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JFK ASSASSINATION SYSTEM

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DE GAULLE AND ERHARD THE TWO MOST PROMINENT MOURNERS

27 Nov. 63
Priority

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After 23 hours of flying, I arrived in Washington Saturday at about 0200 hours in the night. The welcoming formalities were carried out by RUSK and the top officials of the State Department.

Mr. RUSK was assigned to meet all foreign representatives, even the heads of state.

Two kings and the Queen of Greece, eight presidents, three crown princes, and four members of royal families, thirty prime ministers and foreign ministers attended these ceremonies; but without any doubt at all the outstanding personality at this gathering was General DE GAULLE, and the next most outstanding was ERHARD, despite the fact that the German President was present too.

The funeral ceremonies were splendid and magnificent, and it is said that Washington has seen nothing like them since the burial of the Unknown Soldier.

After the interment ceremonies, all the representatives went to the White House so that Mrs. KENNEDY might thank them. While talking with H.I.H., Mrs. KENNEDY said, "I thank the great King of Kings of Iran very much for sending Your Highness to Washington on his behalf to attend my husband's funeral." Moreover she mentioned her pleasant memories of the days when their two majesties were here.

Then the new president received all the representatives in the White House and thanked them. In this reception Mr. JOHNSON

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THIS DOCUMENT CONTAINS 2 PAGE(S)

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[] spoke privately with His Highness and me and the Imperial Ambassador; and he described his good memories of the time of his visit to Iran; and most of his talk was about H.I.M.'s revolutionary reforms, which he lauded and praised; and he expressed pleasure at the progress and development of these reforms.

In the conversation with the Presidents of France and Germany and the Crown Princess of the Netherlands all spoke of the pleasant memories they had of their visits to Teheran. In general the conversations gave each one a chance to praise the revolutionary reforms of the king of kings.

His Highness left today for Florida. After staying a couple of days there he will go to New York, and on Saturday he will leave from New York. All the representatives left in the course of last night and today.

Naturally the Secretary of State these past few days has been busy with work for the new government, and probably it will not be possible to arrange a meeting with him. However, Mr. TALBOT is coming to the embassy tomorrow for some discussions. For luncheon also a few top State Department officials have been invited to the embassy.

I am leaving for New York tomorrow afternoon and on Saturday am going to Europe with His Highness, and Monday I shall be in Belgrade. Details by post.

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44 USC 2107(5)(g)(2)(D)(i)

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