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LETTER DATED 16 AUGUST 1990 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF
KUWAIT TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

Further to our correspondence concerning the savage practices of the Iraqi occupation forces in our dear country of Kuwait, and as news of the offensive crimes carried out in the pure land of Kuwait fills the Arab and foreign media, I transmit herewith some recent reports from the United States press concerning the inhumane activities of the occupation forces against Kuwaiti citizens and foreign residents. The reports also cover the massive destruction caused by the invading forces to the country's property and infrastructure, their looting of public and private assets, assaults on citizens' wives, acts of terrorization and undermining of the economic, social and security situation with a view to destroying its basic foundations.

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

(Signed) Mohammad A. ABULHASAN
Permanent Representative

Annex I

"Escape from Kuwait the move of a lifetime for coach, wife
(Washington Post, 14 August 1990 - by Dave Sheinin)"

"That night with all the lights in the house off, Calvin peered out the window, and saw more horror, Five cars trying to leave the city in a period of 20 minutes were stopped by Iraqi soldiers. 'I could hear machine gun fire, and then no one would get out of the car.'

"'All hell broke loose', said Calvin. 'We started worrying that we would be another casualty of war. We didn't want to be killed, but we realfaed it could happen. We saw soldiers going into peoples' homes and stealing and raping the women, American women, German women.'"

Annex II

"Iraqis are reported to send home \$3 billion taken from Kuwaitis
(New York Times, 14 August 1990 - by Yussef M. Ibrahim)

"Manama, Bahrain, Aug. 13 - **Iraq** has transferred between \$3 billion and \$4 billion in gold bullion, foreign currencies and goods seized from **Kuwaiti** financial and commercial **institutions** to Baghdad, Arab bankers in **London** and the Persian gulf region said today.

"The move considerably increased Iraq's financial reserves, While Iraq has never revealed the **size** of its reserves of gold and hard currencies, British and Arab bankers say they stood **at** an estimated \$6.5 billion **before** the invasion of Kuwait 11 days ago.

"Arab officials said the Iraqi invasion has also resulted in the seizure of large amounts of civilian and military airplanes, fleets of new cars, machinery, foodstocks and other goods.

"The toll of the invasion on the human level has been awesome. in addition to some 700 **Kuwaitis** killed so far, at least 20 members of the Sabah ruling family of Kuwait were taken hostage by Iraq and **dozens** of senior **Kuwaiti** executives who have been taken away from **baakr**. **Kuwaiti** commercial institutions and companies as prisoners.

"Bankers interviewed **in** this area **and** in London said today that in their estimate the **Kuwaiti** central bank, which was seized and looted by Iraqi troops on the first day of the **invasion**, August 2, held 2.5 million ounces of gold at the time, valued today at \$1 billion. The bank also had **Kuwaiti** diners estimated at a year's supply, or the equivalent of \$350 million, as well as several hundred millions of dollars worth of hard currencies including American dollars, Swiss and French francs and pounds sterling.

"We are talking about gold, cash, **cars**, airplanes, tankers and a lot of military hardware which fell intact **into** the hands of the Iraqis on the first days of the invasion', **said** a bank chairman who **asked** not to be identified,"

Annex III

"Fleeing Kuwait: an American tells of four hours of terror (The New York Times, 16 August 1990 - by Keith Bradsher)"

"The Iraqi Army has closed border crossings on Kuwait roads leading into Saudi Arabia, but a few foreigners continue to escape across the desert while others have fled across Iraq to Jordan.

"They tell stories of growing lawlessness and hardship in Kuwait.

"Iraqi soldiers have looted stores, attacked foreign women and vandalized buildings, fleeing foreigners and Kuwaitis say. Foreign residents are short of cash because the banks are closed and food is running low.

"The passage of Iraqi tanks has left streets cracked and broken and many stolen Mercedes-Benz cars and other expensive vehicles sit on the highways, out of gas or damaged in crashes.

"A Kuwaiti businessman who fled to Saudi Arabia on August 6 said he had watched the day before as several Iraqi Army trucks filled with soldiers stopped in front of a large supermarket. The soldiers smashed the glass and began clearing the shelves, said the Kuwaiti, who insisted on anonymity.

"Car dealerships and good shops in Kuwait were looted within two days of the invasion, he said. Warehouses have been raided, including some of those containing Kuwait's four-month emergency supply of canned goods and other warehouses holding foreign aid for African and other Arab countries, he said.

"For Ms. Baker and Mr. Spitzer, a 10-day period of near constant terror in occupied Kuwait began with the sounds of gunfire and exploding bombs at 5:30 a.m. on August 2. 'It sounded like popguns, and then we heard bombs', Ms. Baker recalled.

"She and Mr. Spitzer ran to the roof and watched as tanks and troops moved into the city. Ms. Baker said at least two jets were overhead firing rockets at Government buildings. One rocket exploded several hundred yards away in the largely residential area.

"Windows in the house broke or were thrown open by the blast. The glass shattered and was falling on the floor', Mr. Spitzer said.

"View of battles from roof"

"Active fighting continued for the next two days. Ms. Baker said she watched from her roof as Kuwaiti soldiers initially repelled Iraqi military infantry attacks on one large Government building, but were defeated when Iraqi armored vehicles arrived. 'The Kuwaitis were able to keep them off for a while. but then they lined up tanks and started shooting', she said.

"One of the worst problems for foreign residents in Kuwait was lack of money, Ms. Baker and Mr. Spitaer said. Most foreigners used automatic teller machines to withdraw money in small amounts on a regular basis before the fighting began, and were stuck without cash when the fighting began and all banks and teller machines were closed, Ms. Baker said.

"A small group of foreigners in Ms. Baker's neighborhood pooled their funds and gave them to an Iranian friend, who bought food from stores that had not been looted. 'We always had either potatoes or rice or pasta', she said, adding that they ate only once a day to conserve food and their limited amount of cash.

"Mr. Spitaer said he had met a Canadian in his 60s who had worked for eight years in Kuwait and saved most of his earnings in a Kuwaiti bank to provide for his retirement.. 'He said, you know, my life is ruined, that was my pension', Mr. Spitzer said, 'He saved every penny, and ding-dong, the bank was closed.'

"A friend of Mr. Spitaer put his bank card into a teller machine after the machines were reopened, and the machine told him his account no longer had any money in it, Mr. Spitaer said.

"Both electrical power and running water were still available in Kuwait on Sunday, but foreign residents were concerned about how long this would continue because almost nobody was reporting for work at water and power stations, Ms. Baker said. Kuwaiti and foreign workers have defied an order by Iraqi authorities to return to work, she said, adding, 'Nobody's doing the work that has to be done.'"

Annex IV

Excerpts from a Washington Post correspondent in Kuwait city

"In recent days, Iraqi troops have been taking a more aggressive response to demonstrations by women - firing into the air and then at the women. Various sources have reported several injuries during these demonstrations. One Kuwaiti source said four persons, including a 16-year-old girl, died of injuries received during a demonstration in Jabiriya on August 8, but this couldn't be confirmed,

"...

"Selected Westerners were picked up by Iraqi forces as a deliberate policy - 35 British military advisers taken from their compound, for example, and Americans taken from oil facilities and hotels.

"...

"A western source said: 'It's clear we're faced with a hostage situation bigger than any previous one.'

"...

"One Filipino said Iraqi soldiers came into the house where he lived with other Filipinos, stole their money and raped two of the women.

"...

"I did interview one woman who said she was ordered to undress by an Iraqi, but was saved when a friend came into the room.

"...

"One Egyptian working here said: 'Now everyone is afraid to speak and I hate that. ' "

