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DNOV 24 1950

FROM: Tehran

Secretary of State

919, October 19, 3 p.m.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Believe VOA INP support Embassy and coordinated Iran Propaganda Department next several crucial weeks can be of major importance.

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Embassy accordingly advises of following:

- Announcement Iranian Army prosecutor ready take action against signer Stockholm peace petition has been followed; by indications press Iran radio immediately will begin anti petition articles and programs, attacking Communists not Soviets.
- 2. Propaganda Department taking increasingly stronger anti-Communist pro-American line, both via press, radio. Attacks all out but no criticism will officially be voiced against Soviet.
- Propaganda Department giving fullest support to US loan! Angling is that machinery credits are aid for all Iranian people, hitting at basic economic difficulties; that Iran's potentiality of resources such that country only needs priming of pump such as now provided. Rest up to people.

Above kept geared to simplest terms since masses unable differentiate between loan and grant. Impression created among general public is simply that American aid is here.

- 4. Propaganda Department heavily playing UN.
- Mullahs in two mosques Tehran Sunday began public sermonizing against Communists. Iran radio recording these for twice-daily broadcasts which will continue next 20 days. One mullah also sent on similar mission to Tabriz,/another to Kurdish capital.
- Iran radio scheduling special programs to acquaint masses with world geography, politics, as background for understanding international causes and developments.
- Propaganda Department standing by to start major !"chins up Iran" campaign by press, radio posters, to instill

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-2-#919, October 19, 3 p.m., from Tehran.

confidence in Iranian people, as soon as Shah consents to speech giving slogan. This will be major effort to concentrate people on own resources under impetus US aid, with all Iranian Government departments, officials, participating.

- 8. Along with above, one outright anti-Soviet newspaper has started publication in Tehran. Two others to begin shortly.
- 9. Foregoing illustrates close coordination which now effective between Embassy and Iranian Propaganda Department.

Embassy suggests VOA INP can coordinate effectively in commentaries along following lines:

- 1. Now play peace petition heavily;
- 2. Give heavy constant play to Entezam and Iranian role UN
- 3. Give heaviest development to quick overwhelming effectiveness US and UN in Korea;
- 4. Play heavily Moslem prosecutions by Communist satellites and Soviet and Soviet Communist attitudes toward religion;
- 5. Give factual coverage and any feasible feature coverage support US loan and Point IV for Iran. It desirable, however, that loan not be played in too great detail.

Effective support can be given by commentaries on what bolstering of free people costing American people, in terms that this is heavy burden and comes from pockets factory workers, clerks, etc. This in general terms without mentioning Iran.

Embassy requests VOA INP confirm.

GRADY

PAF: MMG