SECRET STATE 215236

SECRET

SECRET - ENTIRE TEXT.

2. THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION MAY BE USED TO UPDATE THE

IF YOU FEEL THAT NECESSARY. WE HAVE

CONSULTED WITH FRIENDLY SERVICES TO GET ADDITIONAL

BACKGROUND ON THE TWO IRAN OFFICIALS WHO HAVE BEEN

SUGGESTED AS INTERLOCUTORS BY NASHEMI. RESULTS OF THESE

QUESTIONS FROM US HAVE YIELDED THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION

WHICH WE CONSIDER AUTHORITATIVE.
AS SUCH, IMPORTANT IN IRANIAN OPERATIONS AGAINST "COUNTER-REVOLUTIONARIES".

Flexible on tactics. Though a thoroughly committed fundamentalist. He is thought to be equally ill-disposed to the U.S. and U.S.S.R.

4. The second name supplied by Hashemi was Gorbanev. He is well-known to the USG as a talented fabricator. He is the ostensible KGB official described by Hashemi as a ranking intelligence officer.

5. Hashemi has been told by the USG this weekend that we are prepared to recommend to that they meet with but not Gorbanev. If that is not agreeable to the Iranians, and they insist that Gorbanev participate in the meeting with we will agree. But we will not agree to a Gorbanev meeting first. To be followed by a meeting with both Iranians (as proposed by them. See State 206377).

6. As soon as we hear whether this approach is acceptable to the Iranians, we will be back in touch with Armacost.