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Last Updated: 11/07/2023

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20506

April 28, 1981

MG

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4610

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FC006-12

Dear Dr. Amirie:

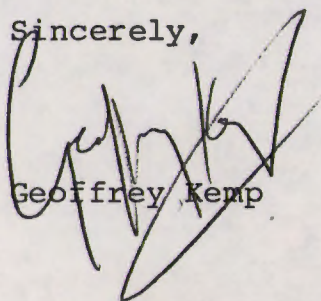
Richard Allen and Janet Colson have passed to me your correspondence to them on political developments in Iran and the Persian Gulf, which I have read with great interest. I am now the Senior Staff Member for Near East and South Asian Affairs in the National Security Council.

I think we met once in Tehran when I was visiting with the Senate Foreign Relations Committee. Sharam Chubin arranged a luncheon for me at your Institute.

I hope all is well with you in your new career in California.

With best wishes,

Sincerely,



Geoffrey Kemp

NSC # 8101998

Dr. Abbas ^X Amirie
8305 Manifesto Circle
Huntington Beach, CA 92646

RECEIVED

81 APR 22 A 9: 18

JANET COLSON

BUD NANCE

DICK ALLEN

IRENE DERUS

JANET COLSON

BUD NANCE

KAY

CY TO VP

CY TO MEESE

CY TO BAKER

CY TO DEEVER

CY TO BRADY

gc 21/0932

Jan 22/1315

Wa 26/2325

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gc 27/1603

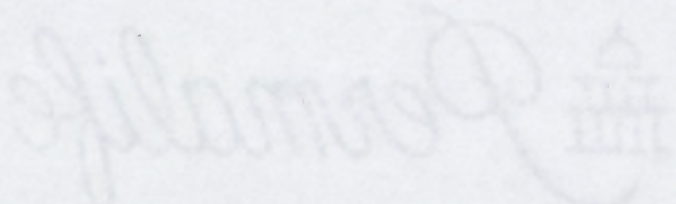
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MEMORANDUM

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

1998 *AK*

ACTION

April 20, 1981

MEMORANDUM FOR JANET COLSON

FROM: GEOFFREY KEMP *OK*
SUBJECT: Response to Abbas Amirie

Concerning Abbas Amirie, I have met him a couple of times. Under the Shah, he was a sycophant and ran the Institute for International Affairs in Tehran. He towed the party line and was not highly regarded by specialists in the Middle East field. Since the Shah's ouster, he has changed his spots several times. I would certainly not encourage a protractive dialogue between him and any of us. I drafted a letter for my signature, but if you prefer I can rework it and get something out under your name. I did it this way because I know the guy and if he calls I guess he'll pester me, not you!

RECOMMENDATION:

- 1. That I sign the letter to Abbas Amirie at Tab A.

APPROVE *Thanks!!* DISAPPROVE _____

- 2. That I rework draft at Tab A for your signature.

APPROVE _____ DISAPPROVE _____

He uses his connection with the President of Eureka College, the President's alma mater. you keep up the dialogue — if one has to be maintained. RVA 4/27/81

RECEIVED

81 APR 13 P 2: 56

JANET COLSON

BUD NANCE

DICK ALLEN

IRENE DERUS

JANET COLSON

BUD NANCE

KAY

CY TO VP

CY TO MEESE

CY TO BAKER

CY TO DEEVER

CY TO BRADY

J 13/1549
J 13/1558

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THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

1998

Geoff Kemp:

Help. I've never heard of the guy. Letters sent during the transition were precarious, at best. I highly doubt if RVA wants to meet with the guy.

Could you/Gary Sick draft me some kind of a response which will let him know we've read the letters but not be overly encouraging about a continued dialogue.

Thanks.

J
Janet

1998

APR 13 1981
via certified mail

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, LOS ANGELES

BERKELEY · DAVIS · IRVINE · LOS ANGELES · RIVERSIDE · SAN DIEGO · SAN FRANCISCO



SANTA BARBARA · SANTA CRUZ

DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90024

April 8, 1981

Mrs. Janet Colson, Staff Member to:
Mr. Richard V. Allen, Assistant to the President
on National Security Affairs
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20006

Dear Mrs. Colson:

I hope that all of you have recovered by now from the shock of the contemptible assault on the President's life. I pray for his quick and complete recovery.

You may wonder why I am writing to you. Upon President Reagan's personal suggestion during our July, 1979, meeting at Mr. Peter Hannaford's office in Los Angeles, I have prepared and sent several analyses of the political developments in Iran and the Persian Gulf region to Mr. Allen since then. Mr. Allen used to respond to every one of these reports. Since January 5, 1981, however, I have sent him three letters concerning the Iranian situation and have received no response whatsoever. I know that he is extremely busy, but it seems to me that a simple acknowledgment should not have been too difficult. In my letter of January 5, 1981, I suggested that if he is too busy to respond to my correspondence, he should recommend that I send these reports to the staff member handling the Persian Gulf region. He may want to do this now. I am enclosing for you copies of the three letters plus a copy of one of his earlier letters to me. After extending my warm personal regards to Mr. Allen, please bring the contents of these letters to his attention and let me know his views. I have postponed my trip to Egypt with the hope of seeing Mr. Allen before my departure.

7/0
Knowing that the President wants me to continue giving the Administration my views on regional and international issues, I want to bring the following to Mr. Allen's attention. In my letter of October 10, 1980, I pointed out that the Soviet Union and Khomeini's Islamic Republic are in league to topple the pro-Western governments in the Persian Gulf regions. (Please see that report). My sources in Tehran now report that the Ayatollah's regime is gradually moving into the Soviet camp. Even a leading cleric, Ayatollah Yahya Nuri, told the Tehran newspaper reporters last week: "Some visible and invisible hands are directing Iran towards the eastern superpower." He cited the unusually close relations between Iran and North Korea and Cuba as an indication. I think this development should be watched closely.

I look forward to hearing from you soon.

Sincerely yours,

Abbas Amirie
8305 Manifesto Circle
Huntington Beach, Ca. 92646



~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90024

January 14, 1981

DETERMINED TO BE
ADMINISTRATIVE MARKING
E.O. 12958, as amended, Sect. 3.3(c)
BY NARA 10 DATE 7/27/10

Mr. Richard V. Allen
Assistant to the President-elect
on National Security Affairs
The Office of the President-elect
1726 "M" Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20270

Dear Mr. Allen:

As I promised, I am sending you this short analysis of the post-revolutionary power struggle in Iran. I regret that because of the complexity of the subject, it is going to be more than the two pages you have specified.

The central issue which has divided Iran's population is the question of the clergy's involvement in the country's politics. During the past two years the inept, inexperienced and revenge-seeking clergy have inflicted enough damage on the country and its people that it will probably take many years and perhaps decades to repair their ravages. Today, the question is not whether they should continue to rule, but rather how they should be forced out of the government. There are basically three groups which compete to replace the clergy: (1) President Bani-Sadr and his colleagues, (2) the various Marxist groups, e.g., The Tudeh Party, the Fadayeen-e Khalgh, the Mujahedeen-e Khalgh, and (3) the exiled nationalist leaders, e.g., Shahpour Bakhtiar, the young Shah and others.

1. President Bani-Sadr has started to confront the clergy. But, his basic problems are: (a) he himself is a creature of Khomeini who engineered his elevation to the presidency and who can remove him if he goes too far in challenging the clergy, and (b) he does not have a solid power base of his own among the population. He was elected president by Khomeini's silent support and the fear of the population of having another clergyman occupying an important political position. He has taken advantage of the rapidly growing public resentment toward the clerics and the war with Iraq in order to win the support of both the people and the military. But, the military has been effectively penetrated, watched and divided by the clergy.* Those disaffected Iranians

*It is unlikely that the military will make an independent move against the Islamic Republic without the cooperation of one of the political leaders, be it Bani-Sadr, Bakhtiar or someone else.

who reject Marxists and do not have a leader in the country to rally around have gathered around Bani-Sadr because it is relatively safe to express their opposition to the clergy in this way. But, it is my sincere belief that once the supporters of Shahpour Bakhtiar "liberate" a part of Iran and make it possible for him and his team to physically move into the country, all the people, including the military who now find it convenient to express their opposition by using Bani-Sadr as a rallying point will swarm to Bakhtiar, particularly if they learn that the young Shah is with him. Only if Bani-Sadr succeeds in leading Iran to victory against Iraq will he have a chance of pushing the clerics out of the government, providing that Khomeini is gone.

2. The two Marxist groups which have gained considerable support among the masses are the pro-Moscow Tudeh Party and the Fadayeen-e Khalgh. They have effectively infiltrated various Komitehs (Committees) set up by the Islamic Republic, the government institutions, the labor force, etc. Recently even the officials of the regime have become alarmed at the extent of the Marxist infiltration. For example, a couple of weeks ago Mohammad Ali Tavassoli resigned as the Mayor of Tehran charging that "Marxists, Communists and members of the Tudeh Party have infiltrated important government organizations, including the news media."* And, Ayatollah Hossein Ali Montazeri, the heir-apparent to Khomeini, in an interview in a West German magazine, Die Welt, also charged that "the Tudeh Party is the greatest threat to the Islamic Revolution."

Khomeini's supporters refer to him as the bulldozer of the revolution. This is an appropriate reference simply because as the bulldozer he levels the ground, in this case for the Communists to take over the country. The regime's policies, misrule, corruption and atrocities have so damaged the once-strong bond between the Iranian masses and their religion that to a great many of them the Marxists now look respectable, attractive and a serious alternative to the fanatic clergymen. The chances of the Marxists/Communists takeover of the government, however, are still slim in the short run but are rapidly growing.

3. Among the exiled nationalist opponents of the regime, Shahpour Bakhtiar is the most prominent. Many Iranian opposition personalities whom I recently interviewed in Paris confirmed this assessment. In my judgment he rightfully considers himself the opposition leader who stood firm against Khomeini and his supporters at the height of their popularity prior to the collapse of his government and has relentlessly continued his struggle against them since. Most of those who now appear on the opposition scene first cooperated with the Islamic Republic and only when they were put aside did they turn against it.

*For details, see the Iran Times, January 2, 1981.

For the previously mentioned reasons, Bakhtiar maintains that he is the only opposition leader capable of putting an end to Khomeini's regime and, consequently, he has been the only one targeted by the regime for assassination. My research indicates that he has considerable support among the military, civil servants, moderate clergy, merchants, minorities and the middle class. In addition, a great many Iranians, for historical reasons, are ardent members of what we call in Iran "the Wind Party." As soon as the political wind shifts, so do they. If they sense that a person or group has a chance to come to power, they change their allegiance very quickly. In any political calculation, this important factor must be taken into account.

As you know, in the past a considerable amount of energies and resources of the exiled opposition "leaders" were spent fighting one another and neutralizing each other's plans. In recent weeks, however, Bakhtiar has made genuine efforts, with some good results, to unify these individuals under one umbrella. He has already reached a basic agreement with the young Shah to form a new government on the basis of the 1906 Constitution. The young Shah has realized that had his father lived up to the original document's guidelines and reigned rather than ruled, he would be on the Peacock Throne today. He has thus agreed that once the power is wrested from the fanatic clergymen and a national referendum approves the constitutional monarchy, he will serve only as the ceremonial head of state. He has also reportedly agreed that because of the unfavorable reputation of his aunts and uncles and some other members of his family, only he and his immediate family (mother, brother and sisters) will return to Iran once it is "liberated."

During the revolution the people's wrath was directed against his father, not necessarily against the institution of the monarchy. He and his mother are still popular among a large number of Iranians. In addition, the Shah symbolizes Iranian nationalism, serves the nation's psychological needs for pageantry and play as the most important unifying force in a country with a diverse population. The monarchy has deep roots in Iranian history, tradition and literature and provides an alternative to the Islamic Republic and an obstacle against communist penetration of the country and the region. The regional powers, e.g., Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, will be more inclined to help a team against the Islamic Republic if that team intends to reestablish a monarchy in Iran. Furthermore, since most Iranians lack political education and training, the election of the president every four years will result in a great deal of instability and confusion. And, if the Islamic Republic survives, several of the traditional pro-Western regimes in the area will be in danger of being undermined one by one. Consequently, as in Iran, the Soviet Union will be the net winner.

Although Bakhtiar was treated harshly by the late Shah's regime, he sincerely believes that due to geopolitical considerations at this stage of Iranian history, the monarchy can play a very useful role in keeping the country together and maintaining its

territorial integrity. For obvious reasons of politics, he does not want to publicize this view and the agreement with the young Shah.

I believe that Bakhtiar and the young Shah together may be the only force which can wrest the power from the fanatic clergymen and restore peace and stability in the country and the region. Needless to say that most of the nationalist and military "leaders," e.g., General Ovaissi, would work within such a united front. I sincerely believe that it is in the interests of the United States to support this team.

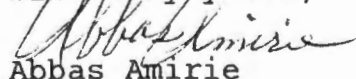
Whatever the fate of the hostages, the U.S. should not allow the regime to go scot free. My private sources in Tehran indicate that the so-called "students" who held the hostages were instructed by people very close to Khomeini and that at all times the "students" were under the complete control of Khomeini's agents. A move by the supporters of Bakhtiar and the young Shah within the country can create an environment conducive to their take-over and freeing of the hostages; if they are not freed soon. I think the Reagan Administration should give this team a chance to carry out its plans before it undertakes any retaliatory action against the regime. (Had his military coup succeeded, Bakhtiar had intended to free the hostages at once.)

Since the overwhelming majority of Iranian people as well as the people in the region believe that U.S. support of any individual or group would ensure his or its success, a veiled expression of support of Bakhtiar and the young Shah by the U.S. government for the regional leaders, e.g., Saudi Arabia, Israel, Egypt, Kuwait and the people of Iran can easily pave the way for their ascent to power without U.S. material support. The Islamic Republic blames the U.S. for any adverse political or military happening in the country anyway.

As for the Soviets' reaction, as long as the U.S. leadership is firm, strong and decisive, I would not worry. They have enough in Afghanistan and Poland to be worried about. The Iranian Marxists, however, will probably put up some resistance, but since they cannot count on the popular support, their resistance can be overcome if plans are properly prepared and executed.

I know I may have raised more questions than provided answers for on this complex subject. I will be happy to reply to whatever specific questions you may have. Please give my warm personal regards to President-elect Reagan. I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely yours,



Abbas Amirie
Visiting Professor

RICHARD V. ALLEN

905 SIXTEENTH STREET, N.W. • WASHINGTON, D.C. 20006

April 7, 1980

Dr. Abbas Amirie
Visiting Professor
Department of Political Science
University of California, Los Angeles
Los Angeles, California 90024

Dear Dr. Amirie:

Thank you for your good letter of March 4th, which arrived during my absence from Washington. Only now, while taking a few days to catch up on my correspondence, am I able to answer it and also thank you for sending the four memoranda.

It is clear that we will benefit from your continuing assistance, and I hope you will not hesitate to send along policy memoranda and related items as you see fit.

We would be especially interested in receiving your analysis of two short-term problems and one longer-range one. As one who is intimately familiar with Iran's prevailing circumstances, you are well qualified to address these issues:

a) Barring some sort of negotiated outcome on the hostage situation, what concrete steps should the United States take to deal with Iran, giving particular consideration to the exploitation of major weaknesses?

b) What is the likelihood of destabilization in Iran, to the extent of the prospect of civil war developing? Under such circumstances, which forces would seek Soviet help? What, in your opinion, would the Soviets do -- specifically?

c) In the long term, assuming the hostage situation is resolved one way or the other, how should the United States deal with Iran? Will persuasion and incentives work, or do Iranians likely to hold power have more respect for a tough, resolute but sometimes demanding United States?

While these questions cannot be answered succinctly, it would be important for us to have your responses in as economical a manner as possible, perhaps within just a few pages. The task

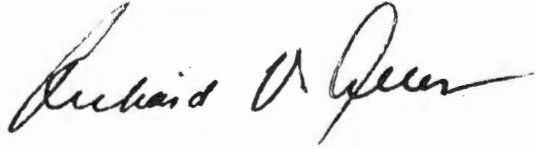
Dr. Abbas Amirie
April 7, 1980
Page Two

of informing Governor Reagan on such complex matters is also, as I'm sure you'll understand, a function of available time.

Incidentally, the other day while we were in Illinois, Governor Reagan told me that he had received a letter from Samuel Harrod, who indicated you had contacted him. I have since written to Mr. Harrod at the Governor's request.

With my best wishes,

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Richard D. Green". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the typed name "Richard D. Green".

RVA:ccf



DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90024

January 5, 1981

Mr. Richard V. Allen, Assistant to the President-elect
National Security Affairs
The Office of the President-elect
1726 M Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20270

Dear Mr. Allen:

First, please accept my sincere wishes for a happy, rewarding and successful New Year.

You may have been wondering why I was determined to see you between December 4th and 8th, probably during your most difficult and busy time. As I briefly explained to your secretary, Miss Irene Derus, I learned that former Iranian Prime Minister, Shahpour Bakhtiar, and a group of his advisers had concluded that during the transitional period of American Government, they should take advantage of the confusion in the U.S. and make their second attempt to topple the Khomeini regime. The reasons they had felt that this time was appropriate to make their move I understood to be:

- a) the American Government would be least prepared to stop or to neutralize their action; and
- b) they were convinced that they could present themselves to the Iranian people as the only nationalist group which could negotiate the Iraqi withdrawal from the Iranian territories before further damage was inflicted upon Iran.

Mr. Bakhtiar and the company believe that the Carter Administration has friends in the regime and thus tipped off President Bani-Sadr in advance of their unsuccessful military coup some six months ago.

In connection with a paper I am writing on the post-revolutionary power struggle in Iran,* I went to Europe last September to interview several key officials of the late Shah's government. It was then that I met Bakhtiar for the first time. Upon learning that I had taught, among other subjects, American National Government at Kent State University for several years, he began quizzing me on American domestic politics and the electoral process. He was curious to know how a person of Jimmy Carter's calibre could become the President of the United States. I spent three hours explaining the complexity of the American electoral process to him. He seemed to know a great deal about Governor Reagan and Mr. Bush and had high regards for both. He told me that he had prayed for their success in the elections. I told Mr. Bakhtiar that I know Governor Reagan and you and confirmed his views of the Reagan team.

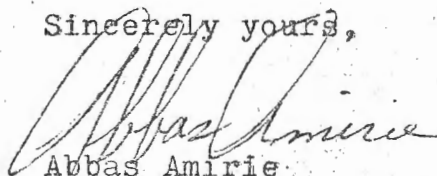
* In a few days I will send you an initial summary of this paper.

On November 28, 1980, Mr. Bakhtiar called me and asked me whether I would be interested in participating in what he termed "a very important strategy meeting." He told me that he intended to make a move against the Ayatollah between that time and January 20, 1981. Subsequently, when I met with them in Paris they told me that they are quite concerned about the rapid political gains the Marxists are making in the country and want to make a move before it is too late.

My reasons for wanting to see you were: a) to inform you of this, and b) to seek your help in advising him. Fortunately, I was able to convince him and his advisers that their planned action was premature and that they should wait at least until next spring. I further told them that since Governor Reagan and his team had nothing to do with the ascent of Mr. Khomeini to power, the Reagan Administration will look at the whole Iranian issue from a different perspective. After this meeting, Bakhtiar asked me to deliver a personal letter to you, which I did.

Finally, knowing that from now on you will be extremely busy, I wonder whether I should continue to send my reports directly to you or to one of your assistants, e.g., Ambassador Neumann. Please advise me on this matter. I look forward to hearing from you soon, and I extend my warmest personal regards to you.

Sincerely yours,



Abbas Amirie

P.S. I would prefer that you send all correspondence to my home address.

RECEIVED 13 APR 81 18

TO COLSON

FROM AMIRIE, ABBAS

DOCDATE 08 APR 81

024793

KEYWORDS: PERSIAN GULF

IRAN

SUBJECT: VIEWS ON INTERNATIONAL & REGIONAL ISSUES

ACTION: DRAFT REPLY FOR COLSON SIG DUE: 15 APR 81 STATUS S FILES

FOR ACTION

FOR COMMENT

FOR INFO

KEMP

COMMENTS

REF#

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| <i>Colson</i> | <i>x 4/21</i> | <i>for review</i> | <i>4/23</i> | |
| | <i>4/27</i> | <i>RVA apud secrom w/comment</i> | | |
| <i>SK</i> | <i>S 4/27</i> | <i>La Signature</i> | <i>4/28</i> | |
| | <i>C 4/27</i> | <i>Long Sgl Memo to Amirie</i> | | |
| | <i>by Amirie</i> | | | |

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CH

May 21, 1981

Dear Mr. Spink:

I have learned that your newspaper served as an important source of information to our hostages in Iran. The initiative and public-spiritedness displayed by the staff of The Sporting News in routinely sending copies to our countrymen are indeed commendable. In "spreading the news," I know you made a great contribution to keeping our captives informed -- an effort in which you must take great pride.

It is a pleasure to congratulate you and wish you the best in maintaining a fine tradition in sports journalism.

Sincerely,

RONALD REAGAN X

X

Mr. C. C. Johnson Spink
The Sporting News
1212 N. Lindbergh
St. Louis, Missouri 63132

RR/AVH/PAG/pps

Sent Copies of publication to Hostages in Iran

8

870521

Mr. C. C. Johnson Spink
The Sporting News
1212 N. Lindbergh
St. Louis, Missouri 63132

Dear Mr. Spink:

I have learned that your newspaper served as an important source of information to our ~~captives~~ hostages in Iran. The initiative and public-spiritedness displayed by ^{the staff of} The Sporting News in routinely sending copies to our countrymen are indeed commendable. In "spreading the news," I know you made a great contribution to keeping our captives informed -- an effort in which you must take great pride.

It is a pleasure to congratulate you and wish you the best in maintaining a fine tradition in ^{sports journalism.} ~~newspaper reporting/or whatever.~~

RR/PAG - 5/18/81

EJC

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

May 7, 1981

Pat

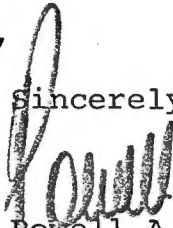
Dear Senator Danforth:

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your letter of April 27 requesting a Presidential message of commendation to The Sporting News.

I was glad to know of your interest in this paper's contribution during the Iranian hostage crisis, and pleased to forward your letter to the appropriate staff members. You may be assured that it will receive prompt and careful consideration.

With cordial regards,

Sincerely,



Powell A. Moore
Deputy Assistant to the
President for Legislative
Affairs (Senate)

The Honorable John Danforth
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

PAM:NKW:nkw

cc: ~~Dodie Livingston~~
Central Files

ms. sent

Anna Higgins

ROBERT J. DOLE, KANS., CHAIRMAN

BOB PACKWOOD, OREG.
WILLIAM V. ROTH, JR., DEL.
JOHN C. DANFORTH, MO.
JOHN H. CHAFEE, R.I.
JOHN HEINZ, PA.
MALCOLM WALLOP, WYO.
DAVID DURENBERGER, MINN.
WILLIAM L. ARMSTRONG, COLO.
STEVEN D. SYMMS, IDAHO
CHARLES E. GRASSLEY, IOWA

RUSSELL B. LONG, LA.
HARRY F. BYRD, JR., VA.
LLOYD BENTSEN, TEX.
SPARK M. MATSUNAGA, HAWAII
DANIEL PATRICK MOYNIHAN, N.Y.
MAX BAUCUS, MONT.
DAVID L. BOREN, OKLA.
BILL BRADLEY, N.J.
GEORGE J. MITCHELL, MAINE

United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510

ROBERT E. LIGHTHIZER, CHIEF COUNSEL
MICHAEL STERN, MINORITY STAFF DIRECTOR

April 27, 1981

Honorable Powell Moore
Deputy Assistant to the
President for Legislative Affairs
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

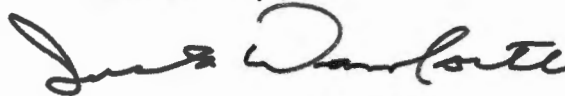
Dear Mr. Moore:

I am writing to you to ask if a letter of commendation might be sent from the President to The Sporting News, a Missouri publication. Ever since the days of Franklin D. Roosevelt, The Sporting News has received a letter from each President commending their publication for one thing or another.

In this case, I believe the paper's contribution during the Iranian hostage crisis certainly merits a note from President Reagan. By way of background: From what we can determine, The Sporting News may have been the only publication their captors permitted the hostages to see on a regular basis without extensive deletions and censorship. As explained in the attached article, the publication airmailed five copies of The Sporting News to the hostages each week for almost a year.

I have taken the liberty of enclosing possible language for the letter. I look forward to your response.

Sincerely,



John C. Danforth

Enclosure

MAY 6 RECD

[Faint handwritten signature]

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Former Milwaukee Brewers Manager George Bamberger paid tribute to Marine Sgt. Kevin Hermening, a former hostage, January 28. Hermening,

while a captive in Iran, had written Brewers President Bud Selig, expressing his regret at learning of Bamberger's heart attack. Hermening has

been invited to throw out the first ball at Milwaukee's home opener next spring. At extreme right is the Brewers' Gorman Thomas.

TSN a 'Godsend,' Hostages Reveal

By RALPH RAY
Assistant Managing Editor

ST. LOUIS—Freedom after 14½ months in the hands of Iranian terrorists left 52 Americans glad to be alive. During their captivity, the hostages had little to be thankful for. Their captors deprived them of a good many things, including information. News of any kind was precious stuff, according to ex-hostage Bruce German, 44-year-old budget officer at the U.S. Embassy in Tehran.

German is a sports fan, a subscriber to THE SPORTING NEWS. Last March, his wife, Marge, wrote TSN's circulation department requesting some back issues be sent to her home in Rockville, Md.

"I have been sending Bruce THE SPORTING NEWS," Mrs. German wrote, "but I'm afraid he's not being given the paper. I'd like the copies sent to our Rockville address so he'll have them when he comes home."

The back issues were sent and Mrs. German's letter was shown to TSN Chairman C. C. Johnson Spink, who told Mrs. German that TSN had already started sending five copies per week to the hostages. This was the result of conversations between the U.S. State Department and Commissioner Bowie Kuhn's office.

Those copies turned out to be, in German's words, "a godsend" for all the hostages. Just how much of a godsend? German spelled that out first in interviews with the Washington Post and New York Times while the freed hostages were in Wiesbaden, West Germany, only hours after their release. On his first day back in the U.S., German was interviewed on network TV and repeated his praise of TSN.

"Thank God for THE SPORTING NEWS!" German said. "We read every word, passed the paper around till it was tattered. Of course, it kept us informed on everything in sports, but you'd be amazed at the bits and pieces of general news we picked up from that paper."

"That included the death of the shah and the release of Richard Queen (the hostage released last July because of illness)."

German's report, incidentally, was not the first evidence that TSN was the hostages' main link to the outside world. That came out in a story in our August 2 issue by David Condon of the Chicago Tribune.

The story dealt with an invitation from Chicago White Sox President Bill Veeck to Queen, a White Sox fan. Veeck invited Queen, who had just been released, to attend some White Sox games.

In his phone conversation with Veeck, Queen said he'd been able to keep up with the White Sox through THE SPORTING NEWS, which, he told Veeck, "arrived weekly, except when it was grabbed out of the mail."

That, of course, was the story that informed German and the other hostages that Queen was free.

TSN sent a wire to German on January 27, the day the freed hostages were saluted in Washington. He was asked to phone us and he called the next day with this message:

"I've been a subscriber to THE SPORTING NEWS for years, all my adult life, but never did I dream the paper would be as important to me as it was during our captivity in Iran."

"I don't know about the two women hostages, but I can tell you for sure that all 50 of the males appreciated it more than you'll ever know. The guards didn't give us the paper

'Thank God for THE SPORTING NEWS! We read every word, passed the paper around till it was tattered. Of course, it kept us informed on sports, but you'd be amazed at the bits and pieces of general information we picked up.'

—Ex-Hostage Bruce German

every week. I'd say we got it on the average about once a month, often enough for me to know it was mailed regularly. Yes, we read it cover to cover."

Another who devoured every story in TSN was Marine Sgt. Rocky Sickmann of Krakow, Mo., about 60 miles west of St. Louis. Rocky was greeted by a huge crowd when his plane arrived at Lambert-St. Louis International Airport January 28. Sgt. Sickmann held a press conference at a nearby motel and was asked whether he'd read TSN during his captivity. He responded:

"I'd like to meet the man who sent us THE SPORTING NEWS so I could shake his hand. It meant so much to us. We passed it around, to make sure everybody got to read it. There were three in my group at first and later there were five of us. We all read every word of THE SPORTING NEWS."

"The only other magazines I saw all the while I was a captive was one copy of People Magazine and one copy of Time, and that had about half the stories cut out of it."

Sickmann and German agreed that the terrorists apparently decided a sports publication contained nothing they wanted to prevent their captives from learning. But even TSN was not delivered weekly. Like German, Sickmann said he received a copy about once a month.

Delivery of personal mail was even more sporadic, Rocky said. "The guards played games with us when it came to personal letters," he related. "If three of us were confined to one room, one might get a stack of mail, the other two nothing."

"We soon decided they were trying to stir up bad feeling among us, hoping we'd accuse someone of spilling information they wanted in order to get favors."

"That didn't work. Very early we agreed that whoever got mail would read it aloud to the others. They censored all the mail, of course, and scratched out some words. But they did such a bad job of it that in some cases, we managed to read it anyhow."

Rocky spiked an earlier report that he'd no longer root for the Cardinals because they traded Ken Reitz to the Chicago Cubs.

"Not true," said the Marine. "I very much appreciated a birthday card I received from Ken Reitz and his wife, but I'm not knocking the Cardinals for trading him. They know more about ballplayers than I do."

The ex-hostages had no sooner scattered for their homes than several major league clubs announced plans to invite some of them to throw out the first ball at 1981 opening games. One such plan had been in the works nearly a year.

Back in April, 1980, Milwaukee Brewers President Bud Selig received a letter from hostage Sgt. Kevin Hermening of Oak Creek, Wis. Hermening wrote that he was a Brewers fan, was sorry to hear of Manager George Bamberger's heart attack and wished the Brewers well in 1980.

Selig called Hermening's mother, Mrs. Barbara Timm, and told her that Sgt. Hermening would be invited to throw out the first ball at the first Brewer season opener after the release of the hostages.

Selig delivered that message in person January 28 at a ceremony honoring Sgt. Hermening at Oak Creek High School. Other Brewers present included Bamberger, Vice-President Dick Hackett and players Sal Bando, Paul Molitor, Cecil Cooper, Gorman Thomas and Paul Mitchell.

THE WHITE HOUSE

Mr. C. C. Johnson Spink
The Sporting News
1212 N. Lindbergh
St. Louis, MO 63132

Dear Mr. Spink:

It has been brought to my attention that a number of the freed hostages mentioned The Sporting News as an important source of information during their captivity.

I am told that this was a result of the fact that The Sporting News sent five copies each week by air to the hostages while they were held prisoners in Iran.

You are to be commended for an act which, as the hostages themselves said, had a very beneficial effect on their moral.

As I recall, you also sent The Sporting News to our servicemen on a far larger scale during World War II and the wars in Korea and Viet Nam.

I congratulate you for your thoughtfulness which helped sustain the hostages through a most difficult time.

Sincerely,

Ronald Reagan

| Name | Date |
|-------|----------|
| Anita | 10/31/85 |
| | |
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| | |
| | |
| | |
| | |

Dg
/

ID # 029813

CO071

WHITE HOUSE CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

- O - OUTGOING
- H - INTERNAL
- I - INCOMING

Date Correspondence Received (YY/MM/DD) 81106125

Name of Correspondent: Joseph F. Ada

MI Mail Report User Codes: (A) _____ (B) _____ (C) _____

Subject: Write re: the treatment and executions of Baha'is in Iran. Appeals to the President to take whatever action available to focus world attention on this situation.

| ROUTE TO: | ACTION | DISPOSITION | | | |
|----------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------|----------|-----------------------------|
| Office/Agency (Staff Name) | Action Code | Tracking Date YY/MM/DD | Type of Response | Code | Completion Date YY/MM/DD |
| <u>IA Meds</u> | ORIGINATOR | <u>DD 81106125</u> | <u>NAN</u> | <u>C</u> | <u>81106129</u> |
| <u>State Dept.</u> | Referral Note: <u>A</u> | <u>81107102</u> ^{MG} | | <u>A</u> | <u>81107100</u> |
| | Referral Note: | | | | |
| | | <u>1 1</u> | | | <u>1 1</u> |
| | Referral Note: | | | | |
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| | Referral Note: | | | | |
| | | <u>1 1</u> | | | <u>1 1</u> |
| | Referral Note: | | | | |

- ACTION CODES:**
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 - S - Suspended

FOR OUTGOING CORRESPONDENCE:

Type of Response = Initials of Signer
Code = "A"
Completion Date = Date of Outgoing

Comments: _____

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RECORDS MANAGEMENT ONLY

CLASSIFICATION SECTION

No. of Additional Correspondents: _____ Media: L Individual Codes: 2120

Prime Subject Code: CO 071 Secondary Subject Codes: HU
ST 051.01

PRESIDENTIAL REPLY

| Code | Date | Comment | Form |
|------|-------|-------------|--------------|
| C | _____ | Time: _____ | P- _____ |
| DSP | _____ | Time: _____ | Media: _____ |

SIGNATURE CODES:

CPn - Presidential Correspondence

- n - 0 - Unknown
- n - 1 - Ronald Wilson Reagan
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- n - 3 - Ron
- n - 4 - Dutch
- n - 5 - Ron Reagan
- n - 6 - Ronald
- n - 7 - Ronnie

CLn - First Lady's Correspondence

- n - 1 - Nancy Reagan
- n - 2 - Nancy
- n - 3 -

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- M - Mailgram
- O - Memo
- P - Photo
- R - Report
- S - Sealed
- T - Telegram
- V - Telephone
- X - Miscellaneous
- Y - Study

Blue FA/M



DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Washington, D.C. 20520

JUL 20 1981

Dear Governor Ada:

Your letter dated June 19, 1981 to the President regarding the plight of the Bahais in Iran was turned over to me for reply.

I can assure you that we are aware of the pressures and actions, including executions, undertaken by the current regime in Iran against the Bahai community. While we have no direct contact with the Khomeini regime, the U.S. Government's attitude on such matters is well-known to those ruling Iran. In our 1980 Human Rights report on Iran prepared for the Congress, we noted the harsh treatment against Bahais and I can assure you that the Khomeini regime's continuing pressure on the Bahai community will be reflected in future reports. In the meantime, the leaders of the Bahai community in the United States have been keeping Department of State officials informed of developments.

We abhor the Iranian regime's cruel and unjust treatment of Iranian Bahais and will continue to make our views known on this in all appropriate forums.

Sincerely,

/s/

David H. Shinn, Acting
Special Assistant to the
Secretary and Coordinator
for Liaison with State and
Local Governments

The Honorable
Joseph F. Ada,
Acting Governor of Guam

UNCLASSIFIED
(Classification)

5/5-5

S/S # 8120410

Date JUL 20 1981

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT
TRANSMITTAL FORM

FOR: Mr. Richard V. Allen
National Security Council
The White House

REFERENCE:

TO: President Reagan FROM: Governor Ada, Guam
DATE: June 19, 1981 SUBJECT: Treatment and execu-
tions of Bahai's in Iran

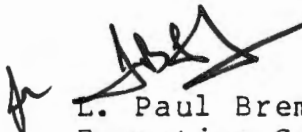
WHITE HOUSE REFERRAL DATED: 7/2/81 NSC #
(if any)

THE ATTACHED ITEM WAS SENT DIRECTLY
TO THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE

ACTION TAKEN:

- A draft reply is attached.
- A draft reply will be forwarded.
- A translation is attached.
- An information copy of a direct reply is attached.
- We believe no response is necessary for the reason cited below.
- Other.

REMARKS:


L. Paul Bremer, III
Executive Secretary

THE WHITE HOUSE OFFICE

8120410

REFERRAL

JULY 2, 1981

TO: DEPARTMENT OF STATE

ACTION REQUESTED:

APPROPRIATE ACTION

DESCRIPTION OF INCOMING:

ID: 029813

MEDIA: LETTER, DATED JUNE 19, 1981

TO: PRESIDENT REAGAN

FROM: THE HONORABLE JOSEPH F. ADA
ACTING GOVERNOR OF GUAM
AGANA GU 96910

SUBJECT: WRITES REGARDING THE TREATMENT AND
EXECUTIONS OF BAHAI'S IN IRAN - APPEALS
TO THE PRESIDENT TO TAKE WHATEVER ACTION
AVAILABLE TO FOCUS WORLD ATTENTION ON
THIS SITUATION

PROMPT ACTION IS ESSENTIAL -- IF REQUIRED ACTION HAS NOT BEEN
TAKEN WITHIN 9 WORKING DAYS OF RECEIPT, PLEASE TELEPHONE THE
UNDERSIGNED AT 456-7486.

RETURN BASIC CORRESPONDENCE, CONTROL SHEET AND COPY OF RESPONSE
(OR DRAFT) TO:
AGENCY LIAISON, ROOM 33, THE WHITE HOUSE

BY DIRECTION OF THE PRESIDENT:
LESLIE SORG
DIRECTOR OF AGENCY LIAISON
PRESIDENTIAL CORRESPONDENCE



PAUL M. CALVO
GOVERNOR

Territory of Guam

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
AGANA, GUAM 96910
U.S.A.

3050
8120410

029813

19 JUN 1981

Honorable Ronald Reagan
President of the United States
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

The National Spiritual Assembly of the Baha'is of the Northern Mariana Islands has brought to me today their heartfelt concern for fellow Baha'is now being submitted to unjust treatment and merciless executions in Iran. Guam and all citizens of the Northern Marianas are united in their belief that such wanton disregard for human life and religious freedom cannot, in any form, be allowed to continue.

On behalf of the citizens of Guam and the Northern Marianas, I am appealing to you to take whatever action available from your high office to focus world attention on this wholly unacceptable situation.

Your courageous and consistent cry for human rights throughout the world has been laudable. We of the Western Pacific area hope your admirable philosophy will be translated into practical action on behalf of the nearly one-half million Baha'is living in Iran.

Thank you, Mr. President, for entertaining our plea to afford religious dignity and respect to all men, regardless of their religious convictions.

Sincerely,

Joseph F. Ada
JOSEPH F. ADA
Acting Governor

Tim Medas



PAUL M. CALVO
GOVERNOR

Territory of Guam

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
AGANA, GUAM 96910
U.S.A.

3090

19 JUN 1981

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President of the United States
The White House
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Sincerely,

Joseph F. Ada
JOSEPH F. ADA
Acting Governor

Dog

Dew.

ID # 030010
0071

WHITE HOUSE CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

O - OUTGOING

H - INTERNAL

I - INCOMING

Date Correspondence Received (YY/MM/DD) 1/1

Name of Correspondent: Alfred J. Schweppe

MI Mail Report User Codes: (A) _____ (B) _____ (C) _____

Subject: Transfer of Iranian Assets

ROUTE TO:

ACTION

DISPOSITION

| Office/Agency (Staff Name) | Action Code | Tracking Date YY/MM/DD | Type of Response | Code | Completion Date YY/MM/DD |
|----------------------------|-------------------|------------------------|------------------|----------|--------------------------|
| <u>CV Holland</u> | <u>ORIGINATOR</u> | <u>8/10/25</u> | | <u>C</u> | <u>8/10/25</u> |
| | Referral Note: | | | | |
| <u>CV AT II</u> | <u>D</u> | <u>8/10/25</u> | | <u>C</u> | <u>8/10/25</u> |
| | Referral Note: | | | | |
| | | <u>1/1</u> | | | <u>1/1</u> |
| | Referral Note: | | | | |
| | | <u>1/1</u> | | | <u>1/1</u> |
| | Referral Note: | | | | |
| | | <u>1/1</u> | | | <u>1/1</u> |
| | Referral Note: | | | | |

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FOR OUTGOING CORRESPONDENCE:

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- Code = "A"
- Completion Date = Date of Outgoing

Comments: _____

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RECORDS MANAGEMENT ONLY

CLASSIFICATION SECTION

No. of Additional Correspondents: _____ Media: L Individual Codes: 4640 _____

Prime Subject Code: CO 071 _____ Secondary Subject Codes: JL 002 _____
JL 009 _____
JL 007 _____

PRESIDENTIAL REPLY

| Code | Date | Comment | Form |
|------|-------|-------------|--------------|
| C | _____ | Time: _____ | P- _____ |
| DSP | _____ | Time: _____ | Media: _____ |

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 - n - 5 - Ron Reagan
 - n - 6 - Ronald
 - n - 7 - Ronnie

- CLn - First Lady's Correspondence
 - n - 1 - Nancy Reagan
 - n - 2 - Nancy
 - n - 3 - Mrs. Ronald Reagan

- CBn - Presidential & First Lady's Correspondence
 - n - 1 - Ronald Reagan - Nancy Reagan
 - n - 2 - Ron - Nancy

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- G - Message
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- P - Photo
- R - Report
- S - Sealed
- T - Telegram
- V - Telephone
- X - Miscellaneous
- Y - Study

000010

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

10/6/81

TO: Central Files

FROM: D. Edward Wilson, Jr.

Returned for your records.,

SCHWEPPE, DOOLITTLE, KRUG, TAUSEND & BEEZER, P. S.

ATTORNEYS AND COUNSELORS AT LAW

1600 PEOPLES NATIONAL BANK BUILDING
1415 FIFTH AVENUE
SEATTLE, WASHINGTON 98171

TELEPHONE
(206) 223-1600

MARGARET L. BARBIER
LEE M. BURKEY, JR.
ROBERT J. ROHAN
JAMES M. RUPP
J. RONALD SIM
JUDITH B. STOUWER
JAMES B. STREET

WARREN A. DOOLITTLE
JOHN N. RUPP
FREDRIC C. TAUSEND
OF COUNSEL

June 18, 1981

25 JUN 1981

030010

Honorable Ronald Reagan
President of the United States
The White House
Washington, D.C.

Re: Transfer of Iranian Assets

Dear President Reagan:

Enclosed is copy of a letter dated June 15 to the
Wall Street Journal hearing on the transfer of the Iranian
assets, and on presidential power in that behalf.

Sincerely,



ALFRED J. SCHWEPPE

AJS:MBH

Enclosure

5
Fred Fielding
(NYI)

SCHWEPPE, DOOLITTLE, KRUG, TAUSEND & BEEZER, P. S.

ATTORNEYS AND COUNSELORS AT LAW

1600 PEOPLES NATIONAL BANK BUILDING
1415 FIFTH AVENUE
SEATTLE, WASHINGTON 98171

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MARK M. HOUGH
DAVID G. KNIBB
MARY ELLEN KRUG
DONALD H. MULLINS
KENNETH E. REKOW
JEROME L. RUBIN
ALFRED J. SCHWEPPE
REX B. STRATTON
DEXTER A. WASHBURN

June 15, 1981

Letters Editor
The Wall Street Journal
22 Cortland St.
New York, N.Y. 10007

Dear Editor:

Your editorial "Back to the Schooner Peggy" in Friday's issue (June 12) on transferring by executive agreement and order Iranian assets now impounded in the United States is, in my view, eminently sound.

The biggest barrier is United States v. Pink, 315 U.S. 203, (1942), a five-to-two decision, with two judges dissenting. That case, with the benefit of several FDR Supreme Court appointments, ruled that an executive agreement made by President Roosevelt alone, without approval of the Senate, is, like a treaty, the supreme law of the land and overrides the Fifth Amendment as well as the law of New York. The court rejected foreign creditors' claims to the funds involved, which were held to belong to Russia, and, by assignment, to the United States.

The state law point and Fifth Amendment point, in an opinion by Justice Douglas, were squarely raised and squarely decided over strong objections by Chief Justice Stone and Justice Roberts. The decision holds very broadly that if the subject matter is within the President's foreign policy, the Fifth Amendment (taking property without due process of law) "does not stand in the way."

The decision is wrong and should be overruled. My view to that effect, recorded in 79 American Bar Association Reports, 553 (1954) has the support of the late Edward S. Corwin, of Princeton, a universally recognized expert on the Constitution, and of the late Philip Jessup, distinguished legal scholar, and former judge on the World Court.

The Pink case is also undermined by Reid v. Covert,

Letters Editor
The Wall Street Journal
Page Two
June 15, 1981

354 U.S. 1 (1957), in which four judges, not a majority, (some of whom concurred in Pink) said that executive agreements and treaties have to comply with provisions of the Constitution. See 82 American Bar Association Reports, 293-5 (1957). The court said 354 US 1, 16, "No agreement with a foreign nation can confer power on the Congress, or any other branch of government, which is free from the restraints of the Constitution." And on page 17: "The prohibitions of the Constitution cannot be nullified by the Executive, or by the Executive and the Senate combined," thus covering both Executive agreements and orders as well as treaties.

If Reid v. Covert were a majority decision, instead of dictum, Pink would be gone sub silentio. But until then Pink supports the executive action of Presidents Carter and Reagan.

Sincerely,


ALFRED J. SCHWEPPE

AJS:MBH

Dg/...

ID # 031228
CO 071

WHITE HOUSE CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

O - OUTGOING

H - INTERNAL

I - INCOMING

Date Correspondence Received (YY/MM/DD)

8/15/14

Leslie
file

Name of Correspondent: Mr. + Mrs John Buehner

MI Mail Report

User Codes: (A) _____ (B) _____ (C) _____

Subject:

X Enclosed article regarding Iranian students - Plans to send them back to Iran

ROUTE TO:

ACTION

DISPOSITION

| Office/Agency | (Staff Name) | Action Code | Tracking Date YY/MM/DD | Type of Response | Code | Completion Date YY/MM/DD |
|---------------|-----------------|----------------|---|------------------|----------|------------------------------------|
| | <i>Co Kell</i> | ORIGINATOR | <i>8/10/07</i> | <i>LD</i> | <i>C</i> | <i>8/10/04</i> <i>RQ</i> |
| | <i>Dos</i> | Referral Note: | <i>8/11/10</i> | <i>LD</i> | <i>C</i> | <i>8/10/08</i> <i>LD</i> <i>LD</i> |
| | <i>Co And I</i> | Referral Note: | <i>8/10/24</i> | <i>AH</i> | <i>A</i> | <i>8/10/29</i> <i>LD</i> |
| | | Referral Note: | <i>Please type and drop for AVH signature</i> | | | |
| | | Referral Note: | | | | |
| | | Referral Note: | | | | |

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- Type of Response = Initials of Signer
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Comments:

N.S.C. I.D. 8104380 *RQ*

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Prime Subject Code: CS 071 Secondary Subject Codes: FO 005.01 _____
PP 010.02 _____
PU _____

PRESIDENTIAL REPLY

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|------|------|-------------|--------------|
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| DSP | | Time: _____ | Media: _____ |

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- n - 6 - Ronald
- n - 7 - Ronnie

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- n - 1 - Nancy Reagan
- n - 2 - Nancy
- n - 3 - Mrs. Ronald Reagan

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- O - Memo**
- P - Photo**
- R - Report**
- S - Sealed**
- T - Telegram**
- V - Telephone**
- X - Miscellaneous**
- Y - Study**

July 29, 1981

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Buehrer:

Thank you for your recent letter to President Reagan regarding educational assistance to Iranian students in the United States.

Please be assured that no agency of the U.S. Government assumed the expenses of these students during the hostage crisis, nor does a special program of financial assistance for them as a group exist. Each Iranian on a student visa in the U.S. is responsible for his or her own funding. While economic sanctions against Iran were in force, the Treasury Department licensed the transfer of funds from Iran to meet the expenses of Iranian students in this country.

I hope that this information has answered some of your questions on this matter; if you would like more information, I suggest that you contact the United States International Communication Agency at 1750 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. That agency is responsible for international educational exchanges and can answer any specific questions you might have.

Sincerely,

Anne Higgins
Director of Correspondence

Mr. and Mrs. John Buehrer
806 Walnut
McAllen, TX 78501


AVH:TREASURY:LS:emb-11b

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

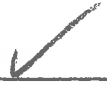
CORRESPONDENCE REFERRAL

July 22, 1981

MEMORANDUM FOR LESLIE SORG

FROM: ALLEN J. LENZ 

The NSC staff has reviewed and approved the attached draft reply:

 _____ as is

_____ as amended

 _____ Staff initial

Attachments: Incoming letter and draft reply.

DRAFT REPLY

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Buehrer:

Thank you for your recent letter to President Reagan regarding educational assistance to Iranian students in the United States.

Please be assured that no agency of the U.S. Government assumed the expenses of these students during the hostage crisis, nor does a special program of financial assistance for them as a group exist. Each Iranian on a student visa in the U.S. is responsible for his or her own funding. While economic sanctions against Iran were in force, the Treasury Department licensed the transfer of funds from Iran to meet the expenses of Iranian students in this country.

I hope that this information has answered some of your questions on this matter; if you would like more information, I suggest that you contact the United States International Communication Agency at 1750 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. That agency is responsible for international educational exchanges and can answer any specific questions you might have.

Sincerely,

Anne Higgins

UNCLASSIFIED

(Classification)

S/S # 8121250

Date 7/17/81

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT
TRANSMITTAL FORM

FOR: Mr. Richard V. Allen
National Security Council
The White House

REFERENCE:

TO: President Reagan FROM: Mr. & Mrs. John Buehrer

DATE: May 11, 1981 SUBJECT: Iranian students

in the U.S.


WHITE HOUSE REFERRAL DATED: July 10, 1981 NSC #
(if any)

THE ATTACHED ITEM WAS SENT DIRECTLY
TO THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE

ACTION TAKEN:

- A draft reply is attached.
- A draft reply will be forwarded.
- A translation is attached.
- An information copy of a direct reply is attached.
- We believe no response is necessary for the reason cited below.
- Other.

REMARKS:


L. Paul Bremer, III
Executive Secretary

THE WHITE HOUSE OFFICE

REFERRAL

619180

JULY 10, 1981

TO: DEPARTMENT OF STATE

ACTION REQUESTED:

DRAFT REPLY FOR SIGNATURE OF ANNE HIGGINS

DESCRIPTION OF INCOMING:

ID: 031228

MEDIA: LETTER

TO: PRESIDENT REAGAN

FROM: MR. AND MRS. JOHN BUEHRER
806 WALNUT
MCALLEN TX 78501

SUBJECT: ENCLOSES ARTICLE REGARDING IRANIAN STUDENTS -
PLANS TO SEND THEM BACK TO IRAN

PROMPT ACTION IS ESSENTIAL -- IF REQUIRED ACTION HAS NOT BEEN
TAKEN WITHIN 9 WORKING DAYS OF RECEIPT, PLEASE TELEPHONE THE
UNDERSIGNED AT 456-7486.

RETURN BASIC CORRESPONDENCE, CONTROL SHEET AND COPY OF RESPONSE
(OR DRAFT) TO:
AGENCY LIAISON, ROOM 33, THE WHITE HOUSE

BY DIRECTION OF THE PRESIDENT:
LESLIE SORG
DIRECTOR OF AGENCY LIAISON
PRESIDENTIAL CORRESPONDENCE



5
Dear Mr. President: We have both been so
527 Since Nov. 4, 1980 thankful and proud to have you as our
President - We both worked as hard as we
could to help get you elected and for the
first time feel secure about our wonderful
(in a long time) country - when you were shot we were both
heart sick and thank God that he spared you
and pray that he will continue to keep you
under his watchful eye and loving care -
Mr. President - there are many things at
stake and many decisions to be made and
many issues to be decided but we trust
with God's help you will always consider
and do the wisest thing for all the people
of our great nation - as you know, no matter
the opposition, no matter the howls and protests,
the "people" of this entire country love you and
are behind you all the way -

Sir: am enclosing a clipping from the
San Antonio Tex Express - please have someone
reply to us - Is this article really true?
you are a true American, Mr. President

6121250 031228

Thank you -
Mr. & Mrs. John Beeher
806 Walnut
Dallas, Tex. 75201

DATE: 7/28

TO: Maureen

2- attached are ~~two~~ for
typing up drafts
attached for AVH -
per our conversation

FROM: Leslie Sorg
Agency Liason
Room 33
Extension 7610

Thanks

7488

Will Reagan Send Iran Students Home?

WASHINGTON — Only because the Iranians knew that they would not be able to push President Reagan around did they finally release the hostages — a few minutes after Jimmy Carter's tenure ended.

The State Department, in fact, made it very clear to the Algerian go-betweens that Mr. Reagan would not negotiate for a minute until our "prisoners of war" — the president's words in one of his inaugural ball talks — were released.

The Iranians therefore "reluctantly" accepted the \$8 billion to \$9 billion in ransom that Mr. Carter thrust at them — and to the very end Iranian officials played cat-and-mouse with the United States, pouring on the humiliation which this country suffered.

Will this be the end of it?

That question will be answered when the new president faces the question of Iranian students in the United States.

Those students were being supported by Iranian government funds under the shah — funds which were cut off when the barbarians took over Iran. The State Department, which believes that the United States should wear a "kick me hard" sign on its posterior, rushed into the breach.

It sent notices to the colleges and universities at which Iranian students were studying, between breaches of the peace, announcing that it would pick up the tab.

Just why should American taxpayers provide the money to keep 50,000 Iranian students in tuition, room, and board? But during the entire period that the Ayatollah Khomeini and his bully boys were holding 52 Americans hostage, in violation of international law and morality, the Carter administration was shelling out millions of dollars to keep the Islamic revolution's most passionate supporters in our institutions of higher learning.

There were some in Washington who tired to bring this utterly ridiculous turning of the other cheek to the attention of the public. But

their efforts were met with a loud shushing sound from the State Department and the Carter White House. Those who persisted in complaining about this subsidy were denounced as "cold warriors" and attackers of motherhood and apple pie.

Mr. Reagan was among those who protested against Uncle Sam's idiotic generosity. Now that he is in the White House, he can put an end to this drain on the Treasury. He is committed to cutting the federal budget and to the elimination of senseless programs. He can move quickly, without the need of congressional approval, to send the Iranian students back home.

The American Civil Liberties Union, it can be anticipated, will wrap itself in the Constitution and go to court to prevent the Reagan administration from ending this subsidy to Iranians from the "great Satan." But most Americans will fervently applaud.

However, the new administration is confronted with a long agenda, and it may be that the dollars-to-Iranian-students program will be forgotten. Certainly, the multibillion-dollar rip-off by the "welfare industry" will have priority.

But if there is an outpouring of mail to the White House and to the Department of Education, the Reagan administration will take note. And more will be accomplished beside the saving of money.

The Iranian students have gotten accustomed to America's free and easy ways. If returned to Iran, they will be subject to the repressions and the terrors of the Islamic revolution.

The chances are that they will join the opposition to the Ayatollah and contribute to the general instability of the Iranian government, if such it can be called.

So there will be a double dividend for these United States if the Iranian students are removed from the public trough and compelled to return to their country.

RECEIVED 20 JUL 81 11

TO ALLEN

FROM BREMER

DOCDATE 17 JUL 81

SORG, L

10 JUL 81

BUEHRER, JOHN

11 MAY 81

KEYWORDS: IRAN

031228
COO71

SUBJECT: LTR RE EDUCATION ASSISTANCE TO IRANIAN STUDENTS IN US

ACTION: PREPARE MEMO LENZ TO SORG DUE: 24 JUL 81 STATUS S FILES

FOR ACTION

FOR COMMENT

FOR INFO

KEMP

COMMENTS

REF# 8121250

031228

LOG

NSCIFID

(C /)

ACTION OFFICER (S) ASSIGNED ACTION REQUIRED DUE COPIES TO

C 7/24 Lenz by memo to Long HK

DISPATCH

7/23 clm

W/ATTCH FILE *WJF* (C)

clm