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TO TEHRAN

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JULY 2, 1973

TO: AMBASSADOR HELMS, TEHRAN - EYES ONLY

FROM: HENRY A. KISSINGER

REFS: TEHRAN

1. THE PRESIDENT, AS A MATTER OF POLICY, DOES NOT ACCEPT INVITATIONS TO RECIPROCAL EVENTS. THE ONLY EXCEPTIONS THUS FAR HAVE BEEN FOR HEATH AND BREZHNEV. AS FAR AS U.S. PROTOCOL IS CONCERNED, THERE IS NO DISTINCTION BETWEEN A "STATE" VISIT AND AN "OFFICIAL" VISIT AS IT RELATES TO THE ATTENDANCE OF THE PRESIDENT AT A RECIPROCAL BANQUET. THE PRIMARY DISTINCTION IS WHETHER VISITOR IS HEAD OF STATE (STATE VISIT) OR HEAD OF GOVERNMENT (OFFICIAL VISIT). IT IS NOT DETERMINED BY SCHEDULING PATTERN WHICH IS THE SAME IN EITHER CASE. THUS, VISIT OF SHAH WOULD APPROPRIATELY BE TERMED A STATE VISIT.

2. THE PRESIDENT IS WILLING TO MAKE AN EXCEPTION BECAUSE OF HIS SPECIAL RELATIONSHIP WITH THE SHAH AND ATTEND A

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RECIPROCAL DINNER. YOU SHOULD KNOW, HOWEVER, THAT THE PRESIDENT'S ATTENDANCE AT SUCH AN EVENT WOULD CAUSE SOME PROBLEMS.

PRESIDENT BHUTTO OF PAKISTAN WILL BE HERE FOR A STATE VISIT ON JULY 17, AND PRIME MINISTER TANAKA ON JULY 31. WITH THESE THREE VISITS BEING SO CLOSE TOGETHER, THE DIFFERENT TREATMENT ACCORDED THE SHAH WILL BE ESPECIALLY NOTICEABLE TO THE OTHER TWO GUESTS. IN ADDITION, THE PAKISTANIS HAVE TWICE ASKED IF IT WOULD NOT BE POSSIBLE FOR THE PRESIDENT TO MAKE AN EXCEPTION TO HIS POLICY IN ORDER TO ATTEND THE RECIPROCAL DINNER GIVEN BY PRESIDENT BHUTTO.

3. AS I HAVE SAID, THE PRESIDENT HAS AGREED TO ATTEND THE DINNER GIVEN BY THE SHAH. WE ARE ALSO PLANNING TO EXTEND THE FOLLOWING SPECIAL COURTESIES:

—AN ARRIVAL CEREMONY, EVEN THOUGH THE SHAH HAS ALREADY BEEN RECEIVED IN THAT MANNER.

—A MEETING ON THE SECOND DAY, EVEN THOUGH THIS IS USUALLY DONE FOR THE LIKES OF BREZHNEV, HEATH, ETC.

IN VIEW OF THE DIFFICULTIES WHICH ATTENDANCE AT A RECIPROCAL DINNER WOULD CREATE, REQUEST YOUR RECOMMENDATIONS ON THE BEST COURSE OF ACTION.

4. CABLE ON RESULTS ON BREZHNEV VISIT WILL BE PROVIDED SHORTLY.

5. WARM REGARDS.

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