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MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Message for John Shaheen to Pass to Hashemi re:
[redacted] 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 [redacted]

[redacted] 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 [redacted] 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]

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9 July 1985

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: New Developments on the Shaheen-Hashemi Indirect Channel to Iran

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

They are:

a. [redacted]

and

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

Shaheen said that we can confirm the full identity of Manouchehr by checking with [redacted] allegedly knows Manouchehr favorably from direct contact. [redacted]

[redacted] Hashemi claims that Manouchehr was helpful in the release of the TWA 39 hostages through another foreign government, not Syria. (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]

[redacted] meet with a confidential representative of Iran as an initial step does not mean any willingness on the US Government's part, including the Department of Justice, to take

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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." 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 Burleigh 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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