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Mr. Charles W. Kane Director of Security Central Intelligence Agency

Dear Mr. Kane:

> I have received your letter of 28 April 1975 proposing the establishment of a three-man security team to cover the NE Division territory on a regional basis.

While I am in general sympathy with the idea of a regional security office I really cannot agree to any expansion of the Agency presence in Tehran for the foreseeable future. As you know I am trying to hold down the expansion of the official American presence here to the minimum. There will be some new programs under Joint Commission auspices which will compel us to increase the American presence. This makes it all the more necessary for us to hold the line wherever else it is possible. Tehran is already bursting at the seams with all facilities gravely overloaded.

I would suggest that you consider establishing your regional office in New Delhi where there must be large quantities of counter-part funds available and where there is less pressure for expansion of the American presence. Other possible alternate locations which would seem to pose fewer problems than Tehran are Beirut and Islamabad. Warm regards.

Sincerely, Richard Helms

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FOREIGN SERVICE OF THE UNITEL STATES OF AMERICA. OFFICE OF THE AMBASSADOR Date 4/30

То

- O For Your Information
- O Please file O For Your Comments O For Your Approval
  - O Note and return.

O As You Requested

- O Please prepare reply for Ambassador's Signature
- O Please prepare reply on behalf of Ambassador, for your signature.

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The Honorable Richard Helms American Ambassador Tehran, Iran

Dear Mr. Ambassador:

I am writing this letter to elicit your support for the placement of a three-man security team in Tehran to work the NE Division territory on a regional basis. Under this concept, the Office of Security would provide the staff slots and total funding for expenses incurred by the team members. The team, in turn, would be committed to handle virtually all of the audio countermeasures, security equipment, and security survey support to the stations and bases in the territory.

It is realized that this proposal seems to be incongruous with the trend of recent years to drastically reduce United States presence abroad, yet the idea has strong support at Headquarters because of the obvious security gains to be realized from a rapid and more comprehensive security response capability. It is a concept, moreover, that has been approved for implementation in Frankfurt for the European Division, and in Panama for the Latin American Division. The latter two teams will be in place and functioning from their respective locations by September 1975.

I have discussed the notion of a Tehran team with John Waller who feels the idea has merit, both from a regional and from a strictly local (Tehran) standpoint. We both feel that a team in your city could be extremely useful in a variety of ways: support to the station; to MHCAMEL 1 and 2; to the IBEX project; as a backup to Jim Cunningham's efforts; and as a source of training to indigenous personnel who seek and are approved for such training. In the matter of Headquarters programming under MODE (formerly OPRED), I have obtained a commitment from our Office of Communications to receive from them three military MODE slots for possible transfer to the NE field allotment. All of this is, of course, contingent upon obtaining your approval of the overall concept.

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I am most anxious to discuss this matter with you personally and ernestly hope that your forthcoming trip to the United States affords this opportunity.

Sincerely,

Charles W. Kane Director of Security