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Session: Hundred and Fourteenth Regular Session (25 February – 15 March 2002)
Title/Style of Cause: Tracy Lee Housel v. United States
Doc. Type: Decision on Precautionary Measures
Dated: 27 February 2002
Citation: Housel v. United States, Inter-Am. C.H.R., OEA/Ser.L/V/II.117, doc. 1 rev. 1, Ch. III, para. 78 (2002)

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78. On February 27, 2002 the Commission authorized precautionary measures in favor of Tracy Lee Housel. According to the petition requesting the measures, Mr. Housel was a dual national of the United States and the United Kingdom. He was tried by a judge and jury in the state of Georgia, pleaded guilty to malice murder and motor vehicle theft, and was sentenced to death by his jury on February 7, 1986. The petition also alleged that Mr. Housel had been the subject of regular repeated physical and mental abuse prior to his trial, and that he was denied his right to due process and to a fair trial because evidence of unadjudicated offenses was introduced during the sentencing phase of his trial and because of the inadequacy of Mr. Housel's legal representation. In its February 27, 2002 communication to the United States, the Commission indicated that if Mr. Housel was executed before the Commission had an opportunity to examine the allegations in his petition, any eventual decision would be rendered moot in respect of the availability of potential remedies and irreparable damage would be caused to Mr. Housel. The Commission subsequently received information that Mr. Housel's execution proceeded as scheduled on March 12, 2002.