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NATIONAL MILITARY COMMAND CENTER
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SECT 60 OF 15305

ACTION
DISTR CJCS DJS SJCS(03) J3(08) J5(02) NMCC1(02) SECDEF(04)
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ZNR UUUU ZZH
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FM AMEMBASSY PARIS
TO RUEHC/SECRETARY WASHBDC PRIORITY 0229
INFO RUESHR/AMEMBASSY TEHRAN 1351
RUPHND/AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI 0869
RUEKPI/AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD 0378
RUESOR/AMEMBASSY CAIRO 0566
RUESAD/AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV 1636
RUESRA/AMEMBASSY JIDDA 0709
RUESDB/AMEMBASSY BEIRUT 2399
RUESKB/AMEMBASSY KUWAIT 0569
RUEHDT/USEMISSION USUN 6872
RUFHNA/USEMISSION NATO 3861
RUDTC/AMEMBASSY LONDON 8278
RUFHSU/AMEMBASSY MOSCOW 6481
BT
UNCLAS PARIS 15305

BEIRUT PASS BAGHDAD

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: P FOR, PARM, FR, IR
SUBJECT: INTERVIEW WITH SHAH

1. IN AN INTERVIEW WITH THE FRENCH WEEKLY "LES

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INFORMATIONS" RELEASED JUNE 23, THE SHAH, REPLYING TO THE QUESTION WHETHER IRAN WOULD ONE DAY POSSESS A NUCLEAR WEAPON, IS QUOTED AS SAYING, "CERTAINLY, AND SOONER THAN IS BELIEVED, BUT CONTRARY TO INDIA, WE HAVE FIRST THOUGHT OF OUR PEOPLE AND THEN OF TECHNOLOGY. YOU SEE THE RESULT TODAY".

2. REFERRING TO THE FRANCO-IRANIAN AGREEMENTS SIGNED IN FEBRUARY 1974, THE SHAH SAID THAT THEY WERE THE MOST IMPORTANT EVER SIGNED BETWEEN AN OIL PRODUCING AND AN INDUSTRIALIZED COUNTRY, AMOUNTING TO OVER THREE BILLION DOLLARS. OTHER PROJECTS BEING NEGOTIATED BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES AMOUNT TO FIVE BILLION DOLLARS, HE SAID, ADDING THAT THE FRENCH HAVE AN IMPORTANT ROLE TO PLAY IN IRAN NOW THAT "CERTAIN ARAB COUNTRIES ARE CLOSED TO THEM, ESPECIALLY SINCE MR. NIXON'S VISIT TO RIAD AND CAIRO".


4. ACCORDING TO AN AFP ITEM, THE IRANIAN EMBASSY HERE ISSUED A STATEMENT JUNE 24 DENYING THAT THE SHAH INTENDED TO GIVE IRAN NUCLEAR WEAPONS. "THIS INFORMATION IS TOTALLY INVENTED AND WITHOUT ANY BASIS WHATSOEVER", THE EMBASSY SAID, SPECIFYING THAT THE SHAH HAD NEVER MADE A STATEMENT THAT COULD BE INTERPRETED IN THAT SENSE.

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