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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 COUNTRIES AND TERRITORIES

Note by the Secretary-General

1. The Secretary-General has the honour to inform the Commission on Human Rights that on 20 January 1986 the Permanent Representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the United Nations addressed the following letter to him:

"Following our meeting on 14 January 1986 and with reference to my explanation of vote 1/ in the plenary meeting of the General Assembly on resolution 40/141 entitled 'Situation of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran' on 13 December 1985, I have the honour to reiterate that the previous invitation by my Government to Your Excellency's personal representative for the investigation of the situation of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran still stands. Should our invitation meet with Your Excellency's consent, we sincerely hope that, as we stated in our afore-mentioned explanation of vote, this investigation will be completely detached from resolution 40/141 which was totally rejected by my Government. I, therefore wish to request that, in all fairness, a reference to such an invitation be made in Your Excellency's report to the United Nations Commission on Human Rights".

2. On 3 February 1986 the Secretary-General addressed the following letter to the Permanent Representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the United Nations:

"I should like to thank you for your letter of 20 January 1986 in which you extended to me an invitation from your Government to send a personal representative to investigate the situation of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran. I wish to say that I am appreciative of this invitation.

^{1/} See A/40/PV.116, pp. 86-88.

I have studied your letter carefully and have also taken note of the position of the Islamic Republic of Iran as conveyed to me during our meeting of 14 January. As I indicated during our conversation, the United Nations Commission on Human Rights has appointed a rapporteur whose report will be before the Commission at its forthcoming session a few weeks from now. While that report is under active consideration by the Commission, I feel that the Secretary-General is not at liberty to proceed with a parallel effort.

Mindful of your request that your communication to me be brought to the attention of the Commission on Human Rights, I am arranging for your letter, together with the present reply, to be issued as a note for the forty-second session of the Commission."