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WITHDRAWAL SHEET

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Collection Name CULVAHOUSE, ARTHUR B.:FILES

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File Folder IRAN/ARMS TRANSACTION: DECEMBER 7, 1985
MEETING (2 OF 3)

FOIA

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SYSTEMATIC

117

ID	Doc Type	Document Description	No of Pages	Doc Date	Restrictions
164656	PAPER	INTERVIEW OF JOHN MCMAHON, P. 11-13	4	1/6/1987	B1
164657	PAPER	TESTIMONY OF ROBERT G. MCFARLANE BEFORE THE TOWER BOARDP. 26	2	12/11/1986	B1
164658	PAPER	INTERVIEW OF ROBERT C. MCFARLANE, P. 46-48, 58-59	6	2/19/1987	
164659	PAPER	DEPOSITION OF JOHN POINDEXTER, US SENATE P. 121-127	8	5/2/1987	B1
164660	PAPER	DEPOSITION OF JOHN POINDEXTER, CONT. US SENATE, P.399-400	3	6/18/1987	B1

The above documents were not referred for declassification review at time of processing

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McFarlane
5/11/87 (A)- Testimony
PAGE 60

1286 the September, October, November experience of those three
1287 months, the Iranian initiative seemed to me to have not
1288 fulfilled our purpose of getting in touch with Iranians, and
1289 secondly, that their agenda of getting weapons was different
1290 from ours, and that we ought to try to get in touch with
1291 them directly without intermediaries to say that there would
1292 be no further arms sales.

1293 Mr. LIMAN. Were you told during this period of the first
1294 week or so of December that Richard Secord was meeting with
1295 the Iranians as an intermediary?

1296 Mr. MCFARLANE. I don't think I was, although I did
1297 encounter him, as you know, in London on December 8th.

1298 Mr. LIMAN. We will come to that in a moment. Did you
1299 know that he was meeting with the Israelis to discuss the
1300 venture?

1301 Mr. MCFARLANE. I don't believe so, no.

1302 Mr. LIMAN. Did you ask him to act as a representative of
1303 the United States in trying to put this together again?

1304 Mr. MCFARLANE. No.

1305 Mr. LIMAN. Now was the subject of arms sales to the
1306 Iranians discussed on December 7 at a meeting of the
1307 principals, some of the principals of the National Security
1308 Council?

1309 Mr. MCFARLANE. Yes. When the President and I discussed
1310 the situation, as I have just summarized it, he said,

1311 "Fine. When we get back to Washington, let's have a
1312 meeting of the guys," which was the Secretary of State,
1313 Defense, the DCI, myself and the Vice President, and Mr.
1314 Fedan, and one was set for December 7th, and it was held.

1315 Mr. LIMAN. And do you recall that Mr. McMahon came in lieu
1316 of Director Casey?

1317 Mr. MCFARLANE. Yes, that is correct.

1318 Mr. LIMAN. Now, do you recall what proposal was put on
1319 the table at that meeting?

1320 Mr. MCFARLANE. Well, it was a meeting to review what has
1321 taken place since the President's approval of August and the
1322 negative viewpoints of the Secretaries of State and Defense
1323 to the effect that we hadn't achieved our purpose, and it
1324 was going--degenerating into an arms-for-hostage arrangement
1325 were very emphatically made, and it was a matter of
1326 consensus--there was no disagreement really--that our attitude
1327 should be one of openness to purely political discourse, but
1328 that we should not agree to sell weapons or to encourage
1329 others, like Israel, to do so.

1330 Those were my instructions and I was directed to go to a
1331 meeting with Ghorbanifar in London the next day and make
1332 those points.

1333 BETS DOTSON

1334 DOMY QUINTERO

1335 Mr. LIMAN. Do you recall at that meeting any discussion
1336 by the Secretary of Defense that it was not legal for Israel
1337 to be selling these weapons subject to an agreement by the
1338 United States to replace them?

1339 Mr. MCFARLANE. It doesn't stand out. However, he had
1340 made the point in law back in August of that year, and so it
1341 is very likely that he would make it again.

1342 Mr. LIMAN. He expressed himself, in any event, very
1343 strongly on this subject, that we should not sell weapons;
1344 is that fair?

1345 Mr. MCFARLANE. That is correct, yes.

1346 Mr. LIMAN. And so did the Secretary of State?

1347 Mr. MCFARLANE. Yes.

1348 Mr. LIMAN. And is it true that Don Regan also expressed
1349 himself against the sale of weapons?

1350 Mr. MCFARLANE. I believe so.

1351 Mr. LIMAN. And at this point you were a person who had
1352 doubts?

1353 Mr. MCFARLANE. Yes.

1354 Mr. LIMAN. And did the President take a position on the
1355 sale of weapons at that meeting?

1356 Mr. MCFARLANE. Well, he approved the position of no sales
1357 being conveyed to the Iranians, yes.

1358 Mr. LIMAN. So that the President, as you recall it, the
1359 President's view was that there should not be sales?

1360 Mr. MCFARLANE. Yes, it was a position in which he was
1361 disappointed, frustrated that things had not gone better,
1362 but resigned to accepting that if that was the case, don't
1363 go ahead.

1364 Mr. LIMAN. Now, you then went over to London to meet with
1365 the Iranian representative?

1366 Mr. MCFARLANE. That is correct.

1367 Mr. LIMAN. And that was Mr. Ghorbanifar?

1368 Mr. MCFARLANE. Yes.

1369 Mr. LIMAN. Do you recall whether before you met him you
1370 were briefed by General Secord?

1371 Mr. MCFARLANE. When I arrived I believe I went to the
1372 Hilton Hotel and met Colonel North. Although, in passing
1373 was introduced to General Secord, Colonel North made clear
1374 that they did have General--General Secord had business
1375 interests in Europe.

1376 I would not have, don't recall today, there was a briefing
1377 by General Secord at the time. I did have a morning meeting
1378 with Mr. Kimche of Israel, where I summarized what my
1379 instructions were for the meeting with the Iranians.

1380 And he expressed his concern and stated that we needed to
1381 be patient, that these things weren't concluded. And in a
1382 short time I told him what my instructions were, and we

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