FROM: AMB. HELMS, TEHRAN

1. TIME HAS ABOUT COME FOR ANNOUNCEMENT CONCERNING SHAH'S UPCOMING VISIT TO WASHINGTON ON 24 JULY. IN THIS CONNECTION THERE IS ONE POINT WHICH REQUIRES CLEARANCE WITH PRESIDENT AND ON WHICH HIS DECISION IS NECESSARY. IF THIS IS TO BE STATE VISIT, WHICH I UNDERSTOOD WAS PRESIDENT'S DESIRE, CUSTOM REQUIRES THAT PRESIDENT AND MRS. NIXON DINE WITH SHAH AND EMPRESS ON SECOND EVENING. IF PRESIDENT AND MRS. NIXON DO NOT RPT NOT DESIRE TO DO THIS, THE VISIT WILL HAVE TO BE CALLED "OFFICIAL". SHAH HAS TOLD BILL ROGERS AND ME THAT HE DOES NOT RPT NOT HAVE STRONG FEELINGS ON WHICH WAY THE DECISION GOES. HE IS QUITE FIRM, HOWEVER, ON WHAT CUSTOM REQUIRES. IT WAS MY UNDERSTANDING FROM PRESIDENT WHEN HE AUTHORIZED ME TO EXTEND INVITATION THAT HE WANTED THIS TO BE "STATE VISIT". IT IS FOR THIS REASON THAT I RESPECTFULLY REFER HIS ATTENTION TO THIS MATTER.

/CONTINUED/

HR70-14 APPROVED FOR RELEASE DATE: MAR 2008

RELEASED		
	TOP SECRET/EYES	ONLY

2. NEW SUBJECT: PLEASE SEE THAT TEHRAN GETS ANY GOODIES YOU PASS OUT TO SPECIAL RELATIONSHIP CHIEFS OF STATE OR GOVERNMENT ON RESULTS BREZHNEV VISIT. I CAN GET MATERIAL TO SHAH PRIVATELY. CONGRATULATIONS ON OUTCOME OF VISIT. FROM WHAT ONE READS HERE, IT SEEMS TO HAVE BEEN GREAT SUCCESS. WARM REGARDS AS ALWAYS. E2, IMPDET.

T O P S B C R E T/EYES ONLY