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# WITHDRAWAL SHEET

## Ronald Reagan Library

**Collection Name** CULVAHOUSE, ARTHUR B.:FILES

**Withdrawer**

DLB 10/2/2014

**File Folder** IRAN/ARMS TRANSACTION: ABC (ARTHUR B. CULVAHOUSE) NOTES (2 OF 2)

**FOIA**

S643

**Box Number** CFOA 1132

SYSTEMATIC

189

| ID     | Doc Type | Document Description                         | No of Pages | Doc Date | Restrictions |
|--------|----------|--|-------------|----------|--------------|
| 165895 | FINDING  | RE: <i>Middle East/Hostages</i><br>NICARAGUA | 1           | ND       | B1           |

The above documents were not referred for declassification review at time of processing

Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]

- B-1 National security classified information [(b)(1) of the FOIA]
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8

July 7, 1987

I. North Letter

II. Newington Photo Opportunity

Any recollection?

III. Role of Don Regan

A. What did Regan say he knew about:

1. Private Fundraising
2. Iran Initiative
3. Contra Resupply
4. North Relationship
5. Poindexter Relationship

B. November 21-25, 1986 / What does he recall about:

1. Meese Reports
2. Poindexter Meeting
3. How this got started / Casey testimony

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## Data Suggest Reagan Signed Iran Document

Investigators Are Seeking  
Copy of Secret Finding  
Approving Role of CIA

By DAVID ROGERS

Staff Reporter of THE WALL STREET JOURNAL

WASHINGTON—House and Senate investigators are pursuing evidence indicating President Reagan signed a secret finding authorizing the Central Intelligence Agency's role in a November 1985 arms shipment to Iran.

A copy of a signed finding hasn't been found, but investigative sources said information received by the committees disputes previous suggestions that the president was unaware of the document. The finding, hastily prepared in November 1985 in order to ratify the agency's role, bluntly describes the shipment as an arms-for-hostage transaction. The evidence follows previous testimony of high-level efforts in the White House and CIA to cover up the administration's involvement in the sale.

Former White House aide Lt. Col. Oliver North will be questioned about the 1985 sale when he testifies before the Iran-Contra congressional committees next week, and former National Security Adviser John Poindexter has been examined at length in secret depositions by the committees.

Prior testimony indicates that both men last fall sought to mislead Congress about the nature of the 1985 shipment, and that former CIA Director William Casey acquiesced to the scheme and later gave false testimony to the House Intelligence Committee.

Col. North, who will testify under a grant of limited immunity, made a brief appearance before the committees yesterday to turn over copies of personal papers related to the Iran-Contra operation. The documents, contained in seven large binders, include telephone logs from his former National Security Council office, as well as the contents of an estimated 21 spiral notebooks in which he recorded his activities.

The notebooks, previously identified in public testimony by Col. North's former secretary Fawn Hall, may be a major source of information, but legal maneuvering delayed their delivery. Their contents have been edited in some cases to delete personal and unrelated classified information, but investigators will have an opportunity to review the originals, if needed.

In a transcript released after yesterday's proceeding, Col. North described the notebooks with understatement as "containing day-to-day notations of some of my conversations and activities which may relate to the subject matter of your inquiry." According to the transcript, the documents also included personal calendars, correspondence, photographs and a code book.

However low-key, Col. North's comments constituted the first time he has answered any questions from Congress since the Iran-Contra affair broke last November. The limited immunity covers evidence obtained both from the documents subpoena and his testimony. To underscore this point, the Marine officer was first led through a series of questions by Arthur Liman, the Senate committee's counsel. At each juncture, the Marine officer, dressed in uniform and his medals for valor, invoked the Fifth Amendment until the grant of immunity was formally ordered to compel his compliance.

Col. North will be questioned further at a private session with select committee members and staffers today. But this testimony and the depositions by Adm. Poindexter are closely guarded under an agreement reached with Lawrence Walsh, the independent counsel investigating the Iran-Contra affair.

As former national security adviser, Adm. Poindexter is regarded as the most important witness in determining what Mr. Reagan was told of his aides' plan to divert profits from the Iran arms sales in order to benefit Nicaraguan insurgents. The testimony is expected generally to support the president's contention that he didn't know of the diversion, but two sources have said elements of Adm. Poindexter's testimony will be "disturbing" for the administration as it seeks to quell the controversy.

The November 1985 shipment, involving Hawk surface-to-air missiles, was the second of two transactions carried out that year in which U.S. weapons were taken from Israeli stocks and sold to Iran. Both cases raise questions of potential violations of the Arms Export Control Act, and the CIA prepared the November finding to ratify its own participation under intelligence laws.

When the program was revamped weeks later, a secret finding signed at that time by President Reagan allowed for the sale of U.S. weapons from American stocks and spoke of a much wider foreign-policy initiative than simply an effort to swap arms for American hostages held in Lebanon. When the sales became known last fall, the White House insisted it had begun with this wider purpose.

But if it proves correct that the president signed the November finding, he would have known at that time of the earlier, blunter goal it states.

f

The President cannot say with certainty that he signed the December 5, 1985 finding, prepared by the Central Intelligence Agency, authorizing CIA assistance to private parties in their attempt to obtain the release of hostages. This Finding related to Israeli shipments of arms to Iran. The President remembers signing a finding authorizing direct U.S. sales several weeks later in January 1986. There is no record of the December 5, 1985 finding in the official Presidential records, and there is no briefing paper or other record that would provide verification that the November finding was, in fact, signed. The President's best recollection is that he orally approved the 1985 shipments to Iran by Israel of certain weapons originating in the U.S. and that he approved the 1986 direct shipments by the U.S. of weapons to Iran in writing. Nevertheless, Admiral Poindexter states that the 1985 finding was signed by the President, and the President does not disagree with Admiral Poindexter's recollection.

July 17, 1987

July 15, 1987

Pow. — target

<sup>Mohr</sup>

House & Senate responses to w/ drama entit  
threat of pros

murder — House Rules — close down  
threat of pros.

Private individuals

Release deposition transcript to public  
violation of due process / unfair

"policies implemented"

Collusion w/ I.C.

Strong Pres.

Cross. GOVT

Assign to Cross off. great auth.

Direct Access

wanted constructively w/ Regan

Policy Issues Briefed to Pres.

Briefed Pres. on 11 key issues of  
interest

No restriction in arms

Did not have to have Don Regan present

Pres. reads everything you give him

---

NOV 85 ~~###~~ FINDING

XX Arms for hostage finding  
Cyro efforts

Pres. signed on or about Dec 5  
not happy, not fully stopped

Pres. read it & he signed  
Bill Casey recommended

---

tone up on NOV. 21  
political embarrassment

Romney forgot existence



July 15

-- Dec. 7 Residence - - - - -

1 Arms Embargo  
European Convention  
Arms Export Control Act

~~Division~~

FEB 86 LONDON

O.W. return from London  
accused of terrorism -  
Admiral found a way we  
can legally provide some funds  
to Dem. Resistance  
Then find accurate arms  
sales to Romanians

Method would be / clearly new aspect  
not thought out

~~Podexter~~

Personally approved -

Pres. policies not changed since 81

Pres. Steelcut

84 campaigned for it /

Podexter - absolutely convinced

Pandora - aware that Pres. aware  
of 3<sup>rd</sup> Country support of Mexico  
Government

Characterized as pivot point  
of 3<sup>rd</sup> country fund

• matter of implementation  
of President's policies

FBI - \$27 million <sup>humanitarian</sup> <sub>measures</sub>

Bridge Financing unit get \$100 million.

Pres. found & determined  
consolidation of Communist Gov't  
Mainland of America

Crossing would get \$100 million

Thought had the authority  
to approve implementation

↳ policy clear to support the Cross

Approved understood Pres. thinking  
if fallen to him, would have  
approved it

Most of people disagree  
Congress sensitive

- convinced would have known
- very deliberate decision  
not to advise him
- Insulate him from decision
- Did you at any time  
tell President of the fact  
process

Ponderosa - did not  
talk to anybody else  
Other than Norton until  
- Ponderosa / Nov. 24 to Ed Meese

Bull stays with me

Did not want him to  
be associated with these  
decisions

Believed if told Pres,  
he would have approved it

Best idea, President  
would have enjoyed  
knowing about it

Pardexter February  
9/15

- Did not fall w/ Carey
- To his knowledge, only Wanda & Carey knew about it
- Officially Wanda assumed that  
N & P only ones in Gov't knew  
about it

April 86 Overton memo  
First time seeing Overton memo

| Surprised to see that

Oct/Nov same memo  
very little if anything in writing in plans to  
transfer to Lowman

First Saw <sup>memo</sup> in Nov of 86

Thill Pres. understood  
Boland memo in CIA, DOS, DOD

know would stop open

Pres Did not know details

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Ratification —

FINDING relating to terrorist  
activity in LFB — signed  
in 86 — M. M. M. M.  
purging for ratification — ledger  
Leland & T. M. M.

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NSC / Operations

Investigation  
Iranian Ex-patriate  
B.A. K. T. M.  
Carey & Parsons — CIA no  
interest / NSC is involved

---

de Grootman would send  
still current

Iran / Contra would call  
inquire into two cases

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Powell — 8 to 10 Nov. Meeting  
North / & Parsons meeting

One more meeting  
GPS & Casey fight

Not here as in over

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(I) good faith

1985 Contract Law

Score Paper - interpretive  
of ongoing activities  
best-interpretation

(II) ~~Levinson case~~ 1986  
good faith

" Contract is carried out in good  
faith must be and are  
deemed to be consistent  
w/ all provisions of  
law & express order "

j

July 20, 1987

- I. December 7, 1987 Residence Notes.
  
- II. Da'Wa' Prisoners. 18 Kuwaiti Shiites attacked U.S. Embassy in Kuwait. Secord & Hakim negotiating 9 point plans with Iranians in 1986. Included release of Da Was, partially in exchange for release of U.S. hostages.
  
- III. Costa Rican airstrip at Santa Elena. Poindexter said he briefed the President, perhaps in connection with Poindexter's trip in December of 1985. Any recollection of briefing?

Possible some Santa Elena airstrip pictures in a photo album prepared for North which North gave to Poindexter to brief the President. Poindexter has not yet said whether he gave album to the President. Any recollection of seeing the album?



7/27

f

Cheney -

tentative / subj to change

Meese

Rego

Wentz / step over

?? will be closing stmts / 2 ch. ??  
0 0 2 v ch. 0 0

~~Provaney~~

Radomsky depo only

Ledeen depo only

Extel session late next week

CIA personnel

George

Fries

McMahon (?)

Clancy

/ hearings to be held over  
Release of depositions

Solicit - written responses  
to Qs / Elder Statesman

Agreed upon Start of FRATB  
all sign to

Dispute Facts

Fewnote objection

Few Recommendations

Cheney opposed to any

~~FX~~  
POST Story irresponsible

- Dynamics in Committee
- Demo courses argue against  
early Ratzinsky  
Ch. & Service / stop / responsible
- Keep cool / no shots at Committee
- 

No Response to POST

Soble

BORER-

Menu

Class Friday

Regu Tuesday

4 Solls

Clancy

George

171215

Gunner

Exec. Sec'n

Clay Stubs / Re  
Open

Ch st

✓ Ch

end of it

Result in Exec. Order Overnight Thurs or  
Friday of next week

Tel  
Liman

2/29

Becker -

EXEC. Session / get over

\* 1 FINDING hold in mind  
draft retroactivity

\* NSC operations - Carter Admin.  
long same over

All Kuwaitis for CIA's

clearance from me

Do it by affidavit, or very small  
Exec. Session / w/ Council

Bonen / Intelligence  
Carter /  
15 results

W/11 Belnick File Item/  
C/S  
Home Jews except Jenkins & Hamilton  
Computer Records

Produce Brooks Stokes to Farrell  
Still unanswered Qs // 005 after

Gibberish comes out of computer  
I/C & so

// Some Ability //

Produce & Inhouse  
Request is made available  
Produce & Inhouse get  
Country copies

~~##~~  
~~\_\_\_\_\_~~