

UNCLASSIFIED

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C/EUR
OUTGOING

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PAGE 001
TOT: 21 NOV 85

DIRECTOR 627576

~~SECRET~~
STAFF 2 DIRECTOR 627576
TO: [REDACTED]

Partially Declassified/Released on 33 June 1987
Under provisions of E.O. 12356
by B. Reger, National Security Council

SUBJECT: NSC REQUEST

1. WE HAVE UNDERWAY IN THE NEXT 24-48 HOURS AN OPERATION AIMED AT THE RELEASE OF THE WESTERN HOSTAGES SEIZED IN LEBANON. THE OPERATION INVOLVES THE MOVEMENT OF AIRCRAFT FROM ISRAEL TO IRAN AND REQUIRES AN ENROUTE STOP [REDACTED] WHICH WILL EASE PROBLEMS FOR OVERFLIGHT [REDACTED] A STOPOVER AT A MILITARY OR COMMERCIAL AIRFIELD [REDACTED] IN ORDER TO FILE FLIGHT PLAN FOR TABRIZ AND TO REFUEL WOULD GREATLY FACILITATE THIS EFFORT.

EXHIBIT
C-13

2. A TOTAL OF FIVE SORTIES ARE REQUIRED FOR THIS OPERATION. HOWEVER, IF [REDACTED] COULD AGREE TO ONE OF THESE OCCURRING IN THE NEXT 12 HOURS OR SO IT WOULD ALLOW US TO SHOW OUR GOOD FAITH TO THE PARTY INVOLVED AND LIKELY RESULT IN THE RELEASE OF THE HOSTAGES. WE COULD THEN ENDEAVOR TO ACCOMPLISH THE OTHER FOUR SORTIES THROUGH OTHER MEANS IF [REDACTED] WERE UNWILLING TO ASSIST US FURTHER.

3. THE AIRCRAFT INVOLVED IS A COMMERCIAL BOEING 707 CARGO AIRCRAFT REGISTRY NUMBER [REDACTED] OWNED BY [REDACTED] IF [REDACTED] ARE AGREEABLE, I WILL PROVIDE YOU WITH FLIGHT TIMES.

4. WILL YOU PLEASE GO TO [REDACTED] ON THIS IMMEDIATELY. YOU CAN DRAW ON ANY OF THE ABOVE IN MAKING YOUR PRESENTATION TO HIM. I WOULD ASK HOWEVER THAT YOU IMPRESS UPON HIM THAT WE NEED ABSOLUTE DISCRETION IN THE MATTER. YOU CAN ALSO ASSURE HIM THAT THIS OPERATION IS OF GREAT INTEREST TO THE HIGHEST LEVELS OF THE USG AND IF IT WILL HELP I CAN ARRANGE FOR BUD MACFARLAND TO CALL WHOMEVER [REDACTED] MIGHT SUGGEST. NEEDLESS TO SAY, THAT IF [REDACTED] ASSIST US THEY CAN EXPECT TO RECEIVE MENTION IN DISPATCHES, APPROPRIATE LETTERS OF APPRECIATION FROM OUR PRESIDENT, ETC. AGAIN, I MUST STRESS THAT DISCRETION IS THE KEY ELEMENT WHICH YOU SHOULD STRESS TO [REDACTED] IN PRESENTING THIS MATTER. I WOULD ALSO ASK THAT YOU KEEP KNOWLEDGE OF THIS OPERATION LIMITED TO YOURSELF WITHIN [REDACTED] AND THE AMBASSADOR NEED NOT REPEAT NOT BE INFORMED. HOWEVER, IF [REDACTED] NEEDS TO BOUNCE THIS PROPOSAL OFF THE PRIME MINISTER OR SOMEONE SIMILAR WHO MIGHT BRING IT TO THE AMBASSADOR'S ATTENTION, I WILL SEEK SPECIAL AUTHORIZATION FOR YOU TO BRIEF HIM. BEST REGARDS AND WHY DO THESE ALWAYS HAPPEN ON THE WEEKEND.

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5. FILE: NO FILE. DECL OADR DRV HUM 4-82. ALL/SECRET.>
ORIG: C/EUR (CLARRIDGE); AUTH: C/EUR (CLARRIDGE); REL: C/EUR (CLARRIDGE). CL BY [REDACTED]
END OF MESSAGE

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Date 20 APR 1987