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LETTER DATED 25 SEPTEMBER 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 and pursuant to my letter of 19 July 1985 contained in document S/17348 and with reference to the letter of 20 September 1985 of Kuwait contained in document S/17482, I have the honour to invite your attention to the following.

The Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran has repeatedly announced that it would not allow the transport of arms from the Persian Gulf waters to the Iraqi aggressors. It has unfortunately been established in different cases that, contrary to the principles of good neighbourly relations, cargo ships destined for Kuwait have had on board logistical goods and arms headed for Iraq via Kuwait.

Friendly notifications to the Kuwaiti authorities in this regard have regrettably been of no avail. Such practices by Kuwait contradict the latter's position of neutrality.

The Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran, while fully respectful of the freedom of navigation for all vessels destined for Kuwait, has every right to prevent the transportation of military hardware to Iraq through the Persian Gulf. Therefore, in accordance with the established rules of international law regarding the rights and duties of neutral Powers in naval war, the Islamic Republic of Iran will continue its inspection of ships in the Persian Gulf suspected of carrying arms to Iraq.

We call upon those concerned wisely to observe the position of neutrality vis-à-vis the Iraq-Iran war and to avoid carrying fuel for the Iraqi war of aggression.

The letter of 20 September 1985 of Kuwait having been circulated as a document of the Security Council, it would be highly appreciated if this letter enjoyed the same treatment.



(Signed) Said RAJAIE-KHORASSANI
Ambassador
Permanent Representative