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International Atomic Energy Agency

INFORMATION CIRCULAR

STATEMENT OF THE OFFICIAL SPOKESMAN OF THE IRAQI MUNISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS

The attached text is being circulated at the request of the Resident Representative of Iraq.

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ATTACHPENT

STATEMENT OF THE OFFICIAL SPOKESMAN OF THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS ISSUED ON 5 APRIL 1989

Since Iraq successfully repelled the expansionist aggression which Ira unleashed, as is well known, in collusion with the Israeli régime, Zionist circles have been launching one attack after another in order to besmirch the name of Iraq and to stir up world public opinion against it.

Recently these attempts have included the issuing of various reports and statements alleging that Iraq is producing nuclear warheads.

It is not difficult to understand the motives of these statements at this stage, when Iraq has achieved a decisive success in repelling Khomeini's aggression and thereby preserving peace and stability in the region.

It is also obvious that these Israeli statements aim, inter alia, at undermining the peace campaign being conducted by the Palestine Liberation Organization, at concealing the aims of Israeli occupation and at hindering international peace efforts.

Moreover, it is worth pointing out that Israel is at present facing increasing international pressure to disclose the fate of the heavy water which was supplied by Norway and which Israel is suspected of having obtained with a view to the production of nuclear warheads.

There are fundamental facts which we believe it to be our duty to bring to the notice of world public opinion and which will not only refute the allegations directed against Iraq but also explain in unambiguous terms where the real threat to peace and security in the region lies. These facts are as follows:

- Iraq has been a party to the Treaty on the Non-proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT) since it entered into force, in 1970. The International Atomic Energy Agency continues to inspect Iraq's nuclear facilities and the nuclear material contained therein several times a year and possesses the full facts about the facilities and their uses. It has definitive proof of the falsity of the Israeli allegations;
- Iraq has supported and continues to support the United Nations General Assembly resolutions about declaring the region of the Middle East a nuclear-weapon-free zone on the basis of the following principles:

- (a) All parties in the region of the Middle East, including Israel, shall accede to NPT and place all their nuclear facilities and activities under the Agency's safeguards;
- (b) All States in the region which have not yet done so, including Israel, shall renounce the possession of nuclear weapons and destroy those in their possession;
- (c) All States in the region shall refrain from entering into military alliances of which a nuclear-weapon State is a party, and shall also not permit any nuclear-weapon State to deploy its weapons in their territories;
- Israel is the only party in the region which possesses an arsenal of nuclear weapons acquired by overt and covert means over a period of more than thirty years with the co-operation of well-known circles;
- 4. Israel is the only party in the region which possesses significant nuclear facilities, which has not acceded to NPT, whose nuclear facilities are not all subject to international controls and which absolutely rejects any kind of control - including bilateral controls as demanded by the United States some years ago;
- 5. Israel is the only party in the region which refuses to recognize the unquestionable and inalienable right of others to use nuclear energy for peaceful purposes.

Israel has demonstrated its attitude in practice through its armed attack on Iraq's Tamuz reactor, which is devoted to peaceful purposes and is subject both to IAEA safeguards and to other safeguards agreed on at the appropriate time between Iraq, the French Government and the companies which built the reactor;

- Israel is the only member of the United Nations which was called upon by the Security Council in resolution 487/1981 to place all its installations under IAEA safeguards;
- 7. Israel has over a period of more than 10 years rejected all resolutions of the United Nations Security Council and General Assembly and of the IAEA which demanded that it renounce the possession of nuclear weapons, accede to NPT and place all its nuclear facilities under international controls;
- Israel is the only party which pursues a declared policy of attacking and destroying peaceful nuclear facilities when, in its own judgement, there is a threat to its security from such facilities.

In the resolutions of the General Assembly and the IAEA, this Israeli policy was considered to be part of a policy of nuclear armament.

Israel is striving to maintain its monopoly of nuclear bombs in the region and to deny them to the other States in the region, so that it can terrorize those States by threating to use force and nuclear weapons against them;

9. In the face of these clear facts, Iraq calls upon the international community to be aware of the real aims of the Israeli statements and to face up to its responsibilities.

Iraq strongly warns against any attempt by Israel to attack Iraq's scientific and industrial installations under any pretext.

Iraq wishes to affirm that it will respond with the utmost energy to such Israeli aggression in whatever manner it considers appropriate. The Tel Aviv rulers must realize that, if they repeat the aggression which they committed in 1981 against Iraq's nuclear facilities devoted to peaceful purposes or against any other scientific or industrial facilities in Iraq, such aggression will not go unpunished.





International Atomic Energy Agency

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<u>Corrigendum</u>

In the third sub-paragraph of paragraph 8, replace "bombs" by "technology" and "deny them" by "deny it".

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