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Chapter 9 10/17/48

APPROVED FOR
RELEASE DATE:
22-Dec-2008

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MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Message for John Shaheen to Pass to Hashemi re:
Contact with Two Iranians

1. I phoned Shaheen at 1800 hours on 12 July to give him the State Department approved plan. I gave it to him in two phases. The first was for his information only, that we have confirmed [redacted] is an important figure.

The second name we were given by Hashemi has been confirmed to us to be a fabricator and unreliable. In fact we have had a previous bad experience with him on the hostage issue. I told Shaheen not to provide this information to Hashemi.

2. Hashemi is to be given the following [redacted] will be prepared to meet at a time of the Iranian's convenience with [redacted]. He may bring MANOUCHEHR with him if he wishes. [redacted] will not repeat not meet with MANOUCHEHR alone. Shaheen replied that he got the point; it made sense to him; and he would send it promptly to Hashemi, who is probably in Geneva.

3. Shaheen departs for Tokyo at 1100 hours on 13 July and will be at the Tokyo Imperial Hotel for about a week after Sunday noon. I have his phone number.

4. The above plan was proposed by us to DAS Arnie Raphael and approved by Mike Armacost on Friday afternoon. They will send another interim cable [redacted]

Partially Declassified / Released on 19 Aug 89
under provisions of E.O. 12356
by B. Reger, National Security Council

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9 July 1985

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: New Developments on the Shaheen-Bashemi Channel to Iran

Declassified/Released on 19 Aug 87 under provisions of E.O. 12356 by B. Reger, National Security Council

1. John Shaheen phoned late on 8 July with the two Iranian names who are willing to meet

They are:

a. [Redacted]

and

b. Manouchehr (Inu), a ranking Intel Officer.

Shaheen said that we can confirm the full identity of Manouchehr [Redacted]

Hashemi claims that Manouchehr was helpful in the release of the TWA 39 hostages [Redacted] (We know of no basis for this claim).

2. Hashemi claims that the Iranians are more interested in a change of course than in any other quid pro quo. When asked to clarify whether that meant a US change of policy or an Iranian change, Shaheen said he thought it meant both; i.e., a change in the course of US-Iranian relations. Hashemi claims that Syria will not be involved in the release of the seven remaining hostages because Hizballah deals directly with Iran.

3. Shaheen said, "We are not dealing with children; Hashemi now insists that it be made clear to the US Government that as soon as the seven hostages are sprung, he will get his nolle prosequi." Hashemi asked for confirmation from Shaheen which government agency was involved. Shaheen told him on the international phone lines that it was the Bureau of Fisheries. Hashemi replied that whether it was Weinberger, Schultz, Casey, or the Bureau of Fisheries, his lawyer, Elliot Richardson, needs at this time to confirm that the US Government acknowledges Hashemi's helpful role if the seven hostages are released. (I later phoned Shaheen back at his insistence to repeat the previous talking point from State.) "Our willingness to have [Redacted] meet with a confidential representative of Iran as an initial step does not mean any willingness on the US Government's part to [Redacted] of Justice, to take [Redacted]"

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any judicial step concerning Mr. Hashemi. The possibility of any such step could only be addressed, if at all, after the US Government has learned from the [redacted] first meeting. [redacted] Shaheen said he did not think that would be enough for Hashemi. He will phone back on 9 July (possibly to the DCI) to urge that someone in the US Government confirm to Elliot Richardson that this is a legitimate US Government channel that Hashemi is assisting.

4. All of the above has been passed to Peter Burchall at State. The next step is for State to confirm with [redacted] that they are ready to meet with the two Iranians within the next week. I will then phone that back to Shaheen and the Iranians will advise through Hashemi their time of arrival [redacted]

[redacted]

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by B. Reger, National Security Council
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Chapter 9 FN 48
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FOR STAFF

Partially Declassified/Released on 19 Aug 87
under provisions of E.O. 12356
by B. Reger, National Security Council

SUBJECT: POSSIBLE CONTACT WITH IRANIAN GOVERNMENT REPS

REFS: A. [REDACTED]
B. DIRECTOR 44484

DO 303159

03 07/30

1. ON 12 JULY, [REDACTED] MET WITH [REDACTED] AND INFORMED HIM AS FOLLOWS: WE HAVE BEEN PRESENTED WITH AN OPPORTUNITY TO MEET WITH REPRESENTATIVES OF THE GOVERNMENT OF IRAN. THESE REPRESENTATIVES SAY THEY ARE IN A POSITION TO OBTAIN THE LIBERATION OF THE SEVEN AMERICAN HOSTAGES. THOUGH WE ARE SKEPTICAL WE FEEL WE MUST FOLLOW UP. THE REPRESENTATIVES ARE [REDACTED] AND A CERTAIN AMBASSADOR, SUPPOSEDLY A HIGH-RANKING IRANIAN INTELLIGENCE OFFICER. AN INTERAGENCY [REDACTED] INFORMED US THAT WE CAN CONFIRM THE IDENTITY OF [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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on 12/1/85
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Partially Declassified/Released on 19 Aug 87
under provisions of E.O. 12356
by B. Roger, National Security Council

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Date 27 March 87
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Archie

Update on the Hashemi escape. As of last night, [redacted] was still negative about the two names offered -- [redacted] and Manacahr (intell officer).

It turns out [redacted]

[redacted] that he was a fabricator. According to [redacted] our only knowledge of [redacted] in the biographic files is through reporting from Manacahr who [redacted] claimed, among other things, that [redacted] was the individual responsible for the kidnapping of William Buckley. In other words, CIA has been around this same issue [redacted] earlier and had come to the conclusion that he was not reliable. [redacted] inclination, thus, was to recommend to Casey that the Hashemi connection be

dropped. He said they would do nothing, however, pending further word [redacted] This issue may come up at the 3:00 pm meeting with [redacted] C/NS (CIA)

Our Manacahr, the one Steve Grummon resurrected from his files, is another one apparently (see attached TD, part 2D). If they do want to kill the initiative, it would be worth asking if they are sure that their Manacahr is the one in question, i.e., it's a fairly common name and how do they know it's the one who was the fabricator? We have not been able to identify [redacted]

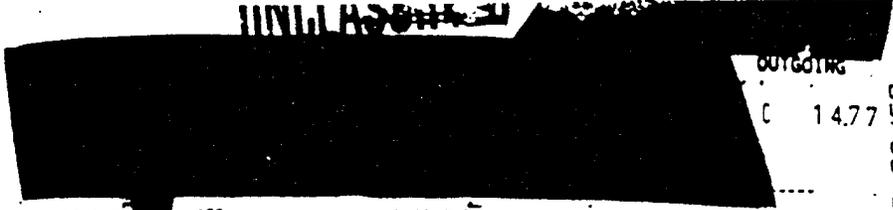
variously described as [redacted] or [redacted]
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Date 27 March 87
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19 Aug 87
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OUTGOING

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TOT: 07 JUL 85 DIRECTOR 664884

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TO: 1000

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under provisions of E.O. 12356
by B. Roger, National Security Council

SUBJECT: POSSIBLE CONTACT WITH IRANIAN GOVERNMENT REPS

1. THROUGH A COMPLEX SERIES OF LEADS WE HAVE BEEN PRESENTED WITH AN ALLEGED OPPORTUNITY TO MEET WITH REPRESENTATIVES OF THE IRANIAN GOVERNMENT. THESE REPRESENTATIVES PURPORTEDLY ARE CAPABLE OF SECURING THE RELEASE OF THE SEVEN HOSTAGES. WHILE WE ARE SKEPTICAL THAT THIS IS A BONA FIDE INITIATIVE WE MUST FOLLOW-UP UNTIL WE ARE MORE CONFIDENT ABOUT WHAT WE ARE DEALING WITH.

2. THE ALLEGED REPRESENTATIVES ARE [REDACTED] HANG A MANOUCHEM (LNU), A KARKUK IRANIAN INTELLIGENCE OFFICER, AN INTERMEDIARY HAS ADVISED US THAT WE CAN CONFIRM THE [REDACTED] IDENTITY OF THE LATTER [REDACTED]

3. [REDACTED]

4. PV18: HQS SUSPECTS MANOUCHEM IS IDENTICAL WITH [REDACTED] WE NOW [REDACTED] RESIDENT IN EUROPE. WE ALSO NOTE THAT ALL OUR THREATS [REDACTED] STEPS FROM [REDACTED] REPORTING. AS YOU KNOW, WE BELIEVE [REDACTED] TO BE A FABRICATOR AND HAVE CIRCULATED A BURN NOTICE ON HIM (DIRECTOR 023056).

5. PLEASE ADVISE. GREATLY APPRECIATE ASSISTANCE.

ORIG: [REDACTED] FILE: [REDACTED] DECL DATE: [REDACTED] BY: [REDACTED] ALL SECRET
U: REL: [REDACTED] CL BY: [REDACTED]

END OF MESSAGE

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EXHIBIT
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REVIEWED FOR RELEASE
DATE 22 March 92

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CIIN 1034

9 Jul 85

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT:

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On 17 May 1984 a Federal Arrest Warrant was issued for Cyrus HASHEMI and his two brothers Jamshid and Reza for arms export control violations. The warrant is based on several proven violations of arms embargo. Reza was arrested in New York in May 1984 and is presently in jail. Cyrus and Jamshid are living in London. Cyrus, born circa 1940 in Iran, is U. S. citizen.

In an attempt to obtain a nolle prosequi, Cyrus HASHEMI, via John Shaheen, is reportedly intermediary in arranging a change of policy vis-a-vis U. S.-Iran relations. HASHEMI claims that Syria will not be involved in the release of the seven (July 1985) remaining hostages because Hizballah deals directly with Iran. Two Iranians are willing to meet with the [redacted] as an initial step; they are [redacted] and Manuchehr GORBANFAR - a known fabricator who has previously alleged he could place us in contact with [redacted]. Despite our interest, [redacted] never was able to produce [redacted].

MEMOR

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