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S E C R E T

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INVOLVED - NOT RELEASABLE TO FOREIGN NATIONALS - NOT RELEASABLE TO

CONTRACTORS OR CONTRACTOR/CONSULTANTS - DISSEMINATION AND EXTRACTION

OF INFORMATION CONTROLLED BY ORIGINATOR. (S)(U)

SUBJECT: (S) BELIEF BY IRAN OFFICIALS THAT ACCUSED PRESIDENTIAL

ATTACKER HINCKLEY HAS ISRAELI CONTACTS (S)(U)

BY TELETYPE DATED APRIL 1, 1981, CIA, FURNISHED FOLLOWING

INFORMATION: (S)(U)

1. THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION WAS RECEIVED ON 31 MARCH 1981 FROM

A GENERALLY RELIABLE [redacted] SOURCE. BASED ON SOURCE'S PREVIOUS (S) (S)

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REPORTING, MUCH OF WHICH HAS BEEN CONFIRMED. WE BELIEVE THAT HE RELIABLY REPORTS WHAT HE HEARS. REGARDING THE INFORMATION REPORTED BELOW, WE BELIEVE THAT THE SOURCE IS ACCURATELY REPORTING THE REMARKS OF THE CITED FATAH OFFICIALS. SOURCE'S PRO-FATAH, AND THEREFORE ANTI-ISRAELI, BIAS SHOULD ALSO BE TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT WHEN EVALUATING THE MATERIAL BELOW. THE SAME SOURCE HAS ALSO PREVIOUSLY REPORTED ON CONTACTS PLO OFFICIALS HAVE HAD WITH PERSONS THEY WERE LED TO BELIEVE REPRESENTED THE NEW U.S. ADMINISTRATION. THE ONLY INFORMATION THE SOURCE HAS PROVIDED AS TO THE IDENTITIES OF THESE PERSONS IS THE NAME [redacted] OR [redacted]

OUR FIELD REPRESENTATIVE HAS COMMENTED THAT THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION MOST LIKELY REPRESENTS THE SUCCESSIVE EMBELLISHMENT OF HEARSAY BY AVID CONSPIRACY THEORISTS, INCLUDING THE SOURCE HIMSELF. BECAUSE OF [redacted] REPORTED CLAIM TO HAVE HAD "INFORMATION" LINKING HINCKLEY TO A FOREIGN POWER PRIOR TO THE ATTEMPT, HOWEVER, WE REALIZE THE NEED TO TREAT IT SERIOUSLY DESPITE ITS INHERENT IMPLAUSIBILITY. FURTHER INFORMATION FROM THE SOURCE WILL NOT BE AVAILABLE PRIOR TO [redacted] APRIL 1981.

2. SENIOR FATAH INTELLIGENCE OFFICIALS BELIEVE THE 30 MARCH 1981 ASSASSINATION ATTEMPT AGAINST PRESIDENT REAGAN HAS A DIRECT

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LINK TO A PURPORTED ISRAELI OUTRAGE OVER ALLEGED SECRET SUPPORT PLEDGED BY THE REAGAN ADMINISTRATION TO THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AN INDEPENDENT PALESTINIAN STATE UNDER PALESTINE LIBERATION ORGANIZATION (PLO) AUSPICES. [redacted] (S) TOLD SENIOR FATAH OFFICIALS IN MID-MARCH THAT ISRAELI INTELLIGENCE WAS LIKELY TO MOUNT AN ASSASSINATION ATTEMPT AGAINST PRESIDENT REAGAN OR VICE PRESIDENT BUSH AFTER PRESIDENT REAGAN ALLEGEDLY ASSIGNED VICE PRESIDENT BUSH THE TASK OF DIRECTING CONFIDENTIAL POLICY-LEVEL CONTACTS BETWEEN THE REAGAN ADMINISTRATION AND PLO OFFICIALS. THERE WERE ALSO CLAIMS BY UNNAMED SECURITY OFFICIALS [redacted] (S) THAT UNITED SECURITY ELEMENTS IN WEST GERMANY AND OTHER WESTERN EUROPEAN COUNTRIES HAVE RECEIVED SEPARATE INFORMATION OVER THE PAST FEW WEEKS INDICATING POSSIBLE ISRAELI GOVERNMENT EFFORTS TO FOIL THE ALLEGED REAGAN ADMINISTRATION INITIATION
TO SUPPORT PALESTINIAN STATEHOOD. THESE UNITED SECURITY OFFICIALS HAVE, THEY SAY, BEEN IN INTERMITTENT CONTACT WITH MODERATE ISRAELI OFFICIALS, INCLUDING FORMER MINISTER MOSHE DAYAN, TO DISCUSS POSSIBLE POINTS OF A FUTURE ARAB-ISRAELI SETTLEMENT. (HEADQUARTERS

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COMMENT: THE SOURCE DID NOT HAVE ANY ADDITIONAL DETAILS ABOUT THE INFORMATION WHICH THESE OFFICIALS CLAIMED TO HAVE RECEIVED IN WESTERN EUROPE.) (S)(4)

3. X FOLLOWING THE ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE ASSASSINATION ATTEMPT IN THE LOCAL MEDIA, [redacted] TOLD FAIAH OFFICIALS THAT HE HAD [S] INFORMATION LINKING SUSPECT JOHN WARNOCK HINCKLEY WITH ISRAELI INTELLIGENCE AS EARLY AS MID-1980. [redacted] ADDED THAT HE [S] EXPECTED A MURDER ATTEMPT TO BE MADE SHORTLY AGAINST HINCKLEY SIMILAR TO THE MURDER OF LEE HARVEY OSWALD BY JACK RUBY. (FIELD COMMENT: AS OF THE EVENING OF [redacted] MARCH THE SOURCE HAD NO [X] FURTHER DETAILS TO OFFER IN RESPONSE TO QUESTIONING.) (S)

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~~CL BY [redacted] DRV FM [redacted] BY RECORDS REPORTING OFFICER. ALL PORTIONS CARRY CLASSIFICATION AND CONTROLS OF OVERALL DOCUMENT.~~

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