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TO: [REDACTED] #7500 1070030
ZNY NOV 75 ZPP-1 ZPT-4 ZYH
FROM: THE WHITE HOUSE

TO: AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

~~TOP SECRET~~ VIA PRIVACY CHANNELS SENSITIVE EXCLUSIVELY EYES ONLY

UNRECORDED
PLEASE DELIVER IMMEDIATELY IN A SEALED ENVELOPE
EXCLUSIVELY EYES ONLY FOR THE AMBASSADOR

NOVEMBER 2, 1978

TO: AMBASSADOR SULLIVAN, TEHRAN

FROM: ZBIGNIEW BRZEZINSKI

ON THE HIGHEST AUTHORITY, AND WITH CY'S CONCURRENCE, YOU
ARE INSTRUCTED TO TELL THE SHAH AS SOON AS POSSIBLE:
1) THAT THE UNITED STATES SUPPORTS HIM WITHOUT
RESERVATION IN THE PRESENT CRISIS.
2) THAT WE HAVE CONFIDENCE IN THE SHAH'S JUDGEMENT
REGARDING THE SPECIFIC DECISIONS THAT MAY BE NEEDED
CONCERNING THE FORM AND COMPOSITION OF GOVERNMENT. WE ALSO
RECOGNIZE THE NEED FOR DECISIVE ACTION AND LEADERSHIP TO RESTORE
ORDER AND HIS OWN AUTHORITY. WITH RESPECT TO THE COALITION
GOVERNMENT ALTERNATIVE, OUR POSITION IS THAT THIS IS UP TO THE
SHAH IF HE FEELS THAT SUCH AN ALTERNATIVE IS VIABLE AND
PREFERABLE. WE ARE NOT PRESSING FOR IT. THE SAME APPLIES TO
A MILITARY GOVERNMENT. WHICHEVER ROUTE HE GOES WE WILL SUPPORT
HIS DECISION FULLY. (FYI: IN RESPONSE TO YOUR QUESTION A MILITARY
GOVERNMENT UNDER THE SHAH IS OVERUNFLININGLY PREFERABLE TO A MILITARY
GOVERNMENT WITHOUT THE SHAH.)
3) THAT, ONCE ORDER AND AUTHORITY HAVE BEEN RESTORED, WE
HOPE WE WILL RESUME PRUDENT EFFORTS TO PROMOTE LIBERALIZATION AND
TO ERADICATE CORRUPTION.
KEY MEMBERS OF YOUR MISSION AS YOU SEE APPROPRIATE SHOULD
CONVEY THIS BASIC LINE TO THEIR COUNTERPARTS.

SANITIZED
E.O. 13526
Authority MR. LP-13-004
NARA Date 10/25/17

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