



Security Council

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Letter dated 9 August 2019 from the Permanent Representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

I am writing to you with reference to the letter dated 27 June 2019 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of the United States of America to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General ([S/2019/536](#)) regarding the downing of a United States unmanned aircraft system over the Oman Sea on 20 June 2019 and, in addition to the information on the subject contained in my letter dated 20 June 2019 ([S/2019/512](#)), I would like to bring the following to your kind attention.

In my aforesaid letter, I have provided the coordinates of the point of impact of the United States unmanned aircraft system. For more visual details on its points of intrusion and impact, and of the waters over which it was flying, as well as the outer limit of the Iranian territorial sea and Flight Information Region, a map is annexed to this letter which also contains related coordinates (annex I).

Moreover, on 21 June 2019, the debris of the targeted drone was retrieved from the territorial sea of the Islamic Republic of Iran at the coordinates 57°01'30" E and 25°59'04" N. Two photographs of the retrieved debris are attached to this letter (annex II).

These details and further information contained in my aforesaid letter clearly indicate that, when targeted, the United States unmanned aircraft system was deep within Iranian airspace. Likewise, the United States drone continued its flight in Iranian airspace for four nautical miles while completely disregarding Iran's repeated radio warnings. The action taken by the Islamic Republic of Iran was in full conformity with its inherent right to self-defence.

It is also worth mentioning that the information provided, using the photograph of a display, in the annex to the aforementioned letter of the United States Mission, including the information on the altitude and the coordinates of the point of impact of the American drone, is manipulated and thus is incorrect and hereby rejected.

Additionally, on 20 June 2019 – the same day that the United States unmanned aircraft system was targeted – another United States aircraft with 35 people on board violated the airspace of the Islamic Republic of Iran. However, Iranian armed forces exercised maximum restraint and no action was taken against the invading aircraft. Another United States drone also intruded Iranian airspace on 26 May 2019. Overall, the drones of the United States intruded the airspace of the Islamic Republic of Iran three times in less than one month.



These are only a few examples of the repeated intrusions of United States forces into the airspace and territorial seas of the Islamic Republic of Iran in the Persian Gulf and the Oman Sea. Iran has lodged its protests against all such cases, including with the United States interests section in the Embassy of Switzerland in Tehran.

Continued provocative measures by United States forces against the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Islamic Republic of Iran not only violate the basic principles of international law and the Charter of the United Nations but also endanger peace and security in such a volatile region as the Persian Gulf and the Oman Sea.

The Islamic Republic of Iran reserves its inherent right to self-defence against such measures and is determined to vigorously secure its sovereignty and territorial integrity.

At the same time, the international community in general and the Security Council in particular must live up to their responsibilities and hold the United States accountable for all such unlawful and destabilizing measures with dire ramifications to the peace and security of the region and beyond.

Seizing this opportunity, I would also like to refer to the letter dated 1 August 2019 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the United States Mission to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council ([S/2019/624](#)) and inform you that contrary to the claim raised in that letter and as already declared by our armed forces, no Iranian unmanned aerial system was targeted on 18 July 2019.

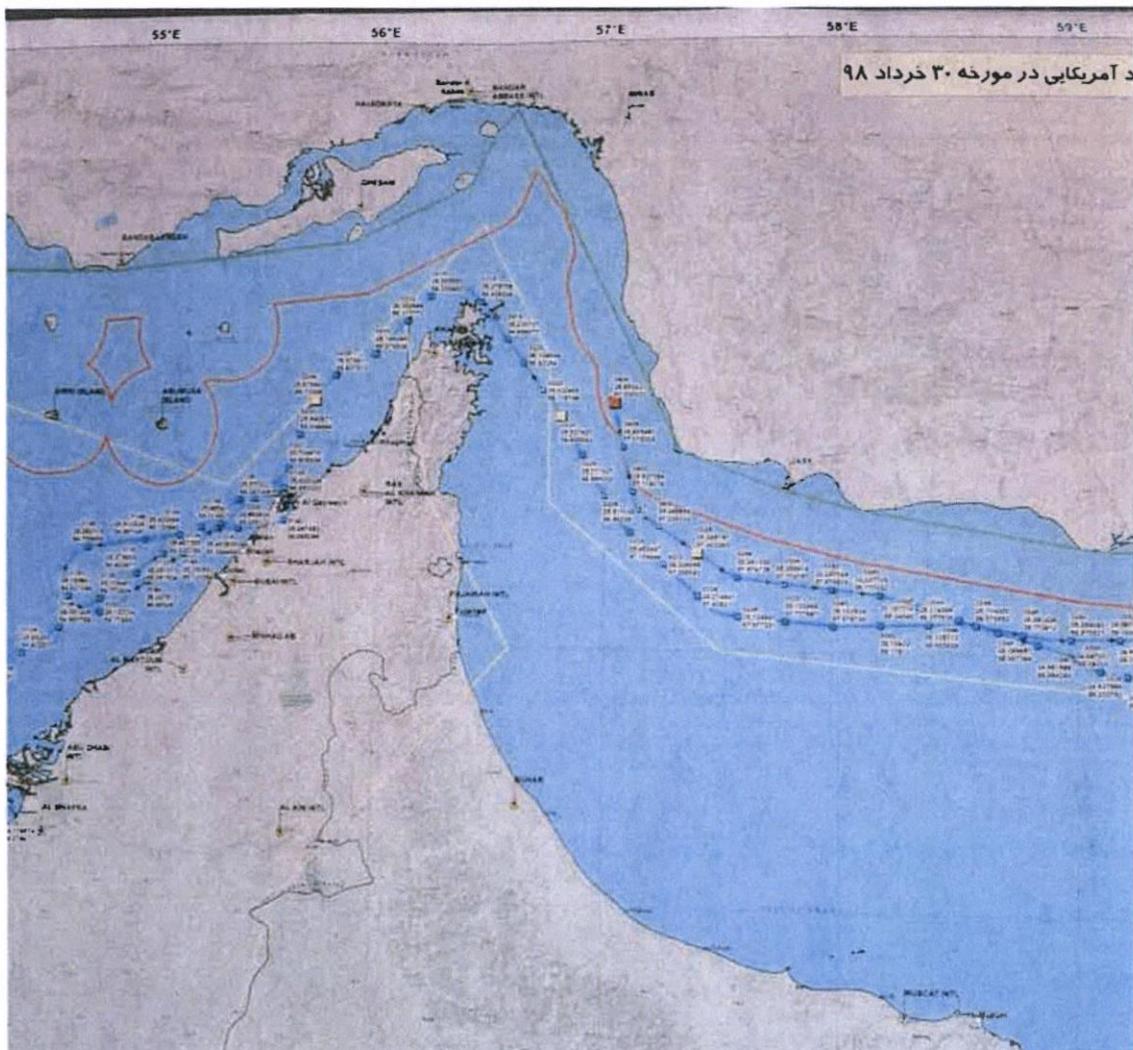
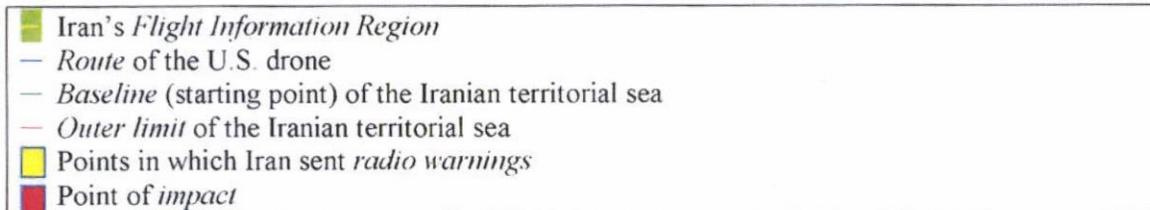
It would be highly appreciated if you would have the present letter issued as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Majid Takht **Ravanchi**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

Annexes to the letter dated 9 August 2019 from the Permanent Representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

Annex I

Map containing the information on the points of intrusion and impact of the U.S. drone on 20 June 2019



Annex II

Photos of the debris of the targeted U.S. drone retrieved from the Iranian territorial sea at the coordinates of E57°01'30" and N25°59'04" on 21 June 2019

