

IMMEDIATE

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~~SECRET~~ 210840 Z MAR 73

PERSONAL/EXCLUSIVELY EYES ONLY TEHRAN

FOR: GEN. BRENT SCOWCROFT

FROM: AMB. RICHARD HELMS

REFERENCES: WH 30729 AND TEHRAN

PLEASE PASS THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE TO THE PRESIDENT AT HIS
CONVENIENCE:

DEAR MR. PRESIDENT,

HAVE NOW LEARNED THAT MY CREDENTIAL PRESENTATION TO SHAH
WILL NOT TAKE PLACE UNTIL 5 APRIL BECAUSE OF NOW RUZ (NEW YEAR)
HOLIDAY AND SHAH'S CORRESPONDING ABSENCE FROM TEHRAN. HAVE
ALSO BEEN BRIEFED ON EXCHANGE OF MESSAGES BETWEEN HENRY AND
AGENCY [] ON YOUR INVITATION TO SHAH FOR STATE VISIT.
WHEN PRESENT CREDENTIALS, WILL OF COURSE COVER POINTS (ABOUT
EMPRESS, AMENITIES OF VISIT, ETC) WHICH YOU INSTRUCTED ME TO
MAKE WHEN LAST WE TALKED. IF RESOLUTION OF DATES SHOULD BE
PUSHED FASTER, HOWEVER, [] CHANNEL CAN BE USED AGAIN, AND
WILL SEE TO IT THAT [] IS SUITABLY BRIEFED ALONG
LINES YOU EMPHASIZED TO ME.

IT MAY DIVERT YOU TO KNOW THAT WHEN I MET THE SOVIET

~~SECRET~~

HR70-14
(U)

APPROVED FOR RELEASE
DATE: MAR 2008

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TEHRAN

~~SECRET~~

AMBASSADOR, WHO IS DEAN OF THE DIPLOMATIC CORPS, AT A RECEPTION MONDAY, THE FOLLOWING EXCHANGE TOOK PLACE: HELMS: "I UNDERSTAND THERE HAVE BEEN JOKES ABOUT ~~US~~"^{US}. EROFEEV: "YES, I KNOW, THEY SAY I AM NUMBER 10. BUT HERE I AM NUMBER ONE AT THE HEAD OF THE LINE. AND I AM GOING TO STAY HERE A LONG TIME SO YOU NEVER GET TO BE NUMBER ONE AT THE HEAD OF THE LINE"[!]. I WONDER HOW LONG IT TOOK A SOVIET OFFICIAL TO THINK UP THAT MUCH HUMOR.

THANK YOU MOST WARMLY FOR THE CAMP DAVID JACKET WHICH ARRIVED AS SOON AS I DID.

HOPE IT NOT GRATUITOUS FOR ME TO SAY THAT DAVID BRUCE APPOINTMENT IS TEN STRIKE.

RECALLING OUR CONVERSATION ABOUT NEXT AMBASSADOR TO SAUDI ARABIA, IT OCCURS TO ME THAT JAMES ~~SKINS~~^A MIGHT BE PUT ON YOUR LIST FOR CONSIDERATION. UNDERSTAND BILL ROGERS WANTS TO KEEP HIM IN WASHINGTON, BUT HIS INTELLECTUAL CAPACITIES, KNOWLEDGE OF OIL, AND ARABIC LANGUAGE MAKE HIM AT LEAST WORTHY OF NOTE.

RESPECTFULLY,

DICK

Release



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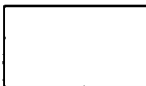
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