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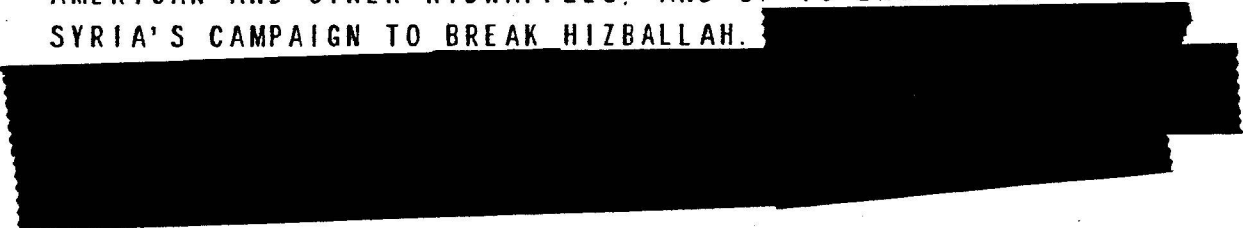
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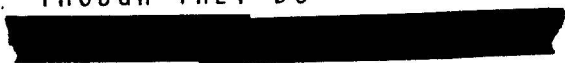
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SUBJECT: RECOMMENDATIONS FOR MOBILIZING ASAD ON BEHALF
-- OF OUR INTERESTS

1. ~~SECRET~~ - ENTIRE TEXT.

2. WE START FROM THE ASSUMPTION THAT OUR PRIORITY
GOALS ARE: A) TO OBTAIN THE SAFE RELEASE OF THE REMAINING
AMERICAN AND OTHER KIDNAPPEES, AND B) TO ENCOURAGE
SYRIA'S CAMPAIGN TO BREAK HIZBALLAH.



3. WE ARE LIMITED IN WHAT WE OURSELVES CAN DO 
 CANNOT
INFLUENCE THE IRANIAN GOVERNMENT TO HARNESS HIZBALLAH
EXCESSES. ONLY THE SYRIANS APPEAR TO BE ABLE TO DEAL
BOTH WITH HIZBALLAH AND THE IRANIANS. THOUGH THEY DO
NOT FIND THE TASK EASY OR PLEASANT. 

DECLASSIFIED IN PART

NLS 197-109/1 2132
By , NARA, Date 7/6/03



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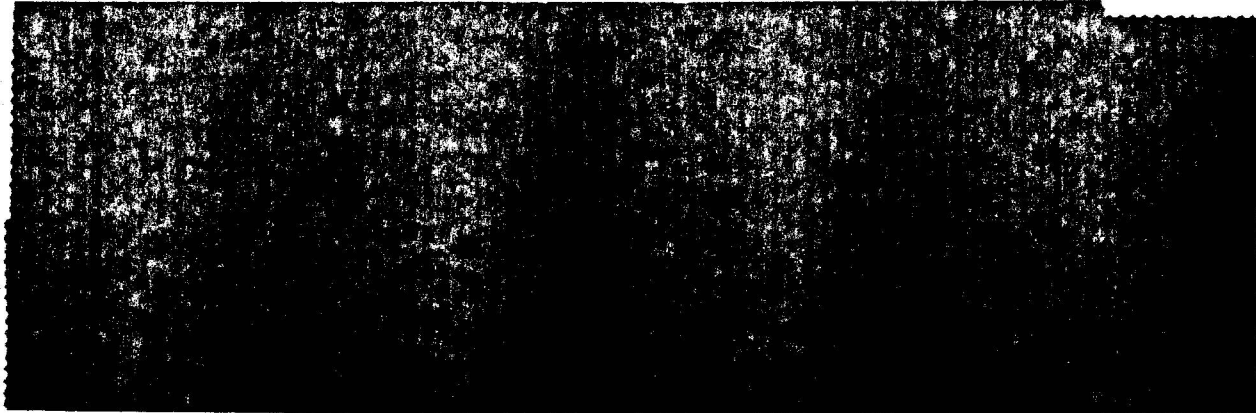
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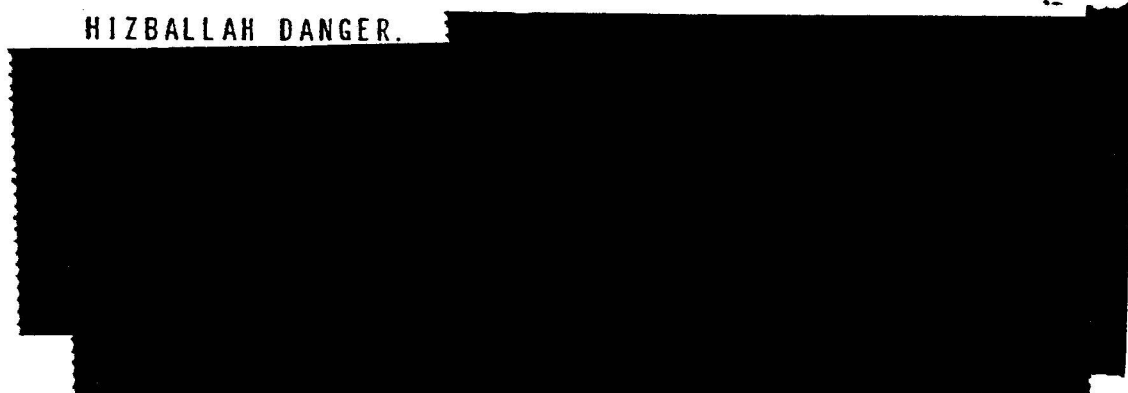
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4. WE KNOW [REDACTED] THAT THE TWA
HIJACKING HAS MADE THE SYRIANS EVEN MORE AWARE OF THE
HIZBALLAH DANGER. [REDACTED]



5. THE KEY TO SYRIA IS, OF COURSE, PRESIDENT ASAD AND
THE ONLY WAY WE CAN SEE OF APPROACHING ASAD IS THROUGH
A NEW LETTER FROM PRESIDENT REAGAN. IN THIS
LETTER THE PRESIDENT CAN MAKE A FRESH START WITH THE
OBSERVATION THAT HE HAS NOW HAD AN OPPORTUNITY TO
TALK PERSONALLY WITH THE VICTIMS OF THE TWA HIJACKING
AND THAT HE HAS BEEN SHOCKED BY THE STORIES HE HAS
HEARD FROM THEM OF THEIR BRUTAL TREATMENT BY THE HIZ-
BALLAH TERRORISTS WHO BEAT AND KILLED ONE OF THEIR
NUMBER. IN THIS CONTEXT HE COULD EXPRESS HIS GRATITUDE
TO PRESIDENT ASAD FOR HIS AND SYRIA'S EFFORTS WHICH HAVE

SHORTENED THE ORDEAL OF THE TWA HOSTAGES AND BROUGHT
ABOUT THEIR RELEASE. THIS EVIDENCE OF ILL TREATMENT
MAKES IT ALL THE MORE URGENT THAT ACTION BE TAKEN TO



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OBTAIN THE RELEASE OF THE OTHER HOSTAGES IN THE HANDS OF HIZBALLAH. WE ARE AWARE OF THE FOREIGN MINISTER'S STATEMENT THAT THE CAMPAIGN TO OBTAIN THEIR RELEASE IS CONTINUING AND WE HOPE PRESIDENT ASAD WILL DO EVERYTHING IN HIS POWER TO BRING AN END TO THEIR SUFFERING AND OBTAIN THEIR FREEDOM. THIS COULD BE FOLLOWED BY ANY GENERAL STATEMENT ON TERRORISM THAT IS DESIRED ALONG WITH SOMETHING ON THE NEED TO DENY BEIRUT AIRPORT TO TERRORISTS AND HIJACKERS. THE SYRIANS WOULD BE PLEASED TO KNOW THAT THERE MIGHT BE SOME OTHER WAY TO DEAL WITH THE BEIRUT AIRPORT PROBLEM, SUCH AS SYRIA AND THE U. S. APPROACHING THE LEBANESE AUTHORITIES ALONG PARALLEL LINES.

6. ADDENDUM:

(COMMENT: THIS REINFORCES OUR BELIEF THAT NOW IS THE TIME FOR PRESIDENT REAGAN TO URGE ASAD TO OBTAIN THE RELEASE OF THE SEVEN KIDNAPPEES. FOR THIS MESSAGE TO BE EFFECTIVE, IT MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY A WARM EXPRESSION OF GRATITUDE FOR HIS ROLE IN OBTAINING THE RELEASE OF THE TWA HOSTAGES.) EAGLETON