SECRET

KABUL 2042 131033Z

ACTION SS-25
INFO OCT-01 1026 W
R 136945Z APR 72
FM AMEMBASSY KABUL
to SECSTATE WASHDC 8453
SECRET KABUL 2042

EXDIS

SUBJ: AFGHANISTAN - RESPONSE TO PRINCE DAUD

REF: (A) STATE 56321 (B) KABUL 1806

1. ACTING UNDER MY INSTRUCTIONS, EMOFF GAVE WAHID ABDULLAH APRIL 11 RESPONSE INDICATED PARA 8, REF B MINUS POINT THREE REPEAT THREE. WAHID TOOK CAREFUL NOTES. WAHID IMMEDIATELY STATED THAT THERE WAS NO ANSWER TO QUESTION WHETHER DIALOGUE COULD CONTINUE. WAHID WAS PLEASED TO LEARN THAT DIALOGUE COULD CONTINUE THROUGH HIM AND EMOFF.

2. AGAIN ON MY INSTRUCTIONS, EMOFF THEN MADE POINT SUGGESTED PARA 3, REF A CONCERNING CONTINUING US RELATIONS WITH AFGHANISTAN OVER YEARS AS HIS "PERSONAL AND INFORMED OPINION."

3. DURING CONVERSATION EMOFF ASKED HOW CHANGE IN GOVERNMENT MIGHT OCCUR, ESPECIALLY IN VIEW WAHID'S EARLIER STATEMENT THAT PRINCE DAUD COULD NEVER TAKE ANY ACTION WHICH WOULD FURTHER DIVIDE AFGHANISTAN. WAHID RESPONDED: (A) DAUD STILL ADHERES TO THIS PRINCIPLE; (B) SOME MEMBERS ROYAL FAMILY "WOULD FAVOR DAUD'S RETURN" AND (C) MARSHAL SHAH WALI KHAN AND WIFE HAVE FOR SOME TIME BEEN ACTIVELY WORKING TO EFFECT RECONCILIATION BETWEEN HIS MAJESTY AND PRINCES DAUD AND NAIM.

4. FOR FIRST TIME IN SEVERAL YEARS I RECENTLY SAW PRINCES DAUD AND NAIM AT PUBLIC AFFAIR (WEDDING RECEPTION FOR DR. AZIZ SERAJ'S DAUGHTER) AND MADE POINT OF SPEAKING BRIEFLY TO BOTH. WAHID TOLD EMOFF IN RESPONSE QUESTION, THAT PRINCES ATTENDED BECAUSE GROOM WAS SON OF DAUD'S FORMER MINISTER OF INTERIOR

SECRET

NOT TO BE REPRODUCED WITHOUT THE AUTHORIZATION OF THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY
AND IS NOW PROTEGE OF DAUD.

5. RUMORS NOW CROPPING UP IN VARIOUS KABUL CIRCLES ABOUT POSSIBILITY THAT DAUD MAY REENTER POLITICAL ARENA. GP-1.
NEUMANN