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LETTER DATED 27 NOVEMBER 1979 FROM THE CHARGE D'AFFAIRES
OF THE PERMANENT MISSION OF IRAN TO THE UNITED NATIONS
ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

Upon instruction from my Government I have the honour to bring to the attention of the Security Council the following:

1. The Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran welcomes the request of the Secretary-General for a meeting of the Security Council (document S/13646). It will be recalled that the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran, in his letter dated 13 November 1979, addressed to the Secretary-General (document S/13626), had drawn attention to the threats to the peace and security of Iran, as well as to the region and the world, and requested a meeting of the Security Council.
2. Following the presentation of the letter, the delegation of Iran discussed the situation in full detail with the Secretary-General, the President and members of the Security Council, emphasizing the crucial importance of convening the meeting of the Security Council before the advent of the most holy days of Tassua and Ashura, days highly revered and commemorated for centuries in many Islamic countries, in particular, in Iran.
3. Considering the extreme sensitivity of the issues involved, and out of respect for these holy days, it is the considered view of the Islamic Republic of Iran that a meeting of the Security Council during these solemn days of mourning will not be opportune or productive. May I, therefore, request that formal deliberations of the Security Council be postponed.
4. I have been authorized to inform Your Excellency that Iran will be prepared to participate in a full debate in the Security Council as of Saturday evening, 1 December 1979. H.E. Mr. Abolhassan Bani-Sadr, the Foreign Minister, is scheduled to arrive in New York on Saturday evening and will lead the delegation of Iran at the Security Council deliberations.

(Signed) Jamal SHEMIRANI
Chargé d'Affaires