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Ambassador*

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CITE KUWAIT [Redacted]

TO: TEHRAN.

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1. RE-READING REF AND REVIEWING SUBSEQUENT DEVELOPMENTS AND REPORTING, WE FEEL THAT OUR COMMENTS ON THE POSSIBLE DEMISE OF CONSERVATISM IN THE AREA WERE THEMSELVES CONSERVATIVE. WE POINTED OUT THAT THE OCTOBER WAR HAD UNLEASHED RADICAL FORCES, WHICH THE CONSERVATIVE STATES PROBABLY WOULD BE UNABLE TO COUNTER IN THE LONG RUN. WE BELIEVE THE FOLLOWING EXAMPLES BEAR OUT OUR VIEWS AND THAT PERHAPS THINGS ARE MOVING MORE RAPIDLY THAN WE HAD ANTICIPATED.

2. THE RULING FAMILY OF KUWAIT, WHICH HS BEEN ABLE TO MAINTAIN ITSELF IN POWER BY THE TIME HONORED MEANS OF THE RICH, BUT WEAK - BUYING OFF THE OPPOSITION - FELT IT WAS NOT IN A POSITION TO COUNTER THE EXPECTED CLAMOR OF THE RADICALS TO THE SISCO VISIT AND ASKED THE AMBASSADOR TO HAVE THE VISIT CANCELLED. IT IS WORTH RECALLING THAT THE AGNEW AND ROGERS

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VISITS TO KUWAIT, WHICH CAME AFTER THE CRUSHING OF THE PALESTINIANS IN JORDAN AND WHICH WERE OPPOSED BY THE LARGE PALESTINIAN COMMUNITY IN KUWAIT, WENT OFF WITHOUT A HITCH. TIMES HAVE CHANGED. WHAT THE KUWAITIS DO NOT SEEM TO REALIZE, HOWEVER, IS THAT BY GIVING INTO SUCH PRESSURE, THEY ARE ONLY PERPETUATING IT. IN THE NEWLY OPENED SESSION OF THE KUWAIT NATIONAL ASSEMBLY, THE DEPUTIES APPEAR TO BE TRYING TO OUTDO EACH OTHER IN THEIR SUGGESTIONS FOR SANCTIONS AGAINST THE USG. THESE RANGE FROM SELLING ALL DOLLARS TO DIPLOMATIC BREAK WITH COMPLETE ECONOMIC BOYCOTT. EVEN THE CONSERVATIVE DEPUTIES FEEL OBLIGED TO JOIN IN - AGAIN WE GET THE FEELING THAT THE MAJORITY OF BASICALLY CONSERVATIVE KUWAITIS DO NOT RECOGNIZE THE SNOWBALL EFFECT OF THIS RHETORIC.

3. IN <sup>Bahain</sup>YHRAIN, YOUNG CROWN PRINCE HAMAD BIN ISA FOUND HIMSELF OBLIGED TO GO AROUND SOLICITING FUNDS FROM CONSERVATIVE MERCHANTS FOR THW WAR EFFORT, WITH THE ISLAND'S LEADING RADICAL, ABD-AL-AZIZ SHAMLAN, WHO WAS ONLY PERMITTED TO RETURN

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TO BAHRAIN FROM EXILE LAST YEAR. IN NORMAL TIMES, THE TWO WOULD NOT EVEN BE IN THE SAME PART OF TOWN TOGETHER. BUT WHO BENEFITS FROM THIS APPARENT PUTTING ASIDE OF DIFFERENCES FOR THE GREATER CAUSE? THE ELECTION OF BAHRAIN'S FIRST NATIONAL ASSEMBLY TAKES PLACE IN EARLY DECEMBER AND IT APPEARS THAT THE LEFTIST PEOPLES' BLOCK WILL WIN THE MAJORITY. ALTHOUGH THE ASSEMBLY, <sup>By</sup>~~SO~~Y LAW, IS BASICALLY A RUBBER STAMP, SHOULD THE LEFTISTS WIN THEY WILL USE THEIR MANDATE TO EXPAND POLITICAL ACTIVITY. THEY HAVE SAID THIS IN THEIR MANIFESTO. ANOTHER FACTOR, SHOULD THEY WIN, IS THE IMPETUS THIS VICTORY WILL GIVE TO NASCENT LEFTIST MOVEMENTS THROUGHOUT THE GULF BY PROVIDING THEM WITH A LEGITIMACY AND ACCEPTABILITY THEY HERETOFORE LACKED.

4. IN THE UAE, THE CLIQUE LED BY FOREIGN MINISTER AHMAD SUWAYDI (WE WOULD MUCH APPRECIATE IRAN'S VIEW OF THIS FELLOW) IS PUSHING FOR THE IMMEDIATE OPENING OF A SOVIET EMBASSY IN ABU DHABI. SUWAYDI STATES THE TIME IS RIPE AND THAT THE SAUDIS WOULD NOT NOW OPPOSE SUCH A MOVE AND MIGHT

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EVEN FOLLOW THE UAE'S LEAD. SINCE THE UAE IS IN THE PROCESS OF PHASING OUT FOREIGNERS IN ITS INTEL SERVICE, IMMEDIATE SOVIET PRESENCE WOULD BE A DISASTER.

5. IF WE SELD A BIT ALARMIST OR PESSIMISTIC, WE MEAN TO BE. THERE IS A LOCAL POLITICAL, AND OFFICIAL AMERICAN POLITICAL MALAISE WHOSE PROGNO  
● LENDS ITSELF TO JUST SUCH

A FEELING. WE WOULD LIKE TO DISCUSS THIS IN DETAIL AT YOUR EARLIEST CONVENIENCE AFTER 15 NOVEMBER. PLEASE ADVISE DATES SUITABLE FOR A SHORT VISIT. E2 IMPDET

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