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SECURITY  
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LETTER DATED 9 NOVEMBER 1979 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF  
THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO  
THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

On 4 November 1979, the American Embassy in Tehran was occupied and the American diplomatic personnel on its premises were taken and held by a group of Iranians. All efforts to secure their release, including an offer of discussions with emissaries, have so far been unavailing.

This action and the support it has received strike at the fundamental norms by which States maintain communication and violate the very basis for the maintenance of international peace and security and of comity between States. We consequently request that the Security Council urgently consider what might be done to secure the release of the diplomatic personnel being held and to restore the sanctity of diplomatic personnel and establishments.

(Signed) Donald F. McHENRY

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