



Security Council

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Identical letters dated 12 April 2021 from the Permanent Representative of Kuwait to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

On instructions from my Government, and with reference to the provisions of Security Council resolution [2107 \(2013\)](#) and the Security Council press statement of 24 November 2020 (SC/14365), I should like to inform you of the latest developments with regard to the issue of missing Kuwaiti and third-country nationals and the issue of Kuwaiti property, including the National Archive.

I. Issue of missing Kuwaiti and third-country nationals

On 3 March 2021, the fates of eight Kuwaiti and third-country national prisoners and missing persons who were detained during the 1990 Iraqi invasion of Kuwait were ascertained. Their identities were determined through DNA analysis conducted by the General Department of Criminal Evidence of the Ministry of the Interior of Kuwait on remains received from Iraq. Their names are as follows:

- As‘ad Ali Abdulrahman al-Sultan
- Amin Ali Muhammad Ashkanani
- Khalil Sa‘ud Khalil al-Qattan
- Abdullah Ibrahim Muhammad al-Qadhifi
- Muhammad Mubarak Muhammad al-Samim
- Musa‘id Muhammad Fallah al-Dawsari
- Nasir Id Khalid al-Anzi
- Yusuf Ya‘qub Muhammad al-Ya‘qub

Immediately after the completion of the DNA testing, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs informed their families of the identification results and of the measures taken in that regard, as is their human and legal right enshrined in international laws, including Security Council resolution [2474 \(2019\)](#). The set of remains should be added to those which the Kuwaiti authorities identified in November 2020 and January 2021 as belonging to Kuwaiti and third-country nationals detained during the Iraqi invasion in 1990.

Identification of remains already received from Iraq will continue. That is a complex process involving reassembling and analysing human remains, especially for those received in August 2019, which were all mixed together. Then DNA must be



extracted before the identity of the remains can be declared. Kuwait looks forward to completing the identification process for all the remains received as soon as possible. The heroism of the martyrs will forever be an example and a testament to the patriotism of the Kuwaitis who gave their lives and valiantly defended the national territory. Kuwait reiterates its commitment to return to the Iraqi side all remains that do not match up with the database of prisoners and missing persons along with the results of the genetic tests.

Determined to strengthen its bonds with the kindred nation of Iraq, and acting within the context of the Tripartite Commission and its Technical Subcommittee, Kuwait handed over to the Iraqi Government on 30 March 2021 the remains of an Iraqi soldier that were found on Bubiyan island, in the north of the country, in February 2021. The handover took place during a ceremony supervised and attended by the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), as head of the Tripartite Commission and its Technical Subcommittee. Acting through the Tripartite Commission and in accordance with the decisions taken in that regard, and following up on the information and coordinates provided by the United Kingdom and the United States of America at the meetings of the Tripartite Commission, Kuwait has cooperated in the search for sites and the identification of burial sites of Iraqi soldiers in Kuwait. On several occasions, Kuwait has handed over to the Iraqi side a number of remains that were found in the country. The most recent handover is one of many that took place from 1999 up until 2013.

II. The issue of Kuwaiti property, including the National Archive

On 28 March 2021, Kuwait received from Iraq a new batch of Kuwaiti property found by the Iraqi Government, which the previous regime of Iraq had seized during its invasion and occupation of Kuwait in 1990. The batch comprised the following items:

- 26 wooden crates and 27 cardboard crates, containing more than 6,500 books
- 1,016 35 mm microfilms and 16 mm film cartridges
- One U-matic videotape
- One U-matic video projector
- One movie projector
- One movie
- Two AKAI magnetic recordings
- Eight magnetic tape recordings.

The aforementioned items were handed over at the headquarters of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Kuwait in the presence of representatives of both parties, in addition to the representative of the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the resident coordinator in Kuwait.

Kuwait is grateful to the Iraqi Government for the progress that has been made on the issue of Kuwaiti and third-country missing persons and on that of Kuwaiti property. It is also grateful to the Governments of Saudi Arabia, the United States of America, the United Kingdom and France, the members of the Tripartite Commission and the Technical Subcommittee, ICRC and the United Nations Assistance Mission in Iraq (UNAMI) for all their efforts, through the work of the Tripartite Committee and the Technical Subcommittee, which have helped to ascertain the fate of the prisoners and missing persons, notwithstanding the restrictions made necessary by the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic. It wishes to thank the members of the

Security Council for their interest in this humanitarian issue and their diligence in following up on implementation of relevant Security Council resolutions, particularly resolution [2107 \(2013\)](#), until the remains of the rest of the 338 missing Kuwaiti and third-country nationals are identified and Kuwaiti property is returned, including the National Archive, which is of particular historical significance.

I should be grateful if the present letter could be circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Mansour Ayyad Sh. A. **Alotaibi**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative
