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FM THE WHITE HOUSE

TO AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

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~~SECRET~~/EYES ONLY [] WH31838

DELIVER AT OPENING OF BUSINESS

TO: AMBASSADOR HELMS, TEHRAN

FROM: HENRY A. KISSINGER

REF: TEHRAN []

EYES ONLY FOR THE AMBASSADOR

1. THANK YOU FOR YOUR REPORT ON KING HUSSEIN'S LATEST VIEWS. THESE ARE CONSISTENT WITH WHAT WE ARE GETTING FROM AMMAN. AS HAS OFTEN BEEN THE CASE IN THE PAST, OUR PROBLEM IS HOW TO PUT ENOUGH MILITARY EQUIPMENT INTO JORDAN WITHOUT MAKING JORDAN EVEN MORE COMPLETELY DEPENDENT FINANCIALLY ON OTHERS, OURSELVES INCLUDED. IS THERE ANYTHING THE IRANIANS CAN DO FOR JORDAN, GIVEN THE CLOSE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE SHAH AND HUSSEIN?

2. THE NSSM STUDY ON THE ARABIAN PENINSULA AND THE PERSIAN GULF IS ALMOST COMPLETED, AND WE ARE TRYING TO HAVE A MEETING ON IT WITHIN THE NEXT 10 DAYS. I SHALL DEVELOP AS A FOLLOW-ON TO THAT EXERCISE CONTINGENCY PLANNING ON INSTABILITY IN SAUDI ARABIA. I ALSO HAVE IN MIND YOUR EARLIER AND REPEATED SUGGESTION ABOUT REPRESENTATION IN THE PERSIAN GULF. ALL REPORTS INDICATE THAT WE ARE FAR TOO THIN THERE AND WE WILL BE MOVING TO CORRECT THIS.

3. CAN YOU SET ASIDE AT LEAST AN HOUR WHEN YOU ARE IN WASHINGTON WITH THE SHAH FOR A REVIEW WITH ME OF WHERE WE ARE.

WARM REGARDS.

SHO

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APPROVED FOR RELEASE
DATE: MAR 2008