

MEMORANDUM

TO: Ross Perot *Paul!*
FROM: Paul Chiapparone
DATE: October 30, 1981
Reaction to Ross' visit at the prison.

During the time we were in Ghaser Prison, once a week we had visitors come in and bring us groceries. On one occasion we were told that we had visitors and assumed it would just be a couple of EDS employees bringing our weekly supplies. We were being marched through the court yard by the prison guards to a building that was commonly used to receive visitors. As we were approaching this building, I happened to look over and saw Ross, casually dressed, carrying a bag of groceries. My natural inclination was to run over towards him, but the prison guards would not let me do so and continued to march us toward the building.

I cannot describe the feeling I felt, seeing Ross in the middle of this fortress coming to visit the two of us. The fact that he cared enough to travel half way around the world to a country in the middle of a political revolution; to a prison containing 11,000 prisoners says an awful lot about Ross. We had a very emotional reunion and Ross talked about our families and all the things that were really important to us. In addition, Ross had brought notes from about 20 people very close to Bill and I. This was a very personal thing and it was very meaningful to us.

During his visit, Ross told me why Jay Coburn, Joe Poche, Keane Taylor and the others were in Tehran. He also told me that the rescue team was being led by an older man. He assured me that his man was very skilled at this sort of thing but did not give me his name, because he did not want me to be in the position to give his name, if I were placed under pressure. His purpose in telling me about this man, who later turned out to be Colonel Simons, was to alert me of the possibility that I might see an older man who was a stranger to me, and I should recognize that this man was the leader of the rescue team.

Ross explained to me that we might get out quickly, and yet we should condition ourselves mentally for a long stay. He felt that we would be better off if we could settle down and not expect each day to be the day of rescue.

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This entire conversation took place between Ross and me. Bill Gaylord was talking with Jay Coburn. Because of the arrangement of the room and the presence of guards, it was unrealistic for all of us to talk together. Ross did not tell me not to tell Bill Gaylord, but I decided that there would be no purpose in doubling the exposure to pressure that we might be placed under, so I did not tell Bill.

It is my feeling that this visit gave me the courage to endure the mental anguish that was present for the remaining time we spent in prison, because there was absolutely no doubt in my mind that everything humanly possible was being done for us and that "we would get out" because those were Ross' exact words! That visit was an experience that I will never forget.

PJC/bn