CITATION

TO: IMMEDIATE ISLAMABAD.

RYBAT

FOR AMBASSADOR H E L M S KNOWS NOTHING ABOUT GOING TO PAKISTAN IN SEPTEMBER. HE STILL PLANS TO GO IN OCTOBER.

2. HE ASKS THAT YOU GET WORD URGENTLY TO MR. S O B E R AND THROUGH HIM TO B H U T T O THAT HE IS STILL PLANNING ON MID-OCTOBER. AMBASSADOR IS SOMEWHAT BAFFLED AT HOW PRIME MINISTER BHUTTO WAS GIVEN IMPRESSION HE GOING ISLAMABAD IN SEPTEMBER. THE TEHRAN INTERNATIONAL TRADE FAIR, IN WHICH WE HAVE MAJOR EXHIBIT, HAS LONG BEEN SCHEDULED TO OPEN ON 11 SEPTEMBER AND AMBASSADOR HAS KNOWN FOR LONG TIME HE MUST BE FOR THE OPENING.

SECRET

HR70-14

APPROVED FOR RELEASE
DATE: MAR 2008

Releasing Officer
1. SID SOBER HAS BEEN EXPECTING DICK HELMS TO VISIT HERE DURING MID OCTOBER, AS RESULT INVITATION EXTENDED TO HIM BY BHUTTO EARLIER THIS YEAR IN TEHRAN. HE HAS JUST LEARNED FROM BHUTTO THAT HELMS DUE HERE 11 SEPTEMBER AND BHUTTO WANTS SOBER TO HAVE DINNER WITH THEM AND AZIZ AHMAD THAT NIGHT. SOBER HAS ASKED ME SHED WHATEVER LIGHT I CAN ASAP ON HELMS' TRAVEL PLANS, WHETHER MRS. HELMS ACCOMPANYING AND WHETHER THEY WILL STAY RESIDENCE AS HIS GUESTS, AS HE ORIGINALLY INVITED THEM TO DO.

2. NEEDLESS TO SAY I AM ALSO MOST CURIOUS AND WILL WISH AVAIL MYSELF OF WHATEVER TIME DICK HAS HERE TO TALK AREA ISSUES, ESPECIALLY BALUCHISTAN, WITH HIM.

3. APPRECIATE IMMEDIATE REPLY. E2 INDET.