Que 25,74

FM AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

250935 Z

TO THE WHITE HOUSE

T O P SECRE T/SENSITIVE EXCLUSIVELY EYES ONLY

CITE TEHRAN

DELIVER DURING WAKING HOURS

FROM: AMBASSADOR HELMS REF: WH 42555

1. THE SECRETARY'S REPLY WAS CONVEYED TO GENERAL NASSIRI EARLY ON 25 AUGUST.

2. FROM HERE IT WOULD SEEM PREFERABLE IF THE ISRAELIS WERE TO PROVIDE THE KURDS WITH SS10 AND SS11 ANTI-TANK MISSILES WHICH WE WOULD REPLACE WITH TOW MISSILES, THAN FOR US. TO PROM. VIDE TOW MISSILES OR OTHER AMERICAN ORDNANCE TO THE KURDS DIRECTLY OR THROUGH THE IRANIANS. YOU CAN JUDGE BETTER THAN WE, THE FEASIBILITY AND MECHANICS OF PROVIDING TOW MISSILES AS REPLACEMENTS. IN THE USE OF MODERN ARTILLERY AND ANTI-TANK WEAPONS SHOULD BE ESPECIALLY HELP-FUL.

3. THE ISRAELIS AND IRANIANS ALREADY HAVE A WORKING LOG-ISTICS PIPELINE THROUGH WHICH OTHER ORDNANCE HAS BEEN SHIPPED. GENERAL NASSIRI SAID ON 24 AUGUST THAT 300 TONS OF ORDNANCE OF ISRAEL PROVENANCE WOULD BE ARRIVING IN EIGHT DAYS. NOT ONLY IS THERE CONSIDERABLE SEA-TRAFFIC BETWEEN ELAT AND PERSIAN PORTS, BUT THE IRANIANS HAVE A SIZEABLE FLEET OF C-130'S. WARM REGARDS.

TOPSECRET

RELEASED:

APPROVED FOR RELEASE DATE: MAR 2008

HR70-14 (U)