

DEF 19-895- Iran
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Authority 11ND 963016
By NARA Date 6/11/02



Department of State TELEGRAM

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FM AMEMBASSY TEHRAN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC FLASH 0090
BT
T ~~TOP SECRET~~ TEHRAN 6417

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Oct 27, 1972
11:13 a.m.

Tehran
Tel. 6417
from

~~TOP SECRET~~ CHEROKEE

DEPT PASS SAIGON

SUBJ: ENHANCE PLUS

REF: STATE 1952507 TEHRAN 6416

DEF 19-895- Iran
6417

10/27/72

1. THIS MESSAGE OFFERS SUGGESTIONS FOR OUR APPROACH TO SHAH SHOULD WE DECIDE ASK FOR ADDITIONAL F-5A'S.
2. SHAH'S PROMPT RESPONSE TO OUR REQUEST FOR TRANSFER OF 32 F-5A'S MAY BE ATTRIBUTED TO HIS SENSE OF CLOSE RELATIONSHIP WITH THE PRESIDENT AND VALUE HE ATTACHES TO THIS RELATIONSHIP AND ALSO TO HIS DESIRE TO ASSIST IN BRINGING END TO WAR IN SEA. IF WE ASK HIM TO RELEASE ADDITIONAL F-5A'S, WE WILL BE ASKING HIM MAKE VERY DIFFICULT DECISION, ESPECIALLY IN CONTEXT RATIONAL BUILDUP OF HIS OWN FORCES WHICH WE HAVE BEEN URGING ON HIM AND WITH WHICH RELEASE OF ADDITIONAL F-5A'S WILL INTERFERE. ON BALANCE, WE BELIEVE THERE IS REASONABLE LIKLIHOOD HE WILL RESPOND POSITIVELY, ALBEIT RELUCTANTLY. FROM POINT OF VIEW OF ROLE WE ARE PLAYING IN ADVISING IIAF, IT OUR JUDGEMENT THAT 32 F-5A'S CAN BE SPARED FROM IRANIAN AIR FORCE, BUT LOSS OF ANOTHER 16 WOULD HURT.
3. IF ADDITIONAL AIRCRAFT NEEDED, OUR CURRENT VIEWS AFTER MORE CAREFUL STUDY OF CONTINGENCY PROPOSALS IN OUR PREVIOUS MESSAGE ARE FOLLOWING:

WE RECOMMEND THAT AMBASSADOR BE AUTHORIZED TO PRESENT REQUEST AS PERSONAL MESSAGE FOR THE PRESIDENT AND TO DESCRIBE IT AS OF HIGHEST IMPORTANCE TO OUR EFFORTS REACH SETTLEMENT IN SVN. AS HE TOLD AMBASSADOR DURING FIRST DISCUSSION, SHAH WANTS REPLACEMENT AIRCRAFT RATHER THAN CREDIT TOWARDS THOSE AIRCRAFT. HE HAS ALSO RECENTLY LAID STRESS ON URGENT NEED FOR BEST POSSIBLE ASSISTANCE IN ACHIEVING QUALITATIVE IMPROVEMENTS IN IRANIAN ARMED FORCDS. IT WOULD BE USEFUL, IF AMBASSADOR COULD OUTLINE FAIRLY CONCRETELY WHAT WE ARE PREPARED TO DO IN BOTH

NOT TO BE REPRODUCED WITHOUT THE AUTHORIZATION OF THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

