

~~UNITED NATIONS~~
Press Release

Department of Public Information
Press Section
United Nations, New York



SG/SM/2685
16 March 1979

STATEMENT OF SECRETARY-GENERAL ON SUMMARY EXECUTIONS IN IRAN

A United Nations spokesman made the following statement yesterday evening, 15 March, on behalf of Secretary-General Kurt Waldheim:

Secretary-General Kurt Waldheim has noted with deep concern that summary executions continue to be carried out in Iran without due process of law and that such a fate may also be meted out to former Prime Minister Amir Abbaf Hoveida.

The Secretary-General is gratified that the present Prime Minister has himself publicly expressed opposition to a continuation of this practice.

Without in any way wishing to interfere in the internal affairs of Iran, the Secretary-General strongly urges on humanitarian grounds that all concerned assure full respect for the human rights of political prisoners in Iran and that summary executions without due process be ended immediately.

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