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ABC "GOOD MORNING AMERICA" INTERVIEW WITH: ADMIRAL STANSFIELD TURNER FORMER DIRECTOR, CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY TUESDAY,

FORREST SAWYER: The threat of international terrorism, whether it could be hijacking or hostage taking, or terrorist bombing, one of the principal fears of our time and how democracies, like our own, choose to battle this threat has been a point of debate for years. Especially since the Iran hostage crisis of 1979/1980.

Admiral Stansfield Turner was director of the CIA during the Carter administration. He dealt directly with the hostage crisis in Iran. He writes about the politics and policies of terrorism in his new book "Terrorism and Democracy." And Stansfield Turner is with us this morning.

Good morning sir.

ADM. TURNER: Good morning Forrest.

MR. SAWYER: Let's go back to that 1980 campaign, what was called the "October surprise" by a lot of people. There has been a call now for an investigation in Congress of the allegations that Reagan officials, specifically William Casey, who became CIA director, may have entered into negotiations with the Iranians to hold off the release of the hostages until after the election.

ADM. TURNER: Terrible thing to accuse anybody of doing. I only add one thing to this in my book, and that is, until October 20th, 1980, the day that a deal was supposed to have been made in Paris by Mr. Casey, Ronald Reagan did not attack Mr. Carter very much about the hostages. Possibly out of concern that if Carter got them out at the last minute, it would help him even more. It may not be a coincidence. It may be a clue that on October 20th, Reagan commenced attacking Carter on the hostage problem, the day the deal was supposed to have been made.

MR. SAWYER: The hostages were of course released immediately upon inauguration.

ADM. TURNER: Yes.

MR. SAWYER: But that's that's a lot of shadows. That's really what we're talking about here. We're saying maybe somebody met in Paris, maybe somebody met in Madrid. We don't know where William Casey was during this period of time. But there's no smoking gun.

ADM. TURNER: No. It's circumstantial evidence and one cannot, in all conscience, levy any accusation because it's such a terrible thing.

On the other hand, the problem could be put to rest. The

White House can produce Secret Service records as to where the vice presidential candidate was. The Republican National Committee can produce records as to where the campaign chairman, Mr. Casey, was. The CIA can produce records as to where Mr. Grigg (sp), who was also accused of being there, was.

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Why don't we get those out on the table, and if the White House doesn't do it, then I think the Congress ought to have an investigation and bring those things out.

MR. SAWYER: But you were director of CIA and you didn't have a whiff of any of this going on.

ADM. TURNER: No, I did not.

MR. SAWYER: So you think there should be an investigation of some kind.

ADM. TURNER: I think it's got to be cleared up. It's a cloud hanging over the administration today.

MR. SAWYER: Well, let's have a look at what we've got right now, which are a lot of western hostages still being held in Lebanon .

ADM. TURNER: And the story today is that we won't make any deals, but one is in the making right now I believe.

MR. SAWYER: You do?

ADM. TURNER: I do, yes. You see, for all these years, since 1982, we've had hostages in Iran, in Beirut. We've not been able to find a way really satisfactorily to get them out. Conditions have changed. The Iranians say they want to make up with us a little bit. They've got economic problems. They can put pressure on the people in Beirut. The people in Beirut who are holding the hostages want some prisoners out of Israeli jails. I think the Israelis will be kind enough to accommodate us. A deal can be made. The only problem is we keep saying we'll never make deals. But, in my book, I study eight presidents who have had hostage problems, seven of them made deals.

MR. SAWYER: Is that a bad thing?

ADM. TURNER: No. It's not necessarily good. We have to judge each deal on its own, and because we're a democracy, because we're humanitarian, we'll accept some deals. They're none of them desirable, but some are acceptable, and we prefer that than keeping a man like Terry Anderson there who's been there six years already.

MR. SAWYER: You know I've talked to some Iranian officials about this and I'll tell you what they say to me. They say that we helped get some hostages released for you in the past, and nothing was done. There were no overtures made by the United States . . . we don't have credibility with those hostage keepers anymore. So you've got to give us something if we're going to get them out. Maybe some release of hostages, as they call them, that are being held in Israel. That's enough. But you've got to give us something.

ADM. TURNER: Yes. There's got to be some quid pro quo here. But the Iranians are talking out of both sides of their mouth. They did help us get three hostages out when we sold them arms , but three more hostages were taken. We came out with nothing in _ on balance.

MR. SAWYER: Let's talk about the CIA these days. Now the CIA doesn't have that enormous external threat for which it was really created. There is no tremendous threat of communism. Has the CIA got to be reorganized and redirected?

ADM. TURNER: Yes. And it's got to have a real shaking up because it's been so focused on the Soviet Union and on the military threat for all these years, that shifting to economics, to politics, to terrorism, to drug trafficking is going to be a major shake-out. I hope they can do it. It's going to take some reorganization, in my opinion, as well as some change of emphasis.

MR. SAWYER: Stansfield Turner, your new book is called "Terrorism and Democracy" and you're good to come by.

ADM. TURNER: Thank you.

MR. SAWYER: Thank you Admiral.