SECRET

INCOMING TELEGRAM

PAGE 61

TEL AV 22257 121449Z
ACTION NSOS-90

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FM AMBASSADOR TPL AVIV
TO SECTOE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3927

SECRET

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F.O. 12w5: HOS-1 12/12/95 (LENTS, SAMUEL N.) OR-IN
TAGS: 19, US, MTLI, 19, SA

SUBJECT: CONVERSATION WITH:

1. (S - ENTIRE TEXT)

2. DURING GENERAL REVIEW OF RECENT EVENTS WITH

3. [ ] QUESTIONED ME CLOSER ABOUT THE STATE OF OUR

negoTATIONS VIA ALGERIA WITH THE IRANIAN GOVERNMENT OVER
THE RELEASE OF THE MIDEAST HOSTAGES. I SUMMARIZED THE
STATE OF PLAY FOR HIM AS BEST I UNDERSTOOD IT FROM PUBLIC
SOURCES. HE THEN SAID THAT WE SHOULD KNOW THAT ISRAEL WAS
CONTINUING TO RECEIVE "A STEADILY INCREASED FLOW" OF
REQUESTS FOR SALE OF AMMUNITION AND SPARE PARTS TO TAN.

[ ] SHOULD GO NOTHING ON RESPOND TO THESE REQUESTS

SUITE AS UK HOSTAGES WERE STILL CAPTIVE. BUT HE WANTED
ME TO BE AWARE OF THE PRESSURE

DEFENSE ESTABLISHMENT TO RESPOND, "EVEN IF SELLING ONE
ITEM," IN ORDER TO HAVE AN ISRAELI FOOT IN THE DOOR FOR
LONG-TERM ISRAELI POLITICAL AND DIPLOMATIC INTERESTS.

SECRET

[ ] RECOMMENDATION TO DO

[ ] PELT AV 22257 121449Z

SECRET

REVIEWED by ASA DIA WEKO

CLASSIFICATION/DECLASSIFICATION: FOI, FOIA OR IA exceptions, BY AUTHORITY

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SECRET

PAGE 42

I FL AN 92207 121440Z

NOTHING UNTIL OUR HOSTAGES WERE FREE.

I said, however, that it was

SUNDIVIDED IF WE ARE IN THE EMBASSIES —

IN EUROPE WHO WERE IN FACT SUPPLYING SPACE PARTS AND

AMMUNITION TO THE TANKS, WHETHER WITH OR WITHOUT THE APPROVAL

OF THE VARIOUS EUROPEAN GOVERNMENTS (I UNDERSTOOD THE

REFERENCE TO THE PARTICULARLY TO THE FRENCH). I SAID THAT

THESE COUNTRIES OF SOME SUCH LEAKAGE THROUGH THE ARMS

DEALER NETWORK, BUT THAT GOVERNMENTS HER SE WERE STANDING

FIRM WITH US.

4. 

5. 

J. LEVIN
SECRET

NR

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TRANSCRIBED COPY FOLLOWS
Subject: Conversation with [--excised----]

1. ( S - Entire Text )

2. During general review of recent events with [ excised ], he raised with me two subjects which I promised to report to Washington.

3. [--excised--] questioned me closely about the state of our negotiations via Algeria with the Iranian Government over the release of the American hostages. I summarized the state of play for him as best I deduce it from public sources. He then said that we should know Israel was continuing to receive "a steadily mounting pile" of requests for sale of ammunition and spare parts to Iran. [--excised -----------------------------------------------------] would do nothing to respond to these requests so long as our hostages were still captive. But he wanted me to be aware of the pressures [excised-------------] defense establishment to respond, "Even [by?] selling one item," in order to have an Israeli foot in the door for long-term Israeli political and diplomatic interests. Nonetheless, [excised ----] determination to do
nothing until our hostages were freed. [excised-----------------------------]
said, however, that he supposed we were aware there were various arms dealers in Europe who were in fact supplying spare parts and ammunition to Iran, whether with or without the approval of the various European governments (I understood the reference to be particularly to the French). I said that there could well be some such leakage through the arms dealer network, but that governments per se were standing firm with us.

4. [paragraph excised]

5. [paragraph excised]

Lewis