SECRET

DECLASSIFIED

131843Z Langley 790539
TO: PRIORITY CIA Office #9, CIA Office #7, CIA Office #8 CIA Office #2 INFO CIA Office #5

FROM:

SUBJECT: Merlin - MISSION ACCOMPLISHED; ENHANCED TEARLINE FOR local intelligence services at CIA Offices #7, 8, 9

REF: CIA Office #2 07725 | 00 9283755 |

TEXT:

1. ACTION REQUIRED: CIA Offices #9, #7 and #8 PLEASE PASS ENHANCED TEAR LINE BELOW TO local intell. svc at CIA offices 7,8,9 RESPECTIVELY; NEW YORK: PLEASE RELAY REF TO CIA office #9

2. S-B-E-B-E-T/REL (XXXXX)

1. WE WOULD LIKE TO TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO UPDATE YOU ON OUR FIRE SET DELIVERY OPERATION. ON 3 MARCH '00 OUR ASSET, A FORMER SENIOR ENGINEER AT THE FORMER SOVIET UNION'S ARZAMAS-16 FACILITY, DEPOSITED A PACKET CONTAINING THE PLANS FOR A NUCLEAR WEAPONS FIRING SET AT THE IRANIAN MISSION TO THE IAEA IN VIENNA. OUR ASSET VISITED THE IRANIAN MISSION FACILITY SEVERAL TIMES, BUT DID NOT FIND ANY ONE PRESENT IN THE OFFICE ON 2 OR 3 MARCH DURING HIS VISITS. HE ACCORDINGLY PLACED THE PACKET IN THE LOCKED MAIL BOX IMMEDIATELY ADJACENT TO THE DOOR OF THE MISSION INSIDE ITS HOST BUILDING AT 19 HEINESTRASSE IN VIENNA'S SECOND DISTRICT.

2. THE PACKET WAS ADDRESSED TO THE HEAD OF MISSION BY TITLE, BUT NOT BY NAME. IT INCLUDED A LETTER WHICH EXPLAINED SOMETHING ABOUT THE ASSET'S BACKGROUND AND AN EXPLANATION THAT HE HAD ACCESS TO VERY VALUABLE INFORMATION ABOUT THE DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS, OF WHICH THE FIRING SET PLANS WERE A SAMPLE. HE NOTED (TRUTHFULLY) THAT THE PLANS WERE NOT COMPLETE AND THAT THE
IRANIANS WOULD NEED TO RECONTACT HIM AT A POST OFFICE BOX IN THE NEW YORK AREA IF THEY WANT THE REST OF THE INFORMATION. HE MADE IT CLEAR THAT HE WOULD EXPECT PAYMENT IF THE IRANIANS WANT HIS HELP TO COMPLETE THE PLANS. THE ASSET ASKED THAT THE PACKET BE DELIVERED TO A PROFESSOR IN TEHRAN, WITH WHOM THE ASSET HAS BEEN CONDUCTING AN OCCASIONAL E-MAIL DIALOGUE, SAYING THAT HE DID NOT KNOW WHOM EXACTLY HE OUGHT TO CONTACT. THE ASSET E-MAILED THE PROFESSOR BEFORE AND AFTER THE VIENNA TRIP TO ALERT HIM TO EXPECT A PACKET OF VALUABLE INFORMATION.

3. WE WOULD APPRECIATE YOUR ADVISING US OF ANYTHING YOU MAY LEARN ABOUT THE IRANIAN REACTION TO THIS OFFER OF INFORMATION.

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Bill: In response to your invitation, I am one who cares about doing this right and I think that there is a lot that can be said, notwithstanding the lack of a Privacy Act waiver and notwithstanding the request from the Southern District that we not comment on the specifics of a pending case. We can describe the Agency's diversity efforts and Don C named an effective spokesman on this point. In my view what is important to get out is the fact that the Agency works very hard at diversity which I think is a more productive approach than trying to rebut allegations of one individual who has already failed to meet his burden of proof in either the EEO context or in the internal appeals process. DPH