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TO FLASH FCO  
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OF 232010Z AUGUST 90  
INFO FLASH DUBLIN, BEIRUT, WASHINGTON  
INFO IMMEDIATE STOCKHOLM

LEBANON HOSTAGES : BRIAN KEENAN

1. WHEN I SAW THE IRANIAN PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE (KHARRAZI) ON 23 AUGUST HE TOLD ME THAT BRIAN KEENAN WOULD BE RELEASED BY 1900 LOCAL ON 24 AUGUST.
2. I SAID THAT I WAS GRATEFUL FOR ANY ROLE THAT IRAN HAD PLAYED IN THE RELEASE.
3. KHARRAZI SAID, SOMEWHAT TO MY SURPRISE, THAT THIS WAS A SIGN OF GOOD WILL WHICH SHOWED WHAT ROLE IRAN MIGHT BE ABLE TO PLAY OVER OTHER HOSTAGES. KEENAN SHOULD HAVE BEEN RELEASED A MONTH AGO, BUT IRRESPONSIBLE ACTIONS BY THIRD PARTIES HAD PREVENTED THIS.
4. WE HAVE NOT (NOT) TOLD THE IRISH MISSION ABOUT THIS. I AM REPORTING SEPARATELY MY CONVERSATION WITH KHARRAZI ABOUT ANGLO-IRANIAN RELATIONS.

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LEBANON KIDNAPPINGS

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