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5 January 1980

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NE IRANIAN SITREP - 5 January 1980

1. As the Addendum to SITREP No. 50 reports, the Canadians have decided to keep their embassy in Tehran open in order to provide safehaven for the six Americans and to provide us with secure communications needed for a possible hostage release operation. For the present, Ambassador Taylor and Extaff prefer that the Americans stay put in their embassy and not attempt to leave Tehran clandestinely. Nevertheless, they recognize that events may force their hand and, therefore, would like to have on hand an operational plan with a reasonable chance of success for exfiltrating the Americans. In this connection, Tarnoff and [redacted] during their last visit to Ottawa, [redacted] the use of Canadian documentation; [redacted]

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[redacted] the Canadians [redacted] are willing to authorize the use of Canadian documentation if Ambassador Taylor believes, when the time comes, that this is the best way to go. This weekend officers of the Iranian Task Force and OTS will be working to complete [redacted]

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[redacted] for use with Canadian documentation. We are waiting for Canadian response to our request that they pouch seven Canadian passports to Headquarters [redacted]

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Once the plans are completed, they will be submitted to the DCI and Secretary Vance and the Canadian Government for final approval. [redacted] there is a sense of urgency on the Canadian side that Ambassador Taylor have at his disposal the means of exfiltrating the Americans should that become necessary; we share this sense of urgency and expect to be able to send completed plans and the necessary documentation to Tehran via the next Canadian pouch which is scheduled to leave Ottawa on 10 January.

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2. [redacted]

[Large redacted block]

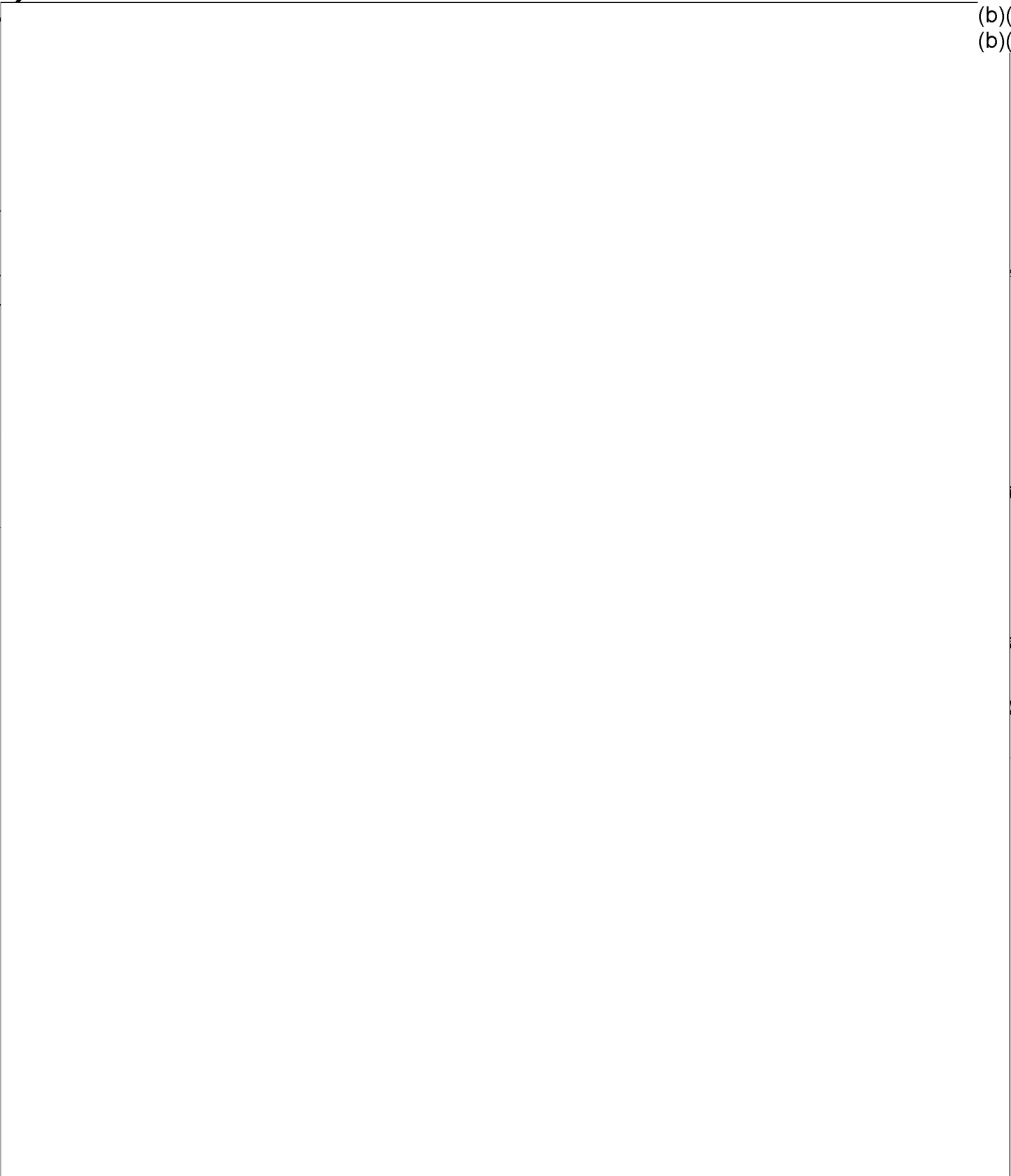
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WARNING NOTICE
INTELLIGENCE SOURCES
AND METHODS INVOLVED

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