

S E C R E T

TEHRAN 5200

DE RUQMR #5208/01 140 **
ZNY SSSSS ZZH
R 201215Z MAY 79
FM AMEMBASSY TEHRAN
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 1541
RUSBQD/AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD 0092
INFO RUQMBI/AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI 0072
RUSBLK/AMEMBASSY KABUL 0111
RUSBQD/AMCONSUL PESHAWAR 0002
RUQMYA/USLO RIYADH 0055

CLASS: SECRET
CHRG: STATE 5/20/79
APPRV: CHARGE: CWNAAS
DRFTD: POL: DCMCGAFFEY: 1
CLEAR: POL: VTOMSETH
DISTR: CHG POL-3 OR
ECON ICA RF

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BT
S E C R E T SECTION 01 OF TEHRAN 0520E

E.O. 12065: GDS 5/20/95 (MCGAFFEY, DAVID) OR-P
TAGS: PEPR, AF PK
SUBJECT: FREE-LANCE AFGHAN REBEL CALLS ON EMBASSY

REF: ISLAMABAD 5531

1. (S - ENTIRE TEXT; THIS IS A REPORTING CABLE.)

2. SUMMARY: AMCIT AFGHAN ZIA NASSRY, IN IRAN TO MEET WITH AYATOLLAH KHOMEINI, AYATOLLAH KHALKHALI, AND FONMIN YAZDI TO OBTAIN FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR AFGHAN GUERRILLA MOVEMENT, DESCRIBED TO POLOFF SUBSTANTIAL WEAKNESSES IN MOVEMENT, LEADERSHIP, FINANCES, AND ORGANIZATION, BUT STATED THAT MOVEMENT WILL UNSEAT KHALQI GOVERNMENT BY NOVEMBER, TO INSTALL DEMOCRATIC ISLAMIC REPUBLIC. END SUMMARY.

3. ZIA NASSRY CALLED POL SECTION MAY 17, DESCRIBING HIMSELF AS FRIEND OF RICK SHERMAN IN ISLAMABAD. WE MET OVER COFFEE, DISCUSSING MUTUAL ACQUAINTANCES AND HIS CURRENT ACTIVITIES. NASSRY DESCRIBES HIMSELF AS A "FREE-LANCE PATRIOT," WORKING FOR BUT NOT WITH ANY OF THE VARIOUS LEADERS IN PAKISTAN, ALTHOUGH MOST CLOSELY ASSOCIATED WITH PIR SYED AHMED GAILANI. HE STATED HE HAD JUST COME FROM NEW YORK, WHERE HE MET WITH BOXER MOHAMMAD ALI, AND FRANKFURT, WHERE HE MET WITH ABOUT THIRTY EXPATRIATE AFGHAN BUSINESSMEN. (HE SAID ALI PUT HIM OFF, BUT FRANKFURT AFGHANS HAD PLEDGED 50,000 DM.) HIS MAIN PURPOSE IS TO RAISE FUNDS AND HE CARRIED CREDENTIALS FROM THE "AFGHANISTAN ISLAMIC AND REVOLUTIONARY COUNCIL." HE IS IN IRAN WITH INTRODUCTIONS TO AYATOLLAH KHALKHALI, HEAD OF ISLAMIC COURT (AND, HE STATES, SON-IN-LAW OF AYATOLLAH KHOMEINI). KHALKHALI, HE SAID, WAS TAKING HIM TO QOM THAT AFTERNOON, WHERE HE HAD AN APPOINTMENT WITH KHOMEINI FOR THE NEXT DAY. IF KHOMEINI GIVES HIS BLESSING, HE WILL MEET AGAIN WITH KHALKHALI AND FONMIN IBRAHIM YAZDI TO DISCUSS DETAILS OF FINANCIAL AID TO MOVEMENT AND ESTABLISHMENT OF ARMED REFUGEE CAMPS ON IRANIAN-AFGHAN BORDER.

4. NASSRY DESCRIBED MOVEMENT AS HIGHLY MOTIVATED, BUT ABSOLUTELY WITHOUT FUNDS. HE SAYS LEADERS ARE DECEIVING THEMSELVES ABOUT EXPECTED SUPPORT FROM SAUDI ARABIA, GULF STATES, AND CHINA, WHILE HE IS WORKING TO FIND CASH. HE STATES GAILANI WENT TO SAUDI ARABIA IN JANUARY, AND STAYED

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TWO WEEKS AS GUEST OF PRINCE FAHD, BUT RECEIVED NOTHING. IN MARCH, HE, NASSRY, VISITED ABU DHABI, BUT GOT NOTHING BUT GOOD WISHES. HE HAD APPOINTMENT WITH KHOMEINI ALSO IN MARCH, BUT WAS REQUESTED TO PUT IT OFF UNTIL IRANIAN REVOLUTION GOT STRAIGHTENED OUT. MEANWHILE, HE HAS RAISED SUBSTANTIAL FUNDS FROM APPEALS IN U.S., BUT IT HAS ALL GONE FOR FOOD, WITH NOTHING LEFT FOR ARMS OR AMMUNITION. HE DESCRIBED AFGHAN LEADERSHIP IN PAKISTAN AS "STRANGE-- FROM ISLAMIC BROTHERHOOD TO ISLAMIC MARXISTS," COOPERATING SLENNLY WHILE STRUGGLING FOR PRE-EMINENCE, AND UNWILLING TO TRUST ANYONE OUTSIDE THEIR CIRCLE, INCLUDING HIMSELF. HE ALSO DECRIED THEIR FIGHTING EXPERTISE, SAYING THEY HAVE BEEN WASTING MEN ON SUICIDE MISSIONS WITH NO GENERAL STRATEGY, SUFFERING HEAVY CASUALTIES (700 WOUNDED IN ONE CAMP) FOR WHOM THERE ARE NO MEDICAL FACILITIES, AND FAILING TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF SUCCESSSES. THEY ALL AGREE ON NECESSITY OF DEMOCRATIC ISLAMIC REPUBLIC, BUT DISAGREE ON THEIR DEFINITIONS. HOWEVER, MOST OF THE FIGHTING (IN 23 OF 28 PROVINCES) IS OCCURRING SPONTANEOUSLY, WITHOUT LEADERSHIP FROM PAKISTAN, AND HE BELIEVES WITH ALL ITS FAILINGS THAT, WITH FOOD SHORTAGES EXPECTED IN AFGHANISTAN IN OCTOBER, THERE WILL BE A GENERAL UPRISING, AND REVOLT OF DISILLUSIONED TROOPS, AND TARAKI GOVERNMENT WILL BE FINISHED BY NOVEMBER. THE ONLY THING WHICH CAN INTERFERE WITH THAT TIMETABLE, HE SAYS, WOULD BE THE INTRODUCTION OF RUSSIAN TROOPS, WHICH WOULD SOLIDIFY OPPOSITION TO THE SAME END, BUT WOULD REQUIRE A PROTRACTED WAR. HIS BEST GUESS IS THAT THE SOVIETS WILL NOT TAKE THAT CHANCE NOW. HE PROMISED TO CALL AFTER HE HAD MET WITH IRANIAN AUTHORITIES TO GIVE THE RESULTS OF HIS APPEAL.

5. FOR ISLAMABAD. NASSRY EXPECTS TO BE IN ISLAMABAD IN ABOUT THREE WEEKS, AND HOPES TO CALL ON RICK SHERMAN.

6. TEHRAN IS POUCHING UNDER SEPARATE COVER TO DEPARTMENT, ISLAMABAD, AND KABUL, PAPER WHICH NASSRY IS DISTRIBUTING WITH HIS APPEALS TO EXPLAIN REVOLUTIONARY MOVEMENT.

7. COMMENT: NASSRY'S OWN CRITICISM OF GAILANI AND OTHER LEADERS, PLUS HIS COMMENT ABOUT JEALOUSIES AND LACK OF TRUST OUTSIDE INNER CIRCLE, MAY EXPLAIN COMMENTS AGAINST

Taraki group furnished by Nov.

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TAGS: PEPR, AF PK

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NASSRY BY GAILANI AIDE ASEFI (REFTEL). HOWEVER, IF HE
SUCCEEDS IN OBTAINING FUNDS, GAILANI AND OTHERS MAY
REASSESS HIS VALUE TO THEM. END COMMENT. NAAS

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