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Dear Friend,

It's 107 degrees in Iraq.

In a cluster of tents, Hussein and his wife desperately wait for water. Their five children, too parched to play, huddle in the scant shade.

They had to flee their home, which fell under the control of the Islamic State of Iraq and Sham (ISIS), a militant group responsible for widespread atrocities. The government has responded by dropping deadly barrel bombs anywhere it thinks ISIS might be lurking, putting civilian life in danger. To escape abuses from both sides, Hussein and his family left everything behind.

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World leaders count on Human Rights Watch to seek out injustice and expose the truth. Informed by our reports, they can act to make change that will have a positive effect on countless lives, like Hussein and his family.

They count on us. We count on you to make this work possible.

In his desolate tent, Hussein awaits the once-daily delivery of water. "The only thing worse than staying here," he told us, "would be going back."

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Thank you,



Kenneth Roth  
Executive Director

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