SECRET

FROM: Secretary of State

TO: 

RE: 474, August 2, Noon

PRIORITY

SENT NIACT LONDON 103 (EYES ONLY GIFFORD), REPEATED PRIORITY DEPT 474.

EYES ONLY SECRETARY FROM HARRIMAN.

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I have discussed with Bushiri substance of telegram 42. He stated that Iranian Govt proposes fol procedure:

(1) British Govt authorize Charge to deliver to Iranian Govt msg according to text in my telegram August 1 and in separate communication give name of Minister and, if possible, what number of his party.

(2) Simultaneously Iranian Govt will hand Charge reply according to text my above telegram and separately give him as matter of record copy of two minutes of Iranian Cabinet. The first is three-point minutes quoted in my telegram July 24. The second minute approves my qualification that, in connection with third point of first minute, Iranian Govt must be prepared to negotiate the manner in which the law will be carried out insofar as it affects Brit interests. At same time, Iranian Govt will hand Charge invitation to Minister and his party to come to Iran as guest of Iranian Govt.

(3) Iranian Govt states it must inform Majlis of precise action taken by Cabinet, and therefore plans to release to public here exchange of msgs as above, the two minutes of Cabinet and invitation to Minister. If Brit wish, I am sure Iranian Govt will accept Brit suggestion of time for release.

The above covers points (a) and (b) your telegram 42 since Iranian Cabinet minutes refer only to law of March 20 and Iranian Govt also agrees it is prepared to negotiate the manner in which this law will be carried out insofar as it affects Brit interests.

I discussed
-2- #474, August 2, Noon, from Tehran.

I discussed [c] your telegram #2 with Bushari. He told me the Iranian Govt understands that Brit have particularly in mind situation in the south.

I hope that FONOFF will instruct Brit Charge urgently to deliver and receive communications referred to in (1) and (2) above. I am showing him this telegram.

Brit Minister said leave soonest after confirmation this exchange has taken place but not (rpt not) before as Iranian Govt places great stock on what they consider is friendly gesture on their part in invitation to Minister to be guest of Iranian Govt.