

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 HAVANA 10155 180247Z
ACTION NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ADS-00 (ADS) W
-----080593 180932Z /64

O 180235Z NOV 79
FM USINT HAVANA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 3977

S E C R E T HAVANA 10155

NODIS CHEROKEE

E.O. 12065: RDS-2 11/17/99 (SMITH, WAYNE S.)
TAGS: PEPR PDIP IR CU US
SUBJ: CASTRO OFFERS GOOD OFFICES

REF: (A) HAVANA 10120 (B) STATE 299655

1. (S-ENTIRE TEXT.)

2. CASTRO CALLED ME TO HIS OFFICE TONIGHT TO SAY HE HAS SENT MESSAGE TO IRANIAN AUTHORITIES AS SUGGESTED BY JOSE LUIS PADRON (SEE REF A) CALLING ON THEM TO RELEASE HOSTAGES AND OFFERING GOOD OFFICES AS PRESIDENT NAM. HE SAID HE HOPED RELEASE OF WOMEN AND BLACK HOSTAGES WAS FIRST STEP ON IRANIAN SIDE TOWARD MORE RATIONAL POSITION. CUBA WISHED TO HELP DEFUSE SITUATION WHICH HAD DANGEROUS IMPLICATIONS NOT ONLY FOR IRAN AND US BUT FOR WHOLE WORLD. IF HIS EFFORTS IN THIS MATTER ARE TO HAVE ANY CHANCE OF SUCCESS THEY WOULD HAVE TO BE EXTENDED WITH UTMOST DISCRETION. THEY SHOULD NOT RPT NOT BECOME MATTER OF PUBLIC KNOWLEDGE.

3. I INDICATED APPRECIATION FOR EFFORTS TO OBTAIN RELEASE OUR HOSTAGES. I EMPHASIZED HOWEVER THAT US WOULD NOT BE BLACKMAILED. TAKING OF HOSTAGES WAS SIMPLY UNACCEPTABLE AND FIRST STEP IN DEFUSING SITUATION SHOULD BE THEIR RELEASE UNHARMED.

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4. CASTRO EXPRESSED FULL APPRECIATION FOR US POSITION. HE URGED THAT US CONTINUE TO SHOW PRUDENCE AND PATIENCE UNDER GREAT PRESSURE WHICH HAD CHARACTERIZED ITS REACTION FOR PAST TWO WEEKS. US PRESTIGE HAD GAINED BY SUCH COOLNESS WHILE IRAN WAS NOW LEFT VIRTUALLY ISOLATED. THANKS TO US PATIENCE HOSTAGES WERE STILL ALIVE AND CHANCES THAT IRANIAN AUTHORITIES WOULD

LISTEN TO REASON SEEMED TO HAVE INCREASED. US SHOULD OF COURSE
CONTINUE TO SHOW FIRMNESS OF PURPOSE BUT MUST BE PATIENT YET
A BIT LONGER. HE HAD IMPRESSION IRANIAN AUTHORITIES MIGHT BE
LOOKING FOR WAY OUT BUT WOULD NEED TIME TO GET THEIR PEOPLE
UNDER CONTROL. HE WOULD USE ANY INFLUENCE HE HAD WITH THEM TO
BRING ABOUT RELEASE OF HOSTAGES AND DEFUSE SITUATION. HE
PROMISED TO INFORM ME IMMEDIATELY OF IRANIAN REACTION TO HIS
MESSAGE.

SMITH

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESIDENT, NONALIGNED NATIONS, COMMUNIQUES, PRISONERS RELEASE, HOSTAGES, CAT-C, CHEROKEE 11/18/79
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Draft Date: 18 nov 1979
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Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Drafter: n/a
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TAGS: PEPR, PDIP, IR, CU, US, NACB, (CASTRO RUZ, FIDEL)
To: STATE
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