

M E M O R A N D U M

TO: Ken Follett
FROM: John Howell
DATE: August 17, 1982
RE: Embassy Assurances of Routine Questioning

My notes of events surrounding the detention of Paul Chiapparone and Bill Gaylord indicate that U.S. Embassy personnel indicated to EDS that Dadgar's questioning of Chiapparone and Gaylord would be routine and would not result in adverse consequences on at least the following occasions:

1. On December 6, 1978, the day after EDS first became aware of the problem, Rich Gallagher of EDS called the Embassy and was told that Embassy personnel had spoken to General Biglari of the Tehran Police Department and had been told, among other things, that Chiapparone and Gaylord were being detained as material witnesses in an investigation.
2. At approximately 8:15 a.m. on December 7, 1978, Rich Gallagher and George O'Keefe of EDS met with Lou Goelz, the U.S. Consul General, and Al Jordan, an Iranian member of the Consular staff, to pick up Chiapparone's and Gaylord's resident and work permits for delivery to General Biglari. During the conversation, in response to a question as to whether there was any possibility that EDS personnel might be accused of wrong doing, Jordan said, "I doubt that very much."
3. At approximately 11:50 a.m. on December 8, 1978, in a telephone conversation with Bill Gaylord, Lou Goelz stated that he had confirmed through Ministry of Justice sources that Chiapparone and Gaylord were being detained as material witnesses in connection with corruption charges against the former Minister of Health and Social Welfare.

4. On Wednesday, December 27, 1978, EDS was informed that the Embassy had succeeded in setting up a meeting with Dadgar for Chiapparone and Gaylord on the next day, December 28, 1978. Supposedly, the Embassy had been assured by "the number 2 man in Iran" (whom we suspected might have been Zahedi) that the questioning would be merely a routine procedure. Either Goelz or Jordan called Gaylord, told him that the meeting had been set for 8:30 a.m. on December 28th, and advised him that it would be merely informal questioning and that it would not be helpful or advisable to be accompanied by either legal counsel or an Embassy representative.