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NB

The Charge d'Affaires a.i., Tehran reports in P.R. 3/81 of 8 Sept. 1981:

- In the course of a routine call on Mr. Taghavi, Director of the Western European desk at the Foreign Ministry, a number of important issues were raised.
- 2. On bilateral matters, Mr. Taghavi stressed that Iran wished to maintain good relations with Ireland and said that it was hoped to establish an Iranian Embassy in Dublin before too long. At his request, I outlined the Government's position on N. Ireland in some detail and explained the unrepresentative nature of the IRA.
- 3. In accordance with instructions, I then raised the question of the alleged persecution of Baha'is in Iran. I received the stock response that any action against Baha'is was on account of their criminal activities, not their religious persuasion.
- 4. Other subjects discussed included the Iran-Iraq war (to which he saw no early conclusion) and the situation in Afghanistan.