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DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
US ARMY INTELLIGENCE AND SECURITY COMMAND
FORT GEORGE G. MEADE, MARYLAND 20755

IAFM-OPS-HU-SA

3 Dec 1979

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: INSCOM GRILL FLAME Involvement in Iran (S)

1. (U) PURPOSE: To outline the involvement of INSCOM GRILL FLAME Project personnel in the current crisis in Iran, including how we came to be tasked in the first place.

2. (S) BACKGROUND:

a. On 21 Nov 79, Jackie Keith, GS-14, Chief, ICC, HQ INSCOM, contacted this office concerning the current hostage situation in Teheran, Iran. He informed me that he had been assigned to represent INSCOM on a JCS task force which had been established to handle the Iran crisis. Mr. Keith, who is knowledgeable about the GRILL FLAME Program, felt that perhaps we could use our assets in obtaining information concerning the crisis. I explained that we did not want to get involved unless we were specifically directed to by proper INSCOM authorities. Mr. Keith understood my position and informed me that he would contact COL Carr, C/S, INSCOM, and get his approval and get back to me.

b. Late in the evening of 21 Nov 79, Mr. Keith called me at home and informed me that he had briefed COL Carr and the Chief of Staff had given his approval for me to support Mr. Keith's requirement. I made arrangements for Mr. Keith to provide me some necessary data concerning the situation and we scheduled a meeting for first thing Friday morning, 23 Nov 79, in my office. I then informed COL White, ADCSOPS-HUMINT, of the tasking we had just received.

NOTE: Mr. Keith had gone directly to the C/S because the DCSOPS, COL(P) Wilmot, was out of town.

c. On 23 Nov 79, Mr. Keith and I met at 0715 hrs to discuss how we would support his requirement. He provided me with a set of coordinates and a copy of TIME magazine (dated 19 Nov 79). This issue contained a picture of two of the hostages.

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d. We then proceeded to conduct two sessions based on the data provided by Mr. Keith. We were not able to provide Mr. Keith with finished transcripts on the 23rd, but we did give him copies of the drawings done during the two sessions.

e. On Monday (approx 0800 hrs), 26 Nov 79, Mr. Keith called and stated that "it was essential that I brief MG Vaught and a LTC Lenahan on the project and that he was going to MG Rolya for approval." I informed him that I could not brief any "outsiders" without prior approval of the CG. Later that day, Mr. Keith called and informed me that MG Rolya had given his approval for me to brief MG Vaught and LTC Lenahan concerning our program and to provide them any assistance possible. MG Rolya stated that he personally would inform the ACSI, MG Thompson, of his decision. Mr. Keith agreed to arrange a meeting between MG Vaught, LTC Lenahan and myself for 1400 hrs, 27 Nov 79. I then informed COL White of the additional instructions I had just received.

f. MG Vaught and LTC Lenahan did not show up for the 1400 hr, 27 Nov 79; therefore, Mr. Keith arranged for another meeting at 1200 hrs, 28 Nov 79. *meet-g man*

g. At the 1200 hr, 28 Nov 79, meeting I briefed MG J. B. Vaught (DA Staff) and LTC Roderick Lenahan (OJCS/J3/SOD) on INSCOM's GRILL FLAME Project. I stressed that the program was new and that there were numerous unanswered questions, including the reliability of the data obtained. I cautioned them very strongly against using the output "as sole source" when there was no other data available to confirm or deny our input. They acknowledged that they understood the pitfalls of using our data but requested that we continue to provide them with session reports. LTC Lenahan and I then worked out the parameters of the support we would try to provide them.

h. Since our initial meeting, LTC Lenahan has provided me with photos of the target area and pictures of some of the hostages (we also obtained some pictures via the ACSI Staff). Other than collection requirements levied by LTC Lenahan, this office has not received any other data not previously mentioned, about the target area.

i. As of this date we have conducted 14 sessions and have provided LTC Lenahan with copies of the first eight sessions. I will be providing him some additional reports sometime today.

Murray B. Watt
MURRAY B. WATT
LTC, MI
INSCOM GRILL FLAME
Project Manager

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