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NATIONAL MILITARY COMMAND CENTER

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SECT 60 OF 05389

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FM AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ TEHRAN 5389

FOR ACTING SECRETARY FROM AMBASSADOR

DELIVER OPENING OF BUSINESS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PARM, TECH, IR

SUBJECT: IRAN'S INTENTIONS IN NUCLEAR MATTERS

REFS (A) STATE 140768; (B) TEHRAN 5192

1. IN VIEW OF CONGRESSIONAL RESERVATIONS ABOUT PROVIDING ENRICHED URANIUM FOR MIDDLE-EAST POWER PLANTS AND APPARENT TEMPEST CAUSED BY SHAH'S ALLEGED STATEMENTS ON NUCLEAR WEAPONS, I WANT TO EMPHASIZE TO YOU PERSONALLY THAT THERE HAS BEEN NO CHANGE IN IRAN'S DECLARED POLICY NOT TO ACQUIRE NUCLEAR WEAPONS.

2. SHAH HIMSELF HAS DENIED HE EVER GAVE INTERVIEW TO LES INFORMATIONS WHICH ALLEGED HE HAD SAID IRAN WOULD ACQUIRE SUCH WEAPONS "SOONER THAN ONE WOULD THINK". IN RESPONSE TO LE MONDE REPORTER'S QUESTION ABOUT NON-PROLIFERATION, SHAH STATED IT WAS

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STILL IRAN'S WISH TO MAKE MID-EAST A NUCLEAR-FREE ZONE, BUT PRUDENTLY ADDED THAT IF "EACH COUNTRY ATTEMPTS TO ARM ITSELF WITH WITH ATOMIC WEAPONS; MAYBE THE INTEREST OF EACH REQUIRES THAT IT ARM ITSELF. BUT I REGARD ALL THESE POSSIBILITIES AS RIDICULOUS." AT HIS PARIS PRESS CONFERENCE JUNE 27 SHAH REAFFIRMED THAT IRAN'S POLICY IS NOT RPT NOT TO ACQUIRE NUCLEAR WEAPONS.

3. I HOPE FOREGOING RECAPITULATION SETS RECORD STRAIGHT AS FAR AS IRAN IS CONCERNED. IT MAY BE USED WITH MEMBERS OF CONGRESS TO EXTENT YOU DEEM ADVISABLE.

4. FOR YOUR OWN INFORMATION, BOTH ALAM AND KHALABARI HAVE DESCRIBED SHAH AS "VERY UPSET" AT US INABILITY TO SIGN ALL EIGHT ENRICHED URANIUM CONTRACTS.

HELMS

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PAGE - 2

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