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TO: AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD PRIORITY []

FROM: AMEMBASSY TEHRAN []

FOR AMBASSADOR BYROADE FROM ~~AMBASSADOR~~ HELMS

REF: ISLAMABAD []

1. ROBERT MANTEL OF OMB IS WORKING LEVEL TYPE WHO SEEMS BRIGHT ENOUGH AND WHO IS PROBABLY RESPONSIBLE FOR MUCH OF THE DONKEY WORK THAT GOES INTO DRAFTING REPORTS ON QUESTIONS HE AND HIS SUPERIORS ARE ASKED TO LOOK INTO. SINCE HE IS CONCERNED PRIMARILY WITH FOREIGN MILITARY SALES FUNDED BY APPROPRIATIONS, HIS VISIT WITH US HERE WAS ESSENTIALLY INFORMATIONAL RATHER THAN INVESTIGATIVE. ACCORDINGLY HE WAS VERY RELAXED.

2. AS WE UNDERSTAND IT, HIS MAIN PURPOSE IN BEING OUT ~~IN THIS AREA~~ **HERE** IS TO FOCUS ON ARMS POLICY QUESTIONS AS THEY MAY AFFECT FMS LEGISLATION IN THE PERSIAN GULF AREA. I UNDERSTAND HE IS PRESENTLY IN KUWAIT AND THAT HE WILL BE COMING YOUR WAY SHORTLY. WARMEST REGARDS.

APPROVED FOR RELEASE
DATE: MAR 2008

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