been resumed since Saturday, 25 May 1985, and have continued savagely. The persistence of the Iraqi régime in violating rules of international law and its escalation of such violations are not new phenomena; they have been the subject of our correspondence with Your Excellency for the past four and a half years of the imposed war.

However, a new dimension is being added to these violations which should command the careful attention of the international law community and the United Nations in particular. The Iraqi pretext for the resumption of its savage attacks against the civilian population inside the Islamic Republic of Iran exemplifies this new dimension.

Prior to its resumption of attacks against civilians, the Iraqi régime announced that it was planning to resume such acts of lawlessness in retaliation for the attempt on the life of the Emir of Kuwait. As you are well aware, the Islamic Republic of Iran has officially registered its regret with regard to the above-mentioned attempt. Moreover, we have come across much evidence to illustrate the complicity and involvement of Iraqi agents in that unfortunate attempt, which was fortunately abortive.

In addition to the necessity of examining the recently escalated terrorist activities of Iraq in the region, the attempt by Iraq to exploit events beyond the control of the Islamic Republic of Iran as a pretext for escalating its violation of the norms of international law regulating the conduct of hostilities is worth the independent and careful consideration of the international law community and Your Excellency, since such pretexts threaten to become a dangerous precedent in international law relations.

Using circumstances beyond the control of the other party in a conflict to escalate the war and violate norms of international law, humanitarian law as well as international law regulating the conduct of hostilities is a distinct issue condemned by all generally accepted norms of international law. The international community expects that the United Nations and Your Excellency will pay due attention and try to put an end to this new strategy of Iraqi rulers to violate international law, whose becoming a precedent can create a serious and grave threat to international law, peace and security.

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

-----