

Ronald Reagan Presidential Library
Digital Library Collections

This is a PDF of a folder from our textual collections.

Collection: Counterterrorism and Narcotics, Office
of, NSC: Records
Folder Title: Iran II (4)
Box: RAC Box 5

To see more digitized collections visit:

<https://reaganlibrary.gov/archives/digital-library>

To see all Ronald Reagan Presidential Library inventories visit:

<https://reaganlibrary.gov/document-collection>

Contact a reference archivist at: reagan.library@nara.gov

Citation Guidelines: <https://reaganlibrary.gov/citing>

National Archives Catalogue: <https://catalog.archives.gov/>

WITHDRAWAL SHEET

Ronald Reagan Library

Collection Name ~~MCNAMARA, THOMAS E. FILES~~
Counterterrorism and Narratives

Withdrawer

DLB 5/17/2006

File Folder IRAN II MCNAMARA (4/4)

FOIA

F01-113

Box Number 92299 RAC Box 5

MCDERMOTT,
JOHN

4

ID	Doc Type	Document Description	No of	Doc Date	Restrictions
24590	MEMO	TO ROBERT OAKLEY, RE: IRAN AND HOSTAGE PAR 7/11/2008 NLRRF01-113	3	8/1/1988	B1 B3
24591	CABLE	#082147Z SEP 88 D 7/11/2008 NLRRF01-113	2	9/8/1988	B1 B3
24592	CABLE	#020114Z SEP 88 D 10/21/2011 F2001-113/1	2	9/2/1988	B1
24593	CABLE	#181824Z OCT 88 D 3/28/2007 NLRRF01-113	2	10/18/1988	B1 B3

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

- B-1 National security classified information [(b)(1) of the FOIA]
- B-2 Release would disclose internal personnel rules and practices of an agency [(b)(2) of the FOIA]
- B-3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(b)(3) of the FOIA]
- B-4 Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential or financial information [(b)(4) of the FOIA]
- B-6 Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(b)(6) of the FOIA]
- B-7 Release would disclose information compiled for law enforcement purposes [(b)(7) of the FOIA]
- B-8 Release would disclose information concerning the regulation of financial institutions [(b)(8) of the FOIA]
- B-9 Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA]

C. Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in donor's deed of gift.

31,53 24590
u
Iran

Central Intelligence Agency



Washington, D.C. 20505

1 August 1988

MEMORANDUM FOR: The Honorable Robert B. Oakley
Special Assistant to the President
for National Security Affairs

SUBJECT: Iran and the US Hostages in Lebanon

1. Iran's decision to accept UN Resolution 598 is unlikely to result in a dramatic change in Tehran's position regarding the US hostages in Lebanon. Iran probably will continue to use the hostages as it has in the past--as leverage to bargain for specific quid-pro-quo's from foreign capitals. Iran's desire for US backing for the Iranian position during UN negotiations on 598 might increase Tehran's receptivity to the release of one or more of the US hostages, but Tehran would have to be convinced that it would receive some specific benefit. Some Iranian leaders might perceive an advantage in releasing some Western hostages as a goodwill gesture, but they probably would have to overcome opposition from Iranian radicals and from the Lebanese Shia kidnappers.

2. Iran's acceptance of the UN resolution apparently does not necessarily presage an across-the-board moderation of its foreign policies or its hostage policy in particular, although to gain maximum international support for its position it may well temporarily adopt a less aggressive stand toward its traditional enemies.

3. We do not believe that the current circumstances will force Iran to alter its stand on the hostages as they did on

DECLASSIFIED IN PART

NLRR 101-113 #24590

BY CA NARA DATE 7/11/08

3

Copy 2 of 7
CL RV

the war. Some Iranian leaders, nevertheless, probably perceive that Iran could derive some benefits if one or more of the Western hostages were released. These Iranians might believe a hostage release would encourage Western countries to be more favorable toward the Iranian position during UN-sponsored peace negotiations and to pressure Iraq to agree to an immediate cease-fire. These Iranians might argue that the regime hold open the option of securing the release one or more hostage, but they are unlikely to press the issue with their colleagues unless Iran first receives assurances a release would have a specific pay-off at the UN. [REDACTED]

4. Iranian radicals who oppose acceptance of Resolution 598 or rapprochement with the United States probably will continue to take a hardline against release of the Western hostages except in return for significant monetary and/or political compensation. The radicals in particular are likely to oppose unconditional release of US hostages in an attempt to gain US goodwill. Assembly Speaker Rafsanjani and other Iranians who approved acceptance of 598 probably feel they must be more accommodating toward the radicals on issues like the hostages for fear that further arguments might split the government into irreconcilable camps. Nonetheless, there is some chance that Iranian leaders might reach a consensus to secure the release of one or two US hostages in an attempt to draw Washington into dealing for the freedom of the remaining hostages. [REDACTED]

5. We believe that statements this week by Rafsanjani indicate Tehran is not yet prepared to be more forthcoming on securing the hostages' release. Rafsanjani said that Iran would use its influence in Lebanon to help free US hostages if the US releases military equipment bought by the Shah and frozen by Washington after militants seized the US Embassy. This is the same line Tehran has followed for almost two years. [REDACTED]

6. We believe that any decision to release an American hostage would probably be initiated by Iran and that Tehran would outline to Hizballah the terms of any deal. We continue to believe that Iran is unable unilaterally to order the release of Western hostages and must bargain with Hizballah on the terms of any release. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] We judge that Hizballah could be convinced to release one or some of its hostages but that it is highly unlikely to release all of them or to free one hostage it may prize most-- LTC Richard Higgins. [REDACTED]

-----Redacted-----Redacted-----Redacted-----Redacted-----Redacted-----Redacted-----Redacted-----Redacted-----Redacted
Redacted-----Redacted-----Redacted-----Redacted-----Redacted-----Redacted-----Redacted-----Redacted-----Redacted
-----Redacted-----Redacted-----Redacted-----Redacted-----Redacted-----Redacted-----Redacted-----Redacted-----Redacted
Redacted-----Redacted-----Redacted-----Redacted-----Redacted-----Redacted-----Redacted-----Redacted-----Redacted
-----Redacted-----Redacted-----Redacted-----Redacted-----Redacted-----Redacted-----Redacted-----Redacted-----Redacted
Redacted-----Redacted-----Redacted-----Redacted-----Redacted-----Redacted-----Redacted-----Redacted-----Redacted
-----Redacted-----Redacted-----Redacted-----Redacted-----Redacted-----Redacted-----Redacted-----Redacted-----Redacted
Redacted-----Redacted-----Redacted-----Redacted-----Redacted-----Redacted-----Redacted-----Redacted-----Redacted
-----Redacted-----Redacted-----Redacted-----Redacted-----Redacted-----Redacted-----Redacted-----Redacted-----Redacted
Redacted-----Redacted-----Redacted-----Redacted-----Redacted-----Redacted-----Redacted-----Redacted-----Redacted
-----Redacted-----Redacted-----Redacted-----Redacted-----Redacted-----Redacted-----Redacted-----Redacted-----Redacted
Redacted-----Redacted-----Redacted-----Redacted-----Redacted-----Redacted-----Redacted-----Redacted-----Redacted

[REDACTED]

8. Imad Mughniyah, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] was also in Iran late last year during the final dickering between Iran and France over the release of French hostages held in Lebanon. Mughniyah has, always linked the fate of his American hostages to release of 17 Shia terrorists in Kuwait, and we have no indication he has altered this demand. [REDACTED]

9. Mughniyah, however, may be willing to release one or a few US hostages in exchange for ransom money or Iranian promises of assistance in future operations against Kuwait. No hostages have been released for "humanitarian grounds," and we believe Hizballah would expect a hefty payment for its cooperation. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Chief, [REDACTED]
Office of Near Eastern and South Asian Analysis

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

WITHDRAWAL SHEET

Ronald Reagan Library

Collection Name

MCNAMARA, THOMAS E.: FILES

Withdrawer

DLB 5/17/2006

File Folder

IRAN II MCNAMARA (4/4)

FOIA

F01-113

MCDERMOTT, JO

Box Number

92299

4

<i>ID</i>	<i>Document Type</i> <i>Document Description</i>	<i>No of</i> <i>pages</i>	<i>Doc Date</i>	<i>Restric-</i> <i>tions</i>
24591	CABLE #082147Z SEP 88	2	9/8/1988	B1 B3

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

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

B-2 Release would disclose internal personnel rules and practices of an agency [(b)(2) of the FOIA]

B-3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(b)(3) of the FOIA]

B-4 Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential or financial information [(b)(4) of the FOIA]

B-6 Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(b)(6) of the FOIA]

B-7 Release would disclose information compiled for law enforcement purposes [(b)(7) of the FOIA]

B-8 Release would disclose information concerning the regulation of financial institutions [(b)(8) of the FOIA]

B-9 Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA]

C. Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in donor's deed of gift.

NODIS ROUTING SLIP

The attached State Dept message contains sensitive information which is being provided to you on a strict "need-to-know" basis. This message should not be reproduced, and its contents should be discussed only with the addressees listed below.

Cable Number: **STATE 287715**

POWELL		<i>msg previously transmitted on same subject</i>
NEGROPONTE	O	
STEVENS	C	
<i>Perito</i>	C	
<i>Burns</i>	C	
<i>Kelly B</i>	C	
<i>Beers</i>	C	B

RR e

for P
Shaw



~~SECRET~~

Department of State

S/S-0
OUTGOING

Ab 5/12/04

PAGE 01 OF 03 STATE 287715 TOSEC 160361 C01/01 006541 NOD919

-----02/0542Z

INFO NSCS-01 /001 A2 ESR
///SSI COPY DESTROYED BY SWO////

-----02/0527Z

INFO SSI-01 NSCS-01 /002 A2 ESR
//E. O. NSCS NEGROPONTE (COURIER) PER S/S RWMUELLER, 9/1//

-----02/0349Z

INFO SS-10 /010 A2
//////////////////// TREAT AS SPECIAL CAPTION //////////////////////

DIST AUTH BY

READ BY

DISTRIBUTED BY

EXSEC _____ (S/S-1) _____
DEPEXSEC _____ DATE/TIME _____

REPEATED TO _____
BY _____ DATE/TIME _____

SENSITIVE

THE ATTACHED DOCUMENT MAY BE SEEN ONLY BY THE ADDRESSEE AND, IF NOT EXPRESSLY PRECLUDED, BY THOSE OFFICIALS UNDER HIS AUTHORITY WHOM HE CONSIDERS TO HAVE A CLEAR-CUT "NEED TO KNOW." IT MAY NOT BE REPRODUCED, GIVEN ADDITIONAL DISTRIBUTION, OR DISCUSSED WITH NON-RECIPIENTS WITHOUT PRIOR APPROVAL OF THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT.

ADDRESSEES OUTSIDE THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE SHOULD HANDLE THE DOCUMENT IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE ABOVE INSTRUCTIONS AND WITH CURRENT DEPARTMENT OF STATE INSTRUCTIONS ON NODIS.

WHEN THIS DOCUMENT IS NO LONGER NEEDED, THE RECIPIENT IS RESPONSIBLE FOR SUPERVISING ITS DESTRUCTION AND FOR MAILING A RECORD OF THAT DESTRUCTION TO THE DIRECTOR, S/S-1, ROOM 7512, TEL. 647-2976.

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

~~SECRET~~

NODIS
NODIS
NODIS
NODIS

WITHDRAWAL SHEET

Ronald Reagan Library

Collection Name

MCNAMARA, THOMAS E.: FILES

Withdrawer

DLB 5/17/2006

File Folder

IRAN II MCNAMARA (4/4)

FOIA

F01-113

MCDERMOTT, JO

Box Number

92299

4

<i>ID</i>	<i>Document Type</i>	<i>No of</i>	<i>Doc Date</i>	<i>Restric-</i>
	<i>Document Description</i>	<i>pages</i>		<i>tions</i>

24592 CABLE

2

9/2/1988

B1

#020114Z SEP 88

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

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

B-2 Release would disclose internal personnel rules and practices of an agency [(b)(2) of the FOIA]

B-3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(b)(3) of the FOIA]

B-4 Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential or financial information [(b)(4) of the FOIA]

B-6 Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(b)(6) of the FOIA]

B-7 Release would disclose information compiled for law enforcement purposes [(b)(7) of the FOIA]

B-8 Release would disclose information concerning the regulation of financial institutions [(b)(8) of the FOIA]

B-9 Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA]

C. Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in donor's deed of gift.

WITHDRAWAL SHEET

Ronald Reagan Library

Collection Name

MCNAMARA, THOMAS E.: FILES

Withdrawer

DLB 5/17/2006

File Folder

IRAN II MCNAMARA (4/4)

FOIA

F01-113

MCDERMOTT, JO

Box Number

92299

4

<i>ID</i>	<i>Document Type</i> <i>Document Description</i>	<i>No of</i> <i>pages</i>	<i>Doc Date</i>	<i>Restric-</i> <i>tions</i>
24593	CABLE #181824Z OCT 88	2	10/18/1988	B1

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

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

B-2 Release would disclose internal personnel rules and practices of an agency [(b)(2) of the FOIA]

B-3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(b)(3) of the FOIA]

B-4 Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential or financial information [(b)(4) of the FOIA]

B-6 Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(b)(6) of the FOIA]

B-7 Release would disclose information compiled for law enforcement purposes [(b)(7) of the FOIA]

B-8 Release would disclose information concerning the regulation of financial institutions [(b)(8) of the FOIA]

B-9 Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA]

C. Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in donor's deed of gift.