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SUBJECT Kashani's Threat to Mossadegh

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1. Immediately prior to his departure from Tehran for Mecca on 26 August 1952, Ayatollah Kashani sent a message to Prime Minister Mossadegh through Ahmad Razavi, Deputy President of the Majlis. The message stated in essence that, if the present Government would not take constructive measures to remedy the current situation by the time Kashani returned to Tehran, the Majlis, under his (Kashani's) direction would have to take matters into its own hands.
2. The Kashani-Mossadegh break has reached serious proportions. Kashani is motivated by a compelling ambition to become the next Prime Minister, with the present Minister of Finance Bager Seyyed Kazemi as Deputy Prime Minister. Kashani's ultimate aim is to remove the Shah and become the President of an Iranian Republic. In his drive for power Kashani has a de facto agreement with the Tudeh in opposition to Mossadegh.
3. The fall of Mossadegh, followed by the abdication of the Shah, would be accompanied by tribal uprisings and a general state of provincial anarchy.
4. Mossadegh's policy to date has demoralized the Army to the extent that possibly it now is incapable of suppressing a Tudeh coup attempt.

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