

U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SELECT COMMITTEE TO INVESTIGATE  
COVERT ARMS TRANSACTIONS WITH IRAN  
WASHINGTON, DC 20515

Executive Registry

87-0239

HIC

January 14, 1987

APPROVED FOR  
RELEASE DATE:  
16-Dec-2008

Dr. Robert M. Gates  
Acting Director  
Central Intelligence Agency  
Washington, D.C. 20505

Dear Dr. Gates:

The House Select Committee to Investigate Covert Arms Transactions with Iran has commenced its investigation of covert arms sales to Iran and related matters. A copy of House Resolution 12, 100th Congress, 1st Session, establishing the Select Committee accompanies this letter. At this time, the Select Committee needs to request a full documentary basis for proceeding with its investigation. In the near future, the Select Committee staff will begin interviews and depositions of witnesses leading to Committee hearings. John W. Nields, Jr., the Select Committee's Chief Counsel, will be discussing further requests for documents, requests for witnesses, and other details of the inquiry.

The Select Committee should be provided by noon on Wednesday, January 21, 1987, with all materials under the control of the Central Intelligence Agency on any subject relating to (i) arms transactions directly or through third parties with Iran, Israel, Manucher Ghorbanifar, Adnan Khashoggi, Yaacov Nimrodi, Al Schwimmer, or Amiran Nir; (ii) efforts to enlist the aid of Iran or Israel or persons located in Iran or Israel to obtain the release of United States hostages seized or held in Lebanon; and (iii) the supplying or proposed supplying of any financial or other assistance in whatever form to anti-government forces in Nicaragua, from January 1, 1984 to December 15, 1986. Of course, the agency may have provided some of the documents covered by this list to the committees of the Ninety-Ninth Congress; however, to assure completeness a full set of documents, including those previously provided, should be furnished, unless other arrangements are made with the Select Committee's counsel. For now, the Select Committee will receive documents at H-405 in the Capitol, the Select Committee may subsequently specify other offices for the furnishing of documents, once it completes security preparations.

81

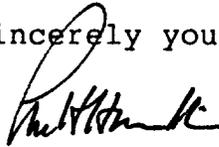
Dr. Robert M. Gates  
January 14, 1987  
Page 2

As a continuing matter, the Select Committee should be furnished with copies of all materials provided to the Senate Select Committee on Secret Military Assistance to Iran and the Nicaraguan Opposition, and to, Judge Walsh, the Independent Counsel pursuing the Iran inquiry. Such a production routine will best move this investigation along toward completion.

It is my hope that your prompt response will aid the Select Committee's inquiry and assist the Select Committee in meeting its mandate from the House of Representatives to complete its investigation "as soon as practicable."

With best wishes, I am

Sincerely yours,



Lee H. Hamilton  
Chairman  
House Select Committee to  
Investigate Covert Arms  
Transactions with Iran

Enclosure