



## Security Council

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LETTER DATED 2 SEPTEMBER 1990 **FROM** THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF  
**KUWAIT TO** THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

Further to those of our communications which are intended to inform you of the actions perpetrated by the Iraqi occupation authorities in Kuwait in contravention **of** all international laws, and on the basis of confirmed information provided **to us** by the Government of Kuwait, we wish to draw attention to a phenomenon which has no precedent in history, namely, the Iraqi occupation authorities' organised operation for the purpose of looting and plundering Kuwait. It is impossible to compare this operation to any similar incidents or to provide an exact account thereof because it is in effect an operation designed to achieve nothing less than the complete **removal** of all Kuwait's assets, including property belonging to the State, to public and private institutions and to individuals, as well as the contents **of** houses, factories, stores, hospitals, academic institutes, schools and universities. The operation has obviously been carried out under the careful and deliberate supervision of the Iraqi occupation authorities, because much of what has been removed or dismantled requires a large measure of technical expertise which is not found among the general public and therefore requires highly **specialized** personnel.

What has occurred in Kuwait is the perpetration of an act of armed robbery by a State which has used its military, security and technical organs for that purpose. The following list of **some** of the actions carried out by the Iraqi occupation authorities provides **an** approximate picture of the extent of the looting, plundering and destruction to which property and installations in Kuwait have been subjected.

1. Theft of all the different types of equipment belonging to the **Kuwaiti** army, including **matériel**, ammunition and workshop machinery used by the air, ground and sea forces, as well as theft of all kinds of military aircraft, naval vessels and **army** uniform and accessories.
2. Confiscation **of** a large number of civilian aircraft belonging to the Kuwait Airways fleet and dispatch of **those** aircraft to Baghdad: theft of all assets found in the airline's workshops, including spare parts and equipment, as well as office appliances, computers and **the** airline's office furniture.

3. Theft from **Kuwaiti** Red Crescent Association stores of provisions, medical supplies and tents set aside for relief operations in disaster-stricken countries; all these items have been transferred to Baghdad.
4. Looting of all food and medical supplies from public, government and private stores, food shops and pharmacies: all these items **were** sent to Baghdad during the first days of the invasion.
5. Theft of all assets found in vehicle sales agencies, including the removal of all types of vehicles, which were subsequently transported on special trucks to Baghdad: private **vehicles** were also taken from their owners at gunpoint on public roads and all sales offices stocking spare parts for vehicle agencies were also robbed.
6. Plundering of gold and jewellery shops, with the removal of all gold, money and other precious metals found in them.
7. Looting of financial institutions and banks, with the theft of all assets in the form of liquid cash, deposits and the contents of safes, for transfer to Baghdad.
8. Robbery of all types of commercial stores (those selling furniture, household goods, electronic products and sanitary items).
9. Looting **of** government printing facilities, equipment and printing materials, as well as office furniture and appliances.
10. Theft of printing equipment used by the local press and companies, as well as their printing materials and computers.
11. Removal of all equipment from the port of Shuwaikh, including giant cranes, fork-lifts and all the goods stored in the port's warehouses.
12. Plundering of all ministries and government institutions and installations, with the removal of all office appliances, equipment and computers found in them.
13. Theft of the large lamp-posts installed on highways, as well as electronic traffic lights.
14. Dismantling and theft of electric power transformers and some telephone exchanges.
15. Seizure of oil pipe depots.
16. Looting of all equipment and spare parts from the **Oil** Company and the National Petroleum Company, as well as spare parts from the refineries.
17. Looting **of** Ministry of Electricity and Water depots and theft of water pipes **f rom** them.

18. Confiscation of furniture and equipment from all the colleges and laboratories of Kuwait University, including modern scientific equipment, computers and office appliances.

19. Theft of all equipment from private and public hospitals, including X-ray machines, scanners and pieces of laboratory equipment, all of which are very modern; the warehouses of the Ministry of Public Health and the Kuwait Pharmaceutical Industries Company were also robbed of their medicines and as yet unused modern equipment, including some devices valued at over 20 million Kuwaiti dinars.

20. Expulsion of all patients from hospitals, which are now used exclusively for the treatment of wounded members of the Iraqi army.

21. Confiscation of equipment found in the Ministry of Information, the television and radio studios and their library of recordings; this library is one of the biggest in the Middle East and contained invaluable rare recordings and examples of Kuwait's heritage.

22. Robbery of the furniture, appliances and very advanced scientific equipment belonging to the Institute of Applied Sciences, as well as the sophisticated scientific devices found in the Kuwait Institute for Scientific Research.

23. Theft of the country's livestock from government and private farms and compounds, as well as theft of animals from the zoo.

24. Looting of many private houses and of all residences belonging to the ruling family and prominent statesmen, with the removal of all furniture, appliances, works of art and jewellery found in them.

25. Theft of furniture and equipment from schools and educational institutions.

26. Dismantling of Kuwait City's recreational facilities, which are considered among the best in the Middle East; these facilities have been transferred to Baghdad.

27. Transportation to Kuwait of large numbers of Iraqi families for the purposes of settlement and alteration of the country's demographic structure.

28. Theft of all modern automatic bakeries, once dismantled.

29. Burning by the Iraqi army of all sites once looted and emptied of their contents.

While remaining resolutely determined to inform you of the crimes and atrocities carried out by the occupation authorities, Kuwait reserves its legal and legitimate right to demand full compensation from Iraq for those of Kuwait's material and cultural resources which the Iraqi occupation authorities have seized or destroyed.

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English

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

**(Signed)** Mohanunad A. ABULHASAN  
Permanent Representative

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