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# Iran's Nuclear Program: Building a Weapons Capability (U)

Joint Atomic Energy  
Intelligence Committee

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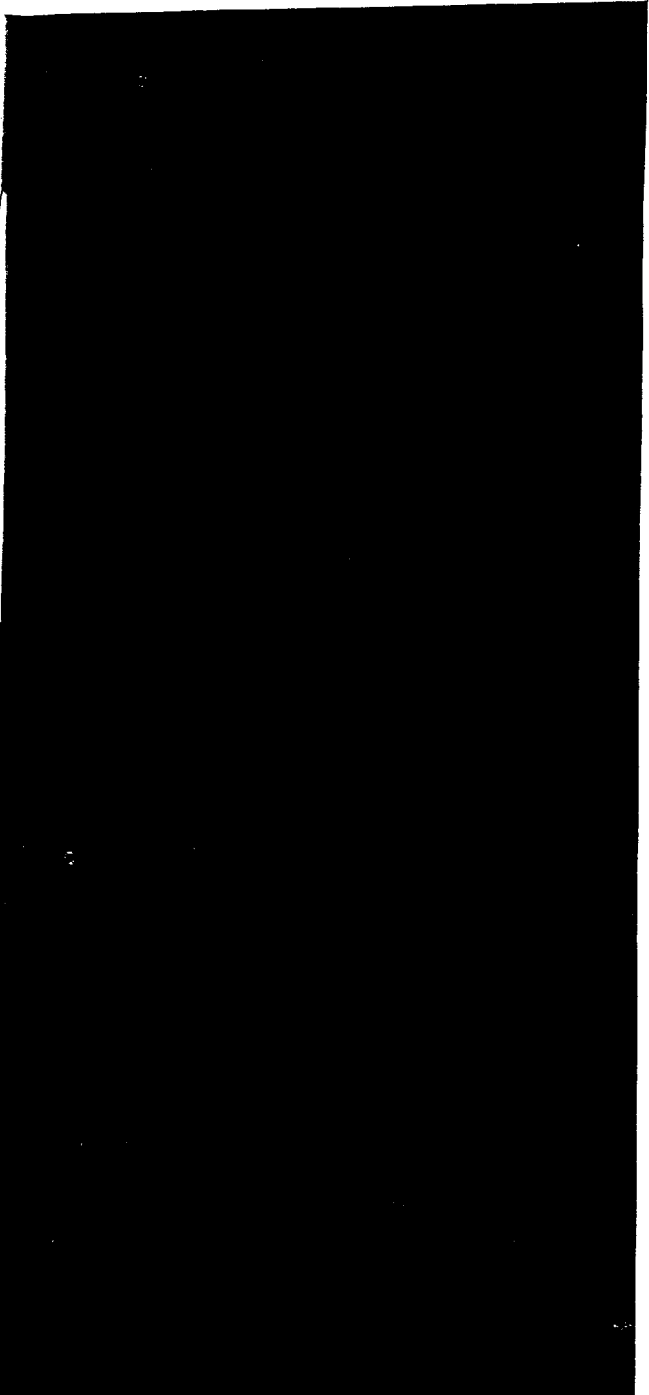
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Exemptions: (b)(1) (b)(3)

Iran's Nuclear Program:  
Building a Weapons  
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The Program: Lofty Goals, Meager Beginnings

Iran's nuclear program effectively began with the purchase of a US-supplied, 5-megawatt-thermal (MWt) research reactor in the mid-1960s. The reactor was installed at the Tehran Nuclear Research Center, located adjacent to the University of Tehran. In the early 1970s, Shah Reza Pahlevi launched an ambitious program to bring nuclear power to Iran, with plans to construct 20 power reactors by the mid-1990s. Construction of the German-supplied, two-unit station at Bushehr began in 1975, and a contract was signed to build a French-supplied, two-unit station at Karun. A nuclear center was established at Esfahan to support industrial research for the nuclear power program. Iran also purchased a 10-percent share of the European enrichment consortium Eurodif to ensure enrichment services to these reactors. (U)



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Exemptions: (b)(1) + (b)(2)