

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

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MESSAGE CENTER

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SECT 60 OF 85765

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INFO RUDTC/AMEMBASSY LONDON 4012

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DEPT DR LONDON PASS ERDA FOR SIEVERING

E.O. 116520 GDS

TAGS: TECH, IR

SUBJECT: IRANIAN VIEWS ON NON-PROLIFERATION AND US/IRAN
NUCLEAR COOPERATION

REF: TEHRAN 5735

1. IN COURSE OF JUNE 6, 1976, CALL AMBASSADOR AND SCIATT MADE ON
DR. AKBAR ETEMAD, PRESIDENT, ATOMIC ENERGY ORGANIZATION OF IRAN,
TO DELIVER REVISED DRAFT ON U.S./IRAN AGREEMENT ON ATOMIC
ENERGY. DR. ETEMAD MADE SOME ENLIGHTENING OBSERVATIONS ON
NON-PROLIFERATION AS WELL AS ON THE U.S./IRAN BILATERAL.

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2. WHEN ASKED IF THERE WAS ANYTHING FURTHER FROM HIS SIDE ON THE IDEA OF SOME SORT OF HIGH-LEVEL EXCHANGE OR PROTOCOL AFFIRMING BOTH COUNTRIES' DEVOTION TO NON-PROLIFERATION, AS HE HAD SUGGESTED IN WASHINGTON, ETEMAD REPLIED THAT HE HAD DISCUSSED THIS IDEA WITH THE SHAH AFTER HIS RETURN. THE SHAH IS SAID TO HAVE COUNTERED WITH THE THOUGHT THAT IT WOULD BE DESIRABLE FOR THE NUCLEAR SUPPLIER

GROUP TO GET TOGETHER WITH THE RECIPIENT COUNTRIES TO DISCUSS TRANSFER OF NUCLEAR TECHNOLOGY. COMMENT: THIS NONSEQUITUR SUGGESTS THAT THE SHAH DID NOT TAKE KINDLY TO THE HIGH-LEVEL PROTOCOL IDEA PUT FORTH BY DR. ETEMAD AND IS STILL MIFFED AT NOT BEING INVITED TO THE DELIBERATIONS OF THE NUCLEAR SUPPLIER GROUP.

3. ETEMAD ALSO COMMENTED THAT DUE TO ITS GEOGRAPHIC SITUATION THE GOI WAS PROBABLY EVEN MORE INTERESTED IN NON-PROLIFERATION THAN THE U.S. IRAN HAS CLEARLY AND REPEATEDLY FORSWORN DEVELOPMENT OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS WHEREAS MANY OF ITS NEIGHBORS HAVE NOT. PROLIFERATION CAN ONLY WEAKEN IRAN'S POSITION VIS-A-VIS ITS NEIGHBORS, AND THEREFORE PROLIFERATION IS ANATHEMA TO IRAN.

4. ETEMAD BELIEVES THAT THE NPT IS COMMENDABLE BUT NON-PROLIF-ERATION IS THREATENED BY SOME SERIOUS CONFRONTATIONS, SUCH AS INDIA-PAKISTAN AND ARGENTINA-BRAZIL, THAT REQUIRE IMMEDIATE ATTENTION BY THE COMMUNITY OF NATIONS. HE RECOGNIZES THAT INDIA IS A DIFFICULT PROBLEM FOR US. HE FEELS, THROUGH PERSONAL CONTACTS WITH PAKISTANIS, THAT PAKISTAN IS IN A DESPERATE FRAME OF MIND. IT IS MOST URGENT THAT PAKISTAN BE GIVEN SOME GUARANTEE AGAINST NUCLEAR ATTACK BY INDIA. (IMPLICATION WAS THAT PAKISTAN WILL OTHERWISE CONTINUE ITS DETERMINATION TO ACQUIRE A NUCLEAR WEAPONS CAPABILITY TO STAND UP TO INDIA.) IRAN IS ALLIED TO PAKISTAN AND WILL BE WILLING TO LEND ITS GOOD OFFICES TO AN INTERNATIONAL EFFORT TO EASE PAKISTAN'S TRAUMA.

5. DR. ETEMAD BELIEVES THAT NPT MUST BE SUPPLEMENTED BY LOCAL ARRANGEMENTS SUPPORTED BY THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY WHICH WILL DEFUSE SITUATIONS SUCH AS INDIA-PAKISTAN AND ARGENTINA-BRAZIL WHICH INVITE THE SPREAD OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS.

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