

o/s/

PRIME MINISTER'S

PERSONAL MESSAGE

SERIAL No. T142/79T

T142/79T

OO WTE24
DE WTE £9350 3190137
O 150240Z NOV 79
FM THE WHITE HOUSE
TO CABINET OFFICE, LONDON
ZEM

S E C R E T VIA CABINET OFFICE CHANNELS DELIVER AT OPENING OF BUSINESS
WH92162

NOVEMBER 14, 1979

DEAR MADAME PRIME MINISTER,

I APPRECIATE THE CONTRIBUTION WHICH THE UNITED KINGDOM HAS MADE IN MAKING IT CLEAR THAT CONDUCT BY ONE GOVERNMENT AGAINST THE INNOCENT CITIZENS AND DIPLOMATIC ESTABLISHMENT OF ANOTHER IS UNACCEPTABLE. I PARTICULARLY APPRECIATE THE LOGISTIC SUPPORT WHICH HAS BEEN PROVIDED BY YOUR MISSION IN TEHRAN.

HOWEVER, I BELIEVE THAT THE TIME HAS COME WHEN ALL OF THE MAJOR POWERS MUST DO MORE TO INSURE THE INTEGRITY OF THE INTERNATIONAL DIPLOMATIC SYSTEM AGAINST SUCH OUTLAW ACTS. I, THEREFORE, HOPE THAT I CAN RECEIVE FURTHER SUPPORT FROM YOU AND YOUR GOVERNMENT BOTH PUBLIC AND PRIVATE IN THE DIFFICULT DAYS TO COME.

THE STRONGEST POSSIBLE REMONSTRATION OR ACTION BY YOUR OWN GOVERNMENT COULD BE OF GREAT BENEFIT IN INDUCING THE IRANIAN AUTHORITIES TO RELEASE THE AMERICAN HOSTAGES. YOU MAY WANT TO CONSIDER REDUCING THE NUMBER OF YOUR OFFICIAL PERSONNEL IN TEHRAN AS A WAY TO PROTEST IRANIAN TREATMENT OF PERSONS WITH DIPLOMATIC IMMUNITY. WE HAD EARLIER WITHDRAWN NINETY PERCENT OF OUR EMBASSY PERSONNEL AND MEXICO HAS DECIDED TO REMOVE ALL EMBASSY PERSONNEL FROM TEHRAN. WE WILL CONTINUE TO BE IN TOUCH WITH YOUR FOREIGN MINISTER TO DISCUSS OUR DIPLOMATIC STRATEGIES BOTH IN NEW YORK AND IN TEHRAN.

YOUR SUPPORT IS NECESSARY TO MAKE CLEAR THAT WHAT IS AT ISSUE IS A QUESTION OF FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLE ON WHICH THE ENTIRE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY, REGARDLESS OF IDEOLOGICAL OR POLITICAL PERSUASION, MUST NOT YIELD.

FAILURE OF OUR EFFORTS TO PRESERVE THIS PRINCIPLE WOULD INVITE SIMILAR ACTS OF BLACKMAIL BOTH BY THE GOVERNMENT OF IRAN AND BY OTHERS WHO WOULD SOW ANARCHY IN THE INTERNATIONAL SYSTEM. THEREFORE, I HOPE I CAN COUNT ON YOU TO JOIN WITH US IN SETTING OURSELVES FIRMLY AGAINST ANY INCLINATION TO CONTINUE BUSINESS AS USUAL WITH THE GOVERNMENT OF IRAN SHOULD THE HOSTAGE SITUATION CONTINUE TO REMAIN UNRESOLVED.

LET ME THANK YOU AGAIN FOR YOUR SUPPORT,

SINCERELY,

JIMMY CARTER