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THE SECRETARY OF STATE
WASHINGTON

December 6, 1979

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MEMORANDUM FOR: The President
FROM: Cyrus Vance^{CRV}

1. United Kingdom - British Ambassador Henderson called on me today to talk about measures we may plan to take concerning Iran. I told him that I look forward to discussing these issues and others with Peter Carrington in London. The British are particularly concerned about the possible use of Diego Garcia to support any possible military operations, and about press stories on this subject.

Henderson also asked about our position on arms sales to the Royal Ulster Constabulary, saying that the British would prefer no decision to a negative one before the Thatcher visit. I told Henderson that I would keep in touch with him on this issue.

2. Iranian Diplomatic and Consular Representation - According to our figures, the Embassy of Iran in Washington has fifty-seven employees, nine of whom are diplomatic officers, the remainder being staff. We believe the Embassy here could function with a total of fifteen. The current totals for Iran's four consulates are: Chicago 27; Houston 21; New York 40; and San Francisco 43. Each of these establishments could be operated with a staff of five. This would be a total reduction from 188 to 35. The main task of the Embassy and of the consulates in the next few months will be to service the needs of the Iranians in the country for documentation and, in the case of students, for financing.

his is excessively generous, but etc. Have them cut to these numbers. You didn't say what they can do re student funds without the the consulates. How do the care of students in Miami?

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3. Rhodesia - The Senate today passed the Church-Javits compromise bill on Rhodesia sanctions 90-0. The legislation requires sanctions to be lifted following the arrival of the British Governor in Salisbury or no later than January 31, 1980. The overwhelming Senate vote was made possible when Senator Helms indicated on the floor his support for the bill in view of our December 3 letter saying sanctions would be lifted not later than one month after the assumption of British authority in Rhodesia. It is still uncertain whether the House Foreign Affairs Committee will act on similar legislation.

4. Lancaster House - Following the agreement in principle, the British will press hard for a speedy agreement on the details of the cease-fire. They have explained to us that they have had to retain a degree of ambiguity on the cease-fire proposal with respect to the role of the Rhodesian security forces. Salisbury fears that the Patriotic Front will not fully assemble its forces at designated locations, a fear which is heightened by recent infiltration into Rhodesia. If the Patriotic Front lives up to the agreement and assembles, the British intend to have the Rhodesian security forces progressively disengage.

5. House Briefing on Iran - Warren briefed about 200 House Members today on the Iran situation. Many of the questions revolved around news reports today that we will apply further pressure to Iran. Several Members expressed concern that other nations were not doing enough to help the United States. Warren explained that we have not yet asked our friends to take economic steps against Iran, but that we may be reaching a new phase where collective action will be important. Several Members took the opportunity to vent their frustrations over the crisis, but support for our approach remains very strong.

6. Namibia - South Africa replied positively to Waldheim yesterday on the proposed DMZ to facilitate a Namibia settlement. The South Africans accepted the

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concept of the DMZ, provided agreement is reached in further discussions on specifics. The South African response at least keeps negotiations going, although much tough bargaining lies ahead.

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