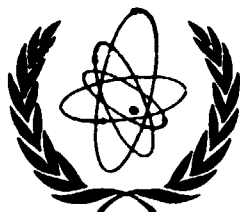


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INF



International Atomic Energy Agency

INFORMATION CIRCULAR

IAEA-INF/CIRC/363.

27 April 1989

GENERAL Distr.

Original: ENGLISH

STATEMENT OF THE ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN

The attached text is being circulated at the request of the Resident Representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

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89-01679

ATTACHMENT

STATEMENT OF THE ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN

Once again the aggressive régime of Iraq has attempted to misuse international fora such as the IAEA for the falsification of events and the manipulation of opinions in order to achieve its dubious objectives. By attempting to defame the Islamic Republic of Iran, the Iraqi régime is trying to cause misunderstanding between us and governments friendly towards us – particularly those of some of the Arab States.

In this connection, the statement of the official spokesman of the Iraqi Ministry of Foreign Affairs circulated in document INFCIRC/362 compels us to make the following observations:

1. If the Iraqi régime pretends to have forgotten the history of the futile eight-year-long war which it imposed on the Islamic Republic of Iran, it should be reminded that it is now an internationally well-known fact as to which party started the war and is thus the real aggressor and expansionist. The Iraqi régime pretends to have forgotten that, while it held a large portion of our soil, it suffered a humiliating defeat and, against all odds, our people, in a series of heroic combats, threw it out of major occupied Iranian cities such as Abadan and Khoramshar. Notwithstanding the falsifications of the Iraqi régime, such bravery will surely be registered forever in history.

2. Again, the Iraqi régime must have forgotten that, when faced with the unshakeable resistance of our people, it became aware of the futility of its war efforts and appealed through international fora for peace. It appealed to numerous intermediary missions to make the Islamic Republic of Iran agree to a peace plan. Now that, on humanitarian grounds, we have agreed to peace negotiations, the Iraqi régime has found the courage to produce statements of inordinate effrontery.
3. In order to cover up its failures and escape the wrath of its populace, the Iraqi régime claims that it repelled "Iran's aggression". Such gross statements are surely held in ridicule by all informed and free-spirited people of the world and serve only to further discredit the Iraqi régime.
4. Perhaps the most outrageous allegation of the Iraqi régime in the statement circulated in document INFCIRC/362 is that the Islamic Republic of Iran had, in collusion with Israel, planned expansionist aggression against Iraq. This allegation needs no reply on our part as nothing is more well-known than the abhorrence of Israel and its policies which is inherent in our doctrine. In this connection, it is noteworthy that, immediately after the start of the Iran-Iraq peace negotiations, the Iraqi régime provided its full military and economic support to the Israeli-backed forces fighting against the Muslim people of Lebanon.
5. The Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran has always condemned the policies of Israel, its nuclear activities and its monopolist policies in this field. This is evidenced by the records of all IAEA General Conference sessions and our statements delivered during those sessions. We shall continue to follow this policy. Therefore, we cannot tolerate such gross statements by the Iraqi régime attempting to place us in the same camp as the Israelis. The Iraqi régime should take serious note of our position and consider it a warning.

6. Also, we would remind the Iraqi régime that Israel is not the only party which pursues a policy of attacking and destroying peaceful nuclear facilities. Nine military attacks on our Bushehr Nuclear Power Plant during the war imposed by Iraq on Iran is evidence that in this respect the Iraqi régime subscribes to the same policies as Israel.

In view of the above, we consider the statement of the official spokesman of the Iraqi Ministry of Foreign Affairs circulated in document INFCIRC/362 to contain wholly offensive and inaccurate references to the Islamic Republic of Iran and its holy doctrine. My Government takes strong exception to these references, which are also totally irrelevant to the stated purpose of the statement.