

ARTICLE APPEARED  
ON PAGE   A1  NEW YORK TIMES  
8 November 1986

# PLEAS FOR SILENCE ON MIDEAST DEALS

## Ex-Hostage, at White House, Sees a Threat to Captives

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Special to The New York Times

WASHINGTON, Nov. 7 — With President Reagan at his side, David P. Jacobsen, the former American hostage, pleaded with journalists today "in the name of God" to "back off" and refrain from reporting the details of hostage negotiations.

"A simple speculation on your part could cause the death of my dear friend Tom Sutherland or Terry Anderson or Joe Cicippio or any of the other hostages," Mr. Jacobsen said in a choked voice, standing with President and Mrs. Reagan in the White House Rose Garden.

Mr. Jacobsen, a 55-year-old hospital administrator from Huntington Beach, Calif., was released Sunday after more than 17 months in captivity.

### Reports on Iran

Since Tuesday, when Iran said Robert C. McFarlane, the former national security adviser, and four other Americans had made a secret trip to Teheran, there have been published reports that the United States was providing military spare parts to Iran in a secret operation to gain the release of American hostages.

There have also been reports that Secretary of State George P. Shultz protested the plan. The Administration has refused to discuss the matter.

Mr. Jacobsen's plea was echoed during the day by President Reagan as well as by Larry Speakes, the White House spokesman, as Administration officials continued to refuse to discuss the hostage issue and warned that publishing speculation about secret deals to free the hostages would endanger their lives.

"Any and all reporting on this subject is very, very harmful," Mr. Speakes said. "The reporting on this subject, which is uninformed and speculative, is running the danger of affecting the safety of the hostages and being detrimental to the long-term interests of the United States."

In a videotape in Beirut before he was released, Mr. Jacobsen criticized

the Administration's efforts to gain his release.

But today, Mr. Jacobsen and his family received a warm welcome at the White House. Looking fit in a blue suit, Mr. Jacobsen praised Mr. Reagan profusely as they stood on a porch outside the Oval Office.

"I know that you have sought our freedom from the day our first American was taken hostage," Mr. Jacobsen said. "Mr. Reagan, you really have my eternal gratitude. You're the leader of a truly great country, and I'm proud to be an American, and I really want to thank you very, very much. You're quite a man."

Mr. Jacobsen urged reporters to "be responsible and please do not engage in unreasonable and unrealistic speculation."

"Be intellectually honest," he said firmly. "I ask of you, I plead of you. I am worried what you might say, or someone else, might result in a death of somebody that I love. I don't want that on my conscience, and I don't think you want it on yours."

### 'No Way We Can Answer'

As the Reagans were ushering Mr. Jacobsen into the Oval Office, a reporter asked the President about reports that the Administration traded arms to Iran to gain the release of Mr. Jacobsen and other hostages.

Mr. Reagan, frowning, replied, "There's no way that we can answer questions having anything to do with this without endangering the people we're trying to rescue."

Another reporter shouted a question about Secretary of State Shultz, asking if he agreed or disagreed with Administration policy.

"We've all been working together," replied Mr. Reagan.

"And Secretary Shultz supports the policy, and so does Cap Weinberger?" asked a questioner.

"Yes," Mr. Reagan said.

When a reporter asked, "Why not dispel the speculation by telling us exactly what happened, sir?" Mr. Reagan replied:

"Because it has to happen again and again and again until we have them all back. And anything that we tell about all the things that have been going on in trying to effect his rescue endangers the possibility of further rescues."

A reporter shouted another question, but Mr. Jacobsen stepped forward.

### 'Be Responsible and Back Off'

"Please," Mr. Jacobsen said, "You didn't hear what I said at the beginning. Unreasonable speculation on your part can endanger their lives. I would like to take some time now and talk, but this is a day of joy for me. I have my children inside. I want to share it with them. And I want Terry Anderson to share the same joy with his family, and I want Tom Sutherland to share the joy with his family. And in the name of God, would you please just be responsible and back off?"

Mr. Jacobsen then retreated with the President, his wife and key aides into the Oval Office, ignoring a reporter who asked, "How are we to know what is responsible and what is not?"

Six Americans and 13 other foreigners are still missing in Lebanon, kidnapped by various groups. Among those seized last year were Terry A. Anderson, the chief Middle East correspondent of The Associated Press, and Thomas M. Sutherland, dean of agriculture at the American University of Beirut.

Islamic Holy War, the Shiite Moslem fundamentalist group that freed Mr. Jacobsen and is believed to have taken part in other kidnappings, has demanded the release of 17 Shiites imprisoned in Kuwait for bombing the United States and French Embassies there in 1983.