

The President of the Security Council presents his compliments to the members of the Council and has the honour to transmit herewith, for their information, a copy of a **letter dated 7 September 2015 from the Permanent Representative of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland** to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council.

This letter will be issued as a document of the Security Council under the symbol S/2015/688.

7 September 2015



United Kingdom
Mission to the
United Nations

7 September 2015

H.E. Mr Vitaly Churkin
President of the Security Council

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Dear Mr President,

In accordance with Article 51 of the Charter of the United Nations, and further to our letter of 25 November 2014 (S/2014/851), I am writing to report to the Security Council that the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland has undertaken military action in Syria against the so-called Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant (ISIL) in exercise of the inherent right of individual and collective self-defence.

On 21 August 2015 armed forces of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland carried out a precision airstrike against an ISIL vehicle in which a target known to be actively engaged in planning and directing imminent armed attacks against the United Kingdom was travelling. This airstrike was a necessary and proportionate exercise of the individual right of self-defence of the United Kingdom.

As reported in our letter of 25 November 2014, ISIL is engaged in an ongoing armed attack against Iraq, and therefore action against ISIL in Syria is lawful in the collective self-defence of Iraq.

I request that you circulate the present letter as a document of the Security Council.

I am copying this letter to the Secretary-General of the United Nations.

Matthew Rycroft