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CITE DIRECTOR

TO: IMMEDIATE NAIROBI INFO TEHRAN.

RYBAT

REF: DIRECTOR

BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED

PLS PASS FOLLOWING MSG TO AMBASSADOR HELMS FROM JOHN WARNER

1. RECORD OF SUBCOMMITTEE HEARINGS APPARENTLY EXAMINED BY HER SH DOES NOT SUPPORT HIS CLAIM THAT IN NEW YORK TIMES QUOTE HE WAS GOING TO DROP AMBASSADOR HELMS ON HIS HEAD END QUOTE.
2. IN HEARINGS OSBORN TESTIFIED RE FIRST MCCORD LETTER IN AUGUST 1972 THAT HE TOLD YOU HE FELT VERY STRONGLY IT SHOULD BE TURNED OVER TO FBI. BUT ON ADVICE OF HOUSTON THAT THERE NO LEGAL OBLIGATION TO DO SO YOU TOLD OSBORN TO HOLD LETTER IN SECURE FILE AND TAKE NO FURTHER ACTION ON IT.
3. OSBORN TESTIFIED THAT IN JANUARY 1973 HE SOUGHT YOUR GUIDANCE ON ACTION TO BE TAKEN ON FIVE UNSIGNED MCCORD LETTERS RECEIVED DECEMBER 1972 AND JANUARY 1973. YOU ASKED HIM TO SHOW THEM TO HOUSTON AND IF HOUSTON HAD NO OBJECTION RETAIN IN SECURE FILE AND TAKE NO ACTION. HOUSTON HAD NO OBJECTION AND OSBORN SO INFORMED ELIZABETH DUNLEVY.
4. OSBORN TESTIMONY DOES NOT STATE OR SUGGEST THAT YOUR DECISION WAS IMPROPER SUPPRESSION OR WITHHOLDING ALTHOUGH HE STATED HE WAS PRESENT DURING YOUR AUGUST 1972 DISCUSSION WITH HOUSTON AND WHILE HE DID NOT AGREE WITH DECISION TO TAKE NO ACTION, YOU WERE HIS BOSS.
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5. ONLY SUGGESTION IN HEARINGS THAT YOUR DECISION AMOUNTED TO SUPPRESSING EVIDENCE WAS IN INTENSIVE QUESTIONING OF HOUSTON ON REASONS FOR HIS ADVICE TO YOU THAT THERE WAS NO OBLIGATION TO

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TURN LETTERS OVER TO FBI. NEDZI ASKED HOUSTON QUOTE ISN'T THIS  
SUPPRESSING EVIDENCE? END QUOTE. LATER NEDZI SAID TO HOUSTON  
QUOTE BUT UNDER THESE CIRCUMSTANCES, THE DESIRE (TO KEEP THE  
AGENCY'S SKIRTS CLEAN) SEEMS TO BE SOMEWHAT EXCESSIVE, BECAUSE  
I DO THINK THAT IN EFFECT THERE HAS BEEN A SUPPRESSING OF EVIDENCE.,  
END QUOTE. NEDZI THEN ACKNOWLEDGED HOUSTON'S OBSERVATION THAT  
QUOTE THERE CAN BE VERY DIFFERENT VIEWS ON THAT. END QUOTE.,

6. IF HERSH INDICATION (PARA 1 REF) THAT HUNT MENTIONED IMPLIES  
HUNT INVOLVEMENT IN WITHHOLDING LETTERS, IT IS NOT SUPPORTED BY  
TESTIMONY. ONLY MENTION OF HUNT IS OSBORN TESTIMONY RE OFFICE OF  
SECURITY INVESTIGATION IMMEDIATELY AFTER BREAK-IN TO ASCERTAIN  
ANY AGENCY CONTACTS WITH MCCORD OR OTHER DEFENDANTS. OSBORN SAID  
QUOTE THIS INCLUDED HOWARD HUNT AND EVERYBODY ELSE. END QUOTE.

7. WOULD APPEAR HERSH ATTEMPTING CREATE EXPOSE BY ALLEGING  
CONCEALMENT OF IMPROPER OR ILLEGAL SUPPRESSION IN WHAT IN FACT  
WAS QUESTION OF JUDGMENT THOROUGHLY AIRED BY COMMITTEE.

BEST REGARDS. JOHN S. WARNER.  
END UNCLASSIFIED.

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