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CITE DIRECTOR

TO: IMMEDIATE LONDON INFO TEHRAN.

PLEASE DELIVER TO AMBASSADOR HELMS:

"1. AFTER YOUR DEPARTURE SEVERAL LETTERS CAME TO LIGHT IN SECURITY FILES WHICH WERE APPARENTLY SENT BY JAMES MC CORD. THE FIRST WAS A COPY OF A LETTER SENT TO HIS LAWYER WHICH WAS SENT TO YOU. A SERIES OF LATER ONES WERE SENT TO PAUL GAYNOR OF SECURITY. THE FIRST WAS IN LATE JULY 1972 AND THE OTHERS IN DECEMBER AND JANUARY 1973. THE THRUST OF THE LETTERS WAS THAT AN EFFORT WAS BEING MADE TO IMPLICATE THE AGENCY IN THE WATERGATE BUT THAT MC CORD WAS RESISTING THIS. LARRY HOUSTON AND HOWARD OSBORN SAY THAT THEY DISCUSSED THE FIRST WITH YOU, THAT LARRY ADVISED YOU THERE WAS NO LEGAL OBLIGATION TO PASS THESE TO THE FBI AND THAT YOU DECIDED TO HOLD THEM. THE PROBLEM IS THAT WE HAVE BEEN ASKED WHETHER WE HAD ANY FURTHER CONTACT WITH THE WATERGATE DEFENDANTS AND TO DATE HAVE ANSWERED NO. THE FIRST LETTER WAS SIGNED "JIM" BUT IT WAS APPARENTLY IDENTIFIED AS MC CORD'S. THE LATER LETTERS WERE APPARENTLY ANONYMOUS BUT WERE KNOWN TO COME FROM THE

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SAME ORIGINATOR.

"2. WE ARE PASSING THESE LETTERS TO CHAIRMAN NEDZI AND TO THE SENATE ARMED SERVICES COMMITTEE AND CORRECTING THE RECORD. ANY OTHER COMMENTS YOU COULD OFFER ON THEM WOULD CERTAINLY BE APPRECIATED.

"3. WE ALSO HAVE AN ALLEGATION THAT THERE ARE FURTHER INDICATIONS OF POSSIBLE AGENCY INVOLVEMENT IN THE ACTUAL PLANNING OF OPERATIONS OF THE "PLUMBERS" GROUP. WE ARE CONDUCTING INTENSIVE INVESTIGATION THROUGH THE AGENCY OF ANY POSSIBLE CONNECTION WITH THESE, TO INCLUDE ANY ASPECTS OF OUR EFFORTS TO RUN DOWN LEAKS WHICH MIGHT HAVE BEEN MISINTERPRETED AS SOMEHOW INVOLVED WITH THIS. AGAIN, WOULD APPRECIATE ANY TIPS YOU MIGHT HAVE AS TO SUBJECTS WHICH MIGHT BE RELATED IN ANY WAY TO THIS POSSIBLE INVOLVEMENT.

~~SECRET~~