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INFORMATION

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CONFIDENTIAL  
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TO IMMEDIATE FCO  
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INFO ROUTINE MOSCOW, WASHINGTON, UKNIS NEW YORK, UKDEL-NATO,  
ANKARA, ISLAMABAD, BAGHDAD, GULF POSTS.

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M I P T : TUDEH PARTY.

1. AS THE IMPLICATIONS OF THESE DEVELOPMENTS SINK IN, LOCAL DIPLOMATIC COLLEAGUES, INCLUDING THOSE FROM EASTERN EUROPE, CONSIDER THAT A MAJOR LANDMARK HAS BEEN REACHED IN SOVIET/IRANIAN RELATIONS AND PERHAPS ALSO IN THE HISTORY OF COMMUNIST PARTIES OVERSEAS. IT IS HARD TO THINK OF ANY COMMUNIST LEADER OUTSIDE THE SOVIET UNION WHO HAS SO ABJECTLY REVEALED THE SCOPE OF COMMUNIST SUBVERSIVE ACTIVITY AND BETRAYED (AS WE ASSUME) THE NAMES OF ALL HIS COLLABORATORS. KIANOURI AND HIS COLLEAGUES MUST HAVE KNOWN THAT THERE WAS A STRONG CHANCE OF THEIR BEING EXECUTED WHATEVER THEY SAID. IT IS WIDELY BELIEVED THAT SOME HAVE ALREADY SUFFERED THE DEATH PENALTY AND THE REST WILL DO SO SOON. IF THEY HAD KEPT THEIR MOUTHS SHUT, MANY OPPONENTS OF THE REGIME MIGHT HAVE THOUGHT OF THEM AS HEROES. IT IS NOTE-WORTHY THAT THEY DID NOT GIVE (OR AT ANY RATE THIS WAS NOT SHOWN TO THE PUBLIC) ANY JUSTIFICATION FOR THEIR ACTION, EG IN TERMS OF A THREAT FROM THE UNITED STATES. BY ADMITTING BEFORE CAMERAS, AS THEY DID, THE SCOPE OF THEIR CLANDESTINE OPERATIONS AND LINKS WITH THE KGB THEY ARE LIKELY TO HAVE DESTROYED THE MORALE OF SURVIVING TUDEH CADRES AND SYMPATHISERS FOR MANY YEARS TO COME.

2. THE STATEMENT BY REZAI IN MIPT INDICATES THAT ALREADY THE PUBLIC HAVE BEEN TAKING THE LAW INTO THEIR OWN HANDS AND DENOUNCING THOSE WHO THEY BELIEVE TO BE TUDEH MEMBERS. NO DOUBT SCORES WILL BE SETTLED AND SOME COMPARATIVELY INNOCENT WILL SUFFER WITH THE GUILTY. IT IS DIFFICULT TO SEE HOW ANY EFFECTIVE UNDERGROUND ORGANISATION CAN SURVIVE.

3. EC HEADS OF MISSION DISCUSSED ON 4 MAY POSSIBLE REASONS WHY IRANIANS HAVE STRUCK AT THE TUDEH WITH FULL FORCE NOW. THERE WERE STORIES THAT THE TUDEH MAY HAVE BEEN HEDGING THEIR BETS THROUGH CERTAIN LINKS WITH MUJAHEDIN AND DISSIDENT KURDS. SOME THOUGHT THAT THE ARRESTS SHOWED THE CURRENT DOMINANCE OF THE RIGHT WING IN THE IRANIAN REGIME. BUT THE CONSENSUS VIEW, WHICH I SHARE, IS THAT THE IRANIANS HAVE BEEN TACKLING OPPOSITION ELEMENTS ONE BY ONE AND HAVE NOW GOT ROUND TO THE TUDEH, HELPED WITH EVIDENCE THAT HAS BEEN PROVIDED TO THEM. SOME

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