

UNITED NATIONS
ECONOMIC
AND
SOCIAL COUNCIL



Distr.
GENERAL

E/CN.4/1984/50
17 November 1983

Original: ENGLISH

COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS

Fortieth session

6 February - 16 March 1984

Item 12 of the provisional agenda

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

Letter dated 7 November 1983 from the Permanent Mission of
the Islamic Republic of Iran, addressed to the Assistant
Secretary-General, Centre for Human Rights

I have the honour to enclose herewith a document which I have prepared upon
the instructions of the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

This document is in the form of a statement concerning repeated major violations
of international humanitarian law on the part of the Iraqi Regime in the recent
bombardments of Iranian towns. It would be appreciated if this statement could be
treated as an official document of the Human Rights Commission and if a copy could
be distributed to the members accordingly.

(Signed) Nasrollah KAZEMI KAMYAB
Ambassador

G2.83-13976

Annex

STATEMENT REGARDING:

REPEATED VIOLATIONS OF INTERNATIONAL HUMANITARIAN LAW

The Iranian week-end has come to be known as a time when undefended towns, far from the war zone, are haunted by the most diabolic and systematic bombardments by Iraqi missiles.

This is particularly true of recent week-ends, when the undefended cities of Andimeshk, Behbahan, Dezful and Masjede-Soleiman have been the victims of the most savage bombardment by Iraqi missiles.

Unfortunately the responsible international organizations and individuals have adopted a suspect silence in the face of such atrocities as though they would close their eyes to such clear violations of international customary law and Geneva law with regard to the bombardment of undefended towns and villages.

Therefore, last week-end, Saturday 5 November 1983, was the occasion for Andimeshk, Behbahan and Masjede Soleiman to suffer yet again their fate, which is that of being the repeatedly chosen victims of heavy Iraqi bombardment, and martyrdom or severe injuries were inflicted upon 300 civilians in these towns. The total number of those who have suffered martyrdom in recent weeks now amounts to nearly 500 civilians.

We believe that an unbiased and unfailing respect for international law today is the best guarantee for its viability and recognition tomorrow.

Thus on behalf of the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran your attention is requested with regard to the gravity of this situation which demands a clear condemnation of those belligerent violations of international law which have been committed by the Iraqi Regime. On this basis you are invited and most welcome to make a visit to the towns which have been recently and repeatedly stricken by the systematic bombardment on the part of the Iraqi missiles. It is very much hoped that your visit to these areas would have an impact on the international organizations and would awaken them to a consciousness of their responsibilities.

Considering the rapid pace of the military advances made by the Iranian Muslim combatants, you will appreciate that, if the United Nations Organization and its related organs are not awakened today to act in accordance with their responsibilities in the face of such major and repeated violations of international humanitarian law as are being committed by the Iraqi Regime, tomorrow may be too late for the preservation of their honour and authority with regard to the victimized Iranian nation, and indeed all other nations of the world, as an organization deserving respect for its unbiased stance regarding international law to the benefit of humanity.