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28 March 1973

MEMORANDUM FOR: The Ambassador

[] says that you asked whether anyone had information on the three Iranian helicopter pilots recently returned from Iraq. We are in close touch with [] which has asked our advice in connection with debriefing. As a starter we suggested that they have the pilots attempt to recall in as much detail as possible every single question which was put to them. From there we will proceed to such questions as indications of Soviet presence or support, The pilots views as to why they were kept so long, and so on. Since these three people were to a limited degree witting of a sensitive Iranian Air Force operation [] we will stay closely in touch with what follows.

It was the view of [] that the three returnees should be given a couple of days to visit with their families and readjust prior to the initiation of the debriefing process. I will keep you advised as we receive information from []

[]

[]

Excellent

ML

HR70-14
(U)

APPROVED FOR RELEASE
DATE: MAR 2008

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