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QUESTION OF THE VIOLATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND FUNDAMENTAL FREEDOMS
IN ANY PART OF THE WORLD, WITH PARTICULAR REFERENCE TO COLONIAL
AND OTHER DEPENDENT TERRITORIES

Report of the Secretary-General prepared pursuant to operative paragraph 3
of the Commission on Human Rights resolution 1982/27 of 11 March 1982

1. This report contains information concerning the direct contacts which the Secretary-General has established and which are continuing with the Government of Iran, as requested in operative paragraph 3 of Commission on Human Rights resolution 1982/27 of 11 March 1982.
2. A compilation of the information available concerning the human rights situation prevailing in the country, as requested in operative paragraph 4 of resolution 1982/27, is contained in document E/CN.4/1983/19.
3. During the past year, the Secretary-General discussed reports of human rights violations with the Permanent Representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran. Among the related topics, the Secretary-General referred to reports of the persecution and, in some cases, summary execution of members of the Baha'i religious community. In this connection, Ambassador Rajai Khorassani said that nobody was persecuted in Iran because of his religious beliefs and that, in his Government's view, the Baha'is were not a religious group but, rather, a political movement aimed at creating division among the people of Iran.
4. Late in December 1982, the Iranian Permanent Representative indicated that his Government was prepared to receive an envoy of the Secretary-General in Tehran to discuss matters of human rights and indicated that his authorities were prepared to provide the United Nations with the necessary information required on this question.
5. As a follow-up to the above contacts, the Office of the Secretary-General contacted the Mission of Iran on 5 January 1983 to explore in greater detail various possibilities of visits to Iran by United Nations officials.

6. On 19 January 1983, the Iranian Mission to the United Nations confirmed that the Iranian authorities agreed to receive an envoy of the Secretary-General to discuss matters of human rights. Following this, on 31 January, the Mission indicated that the envoy could travel to Iran in the latter half of March. The details are at present being worked out.

7. The Secretary-General hopes that the mission of his representative to Iran in the coming weeks will provide an opportunity to clarify further the situation of human rights in Iran. He will, of course, keep the Commission informed of the results of this mission and other direct contacts.

8. In addition to these direct contacts, at various times during the past year, the Under-Secretary-General for Political and General Assembly Affairs and the Director of the Centre for Human Rights raised with Iranian Government representatives individual cases on a purely humanitarian basis.