



**Security Council**

Distr.  
GENERAL

S/21348  
7 June 1990  
ENGLISH  
ORIGINAL: ARABIC

---

LETTER DATED 7 JUNE 1990 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF  
IRAQ TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to transmit to you herewith a statement on the occasion of the ninth anniversary of Israel's military aggression against Iraqi nuclear installations devoted to peaceful purposes.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Abdul Amir A. AL-ANBARI  
Ambassador  
Permanent Representative

### Annex

The ninth anniversary of Israel's military aggression against Iraqi nuclear installations devoted to peaceful purposes falls around this time.

The attack carried out on the evening of 7 June 1981 by several squadrons of Israeli war-planes against the nuclear installations under International Atomic Energy Agency safeguards in Iraq constituted an unprecedented danger to international peace and security. At the time, experts affirmed that armed attacks of any kind against nuclear facilities were tantamount to the wide-scale use of radiological weapons because of the limitless amounts of radiation that such attacks could cause.

Even leaving aside the impact of the raid on the site, its health-related effects, its repercussions for disarmament, its economic consequences and the damage caused to the development of the peaceful uses of nuclear energy, the Israeli military attack represented a grave breach of the entire IAEA safeguards régime, which constitutes the basis of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons.

During the nine years that have passed since the attack there have been assertions that Israel possesses nuclear weapons, the most significant of which was the statement made in 1986 by Mordechai Vanunu, a former technician at the Israeli nuclear reactor at Dimona, to the British newspaper The Times to the effect that "Israel now possesses operational nuclear weapons". Despite the passage of these long years, Israel still refuses to make even a merely verbal declaration to the international community that it will refrain from any repetition of such an attack against any other nuclear installation.

This refusal reflects the implicit intention if not the explicit desire of Israel to repeat such aggression, and this in turn requires that the Security Council should meet its full responsibilities for the maintenance of international peace and security in accordance with the provisions of the Charter of the United Nations by adopting urgent and effective measures to prevent a repetition of such acts of aggression and to ensure that Israel abides by resolution 487 (1981), in which the Council calls upon it urgently to place its nuclear facilities under the IAEA safeguards.

All the countries of the world are further urged to respect the 1981 General Assembly resolution calling upon all States and institutions which have not yet suspended their co-operation with Israel or their assistance to it in the nuclear field to do so forthwith. Any co-operation in that field with an Israel which persists in refusing to place its nuclear facilities under IAEA safeguards will contribute in one way or another to strengthening the nuclear capabilities of that militaristic and adventurist State, thereby exposing the entire Middle East region to greater danger and instability.

If more successful and more effective solutions are to be devised, the international community must take steps on the basis of the complete elimination of all weapons of mass destruction in the Middle East region and not of one type of weapon alone. To focus on the elimination of only one type of weapon means, in essence, the adoption of a selective approach with regard to the region.

The international community must also act to ensure that all the countries of the region accede to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, refrain from the development, production, testing or possession of nuclear weapons and from allowing the emplacement of nuclear weapons or nuclear explosive devices in their territory, and place all of their nuclear activities under IAEA supervision.

Such steps must be taken in the framework of a just and comprehensive solution to the conflict in the region to be accompanied by equal access to technology, including nuclear technology for peaceful purposes, for all parties in the region without discrimination and without partiality towards any of the parties to the conflict.

This call, which has obtained wide acceptance in the deliberations of the General Assembly of the United Nations and has received strong support in the region itself, continues to run into reservations and objections from Israel, once again confirming the dangerously aggressive attitude of that entity and the hazards that that attitude poses for international peace and security.

It was on this premise alone that President Saddam Hussein's warning of 1 April last was made that Iraq would exercise its legitimate right to self-defence in response to any aggression launched against it by the Zionist entity.

-----

