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(Classification) MAY 16 1952

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FOREIGN SERVICE DESPATCH

FROM : AMEMBASSY, Tehran

1139

April 28, 1952

DESP. NO.

DATE

TO : THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE, WASHINGTON.

AIR POUCH

PRIORITY

26

REF : Dept. Instr. 61, Feb. 4, 1952

SUBJECT: IIA: Country Plan

For Dept.
Use Only

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Enclosed herewith is an edited copy of the Country Plan. The changes made were based on extensive discussions between the Public Affairs Officer and the Ambassador, Counselor of Embassy, and head of the Political Section. The delay in replying is regretted. It largely arose out of the fact that some of the suggested changes were controversial and so, were well debated before reaching a final conclusion.

Through Sections 1 to 9, only minor changes were suggested.

Section 10 - Priority Target Groups - the suggested revision rests on the following basis:

Target Group 1 - The Shah, Royal Court, and wealthy land-owners represent a conservative group vitally interested in preserving Iran's integrity, which if they could be stirred to more positive action would represent the strongest possible rallying point for all anti-communist elements. By reason of the strength of their position, they should be able to orient the country toward our direction. The extent to which USIE can directly reach this group is limited. However, it is felt that working through and with the Ambassador, a great deal can be accomplished.

Target Group 2 - University professors and students, secondary school teachers and students, professional men, including government employees - are a most important group as they represent the public opinion molders, leading the multiplicity of movements now current in Iran. Soviet agents and workers are more active amongst this group than any other in the country.

Happily, they are a group which are readily accessible and can be served by all USIE media output.

Target Group 3 - Leaders of public opinion amongst illiterate masses, Mullahs (Priests), village headmen, tribal chiefs, etc. - The importance of this group lies in the fact that, although the rural population is

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currently quiescent, there are indications that as Point Four activities extend throughout the country, Tudeh forces will become increasingly active in stirring up dissatisfaction and disorder amongst the rural population. It is hoped that by a concentration on these molders of village opinion, such may be accomplished in offsetting this infiltration.

This group is somewhat less accessible than Group #2, however, they can be and are being reached through our mobile unit operation as well as the dissemination of media material through Point Four.

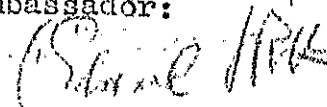
Note: This distribution of media material through Point Four will necessarily be confined to a type which demonstrates American techniques and develops American prestige. It is considered that the use of any obviously propaganda material may react against Point Four rural activities.

Target Group 4 - Labor leaders and Army officers - The Soviet agents are working on both of these groups sporadically but with a slow yet perceptible increase in tempo. It is a fertile field for their activities because of bad labor conditions and in the Army, because of inequities and low pay.

It is again intended to limit our audience in this field to the leaders who are molders of opinion.

Item 2 on Page 7 - Thomas - We have made a number of suggested changes which are obvious.

For the Ambassador:


C. Edward Wells
Public Affairs Officer

Enclosures:

1. Edited copy of Country Plan
2. Chart

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