

SECRET 082249Z JUL 75 STAFF

CITE DIRECTOR

TO: TEHRAN.

RYBAT

REF: DIRECTOR

PLEASE PASS FOLLOWING MESSAGE TO AMBASSADOR RICHARD HELMS ONLY FROM MARTIN HOFFMAN, SECRETARY OF DEFENSE (GENERAL COUNSEL).

DEAR DICK:

I AM VERY DISAPPOINTED THAT MY MESSAGE REQUESTING YOUR VIEWS AND SUPPORT ON THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE NEW POSITION OF DEFENSE REPRESENTATIVE, IRAN, APPEARS TO HAVE BEEN MISINTERPRETED.

WITH RESPECT TO THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE DEFENSE REPRESENTATIVE, THE MAAG, OTHER DOD REPRESENTATIVES, AND YOUR COUNTRY TEAM, THE PROPOSED DEFENSE REPRESENTATIVE WOULD SERVE AS THE SENIOR REPRESENTATIVE OF THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE AND WOULD SUPERVISE AND COORDINATE ALL DOD ACTIVITIES IN COUNTRY FOR YOU, REPORTING TO SECDEF THROUGH THE LONG ESTABLISHED COMMAND CHANNELS (CINCEUR, CJCS, DSAA/ISA). DEFENSE REPRESENTATIVE WOULD BE UNDER YOUR SUPERVISION AND POLICY DIRECTION AND WOULD SERVE AS A MEMBER OF YOUR COUNTRY TEAM.

WE ARE CONCERNED ABOUT YOUR OBSERVATION THAT THERE IS CONFUSION AS TO WHO REPRESENTS YOU NOW IN DEALING WITH THE IRANIAN GOVERNMENT ON DOD MATTERS. WE ARE EQUALLY CONCERNED ABOUT THE MILITARY SERVICE SECTIONS OPERATING UNDER DIFFERENT GUIDANCE, OFTEN COMPETING (WITH CONTRACTOR ASSISTANCE) TO GAIN IRANIAN ACCEPTANCE OF SYSTEMS/ CONCEPTS BEFORE OVERALL U.S. GUIDANCE IS FORMULATED.

AS WE SEE IT, WE IN DOD CANNOT BE RESPONSIVE TO THE NEW AND INCREASING REQUIREMENTS WITHOUT IMPROVED MANAGEMENT BOTH HERE AND THERE. AS YOU KNOW, WE HAVE MADE CONSIDERABLE IMPROVEMENT IN MANAGEMENT HERE WHICH WILL CONTINUE. WE ALSO HAVE NEW LEGISLATIVE

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REQUIREMENTS TO SATISFY.

WE DO NOT FEEL WE CAN IGNORE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO ENHANCE YOUR IN-COUNTRY CAPABILITY TO DEAL MORE EFFECTIVELY WITH INCREASINGLY SENSITIVE PROBLEMS, AS WELL AS TO PROFIT IN OUR OVERALL FMS PROGRAM FROM THE BETTER MANAGEMENT AND EXPERIENCE GAINED.

THE MAN WE WILL NOMINATE TO YOU AS DEFENSE REPRESENTATIVE HAS HAD EXTENSIVE FMS AND MILITARY ASSISTANCE EXPERIENCE AT THE MAAG, UNIFIED COMMAND, MILITARY DEPARTMENT, AND OSD LEVEL. HE WILL BRING TO IRAN A UNIQUE CAPABILITY TO EASE YOUR BURDENS IN THE DEFENSE AREA. MOREOVER, BASED ON PAST EXPERIENCE WITH THE INDIVIDUALS CONCERNED AND OUR SOUNDINGS HERE, THIS STEP WOULD BE FULLY UNDERSTOOD AND ACCEPTED BY THE MILITARY.

URGE THAT WE DISCUSS YOUR CONCERNS BY PHONE IF YOU HAVE ANY MISGIVINGS WITH SECRETARY SCHLESINGER'S PROPOSAL.

WARM REGARDS, MARTY. E2 IMPDET.
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