FROM: USS WILLIAMSBURG

TO: SIGNAL CENTER
The White House

Please advise Secretary of State that President approves sending following message to Mr. Attlee.

"PERSONAL MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT TO PRIME MINISTER.

I express to you the serious concern of the Government of the United States which I am sure you share, at the present situation in Iran. I realize the great importance to Great Britain of a satisfactory solution of the controversy with the Iranian government concerning operations of the Anglo Iranian Oil Company.

I am also acutely aware that it is essential to maintain the independence of Iran and the flow of Iranian oil into the economy of the free world.

Recent information which has reached me has led me to believe that the Iranian government is willing and even anxious to work out an arrangement with His Majesty's government which would safeguard basic British interests and which could satisfy the desires of the Iranian people for nationalization of their petroleum resources.

The United States government has expressed to His Majesty's government in recent days its firm conviction that an opportunity is now presented by the Iranian government for negotiations which should be entered into at once. We earnestly hope that His Majesty's government can despatch to Teheran without delay qualified negotiators possessed of full powers to reach a settlement with the government of Iran, and who are prepared to put forward in an appropriate way a specific proposal consistent with the principle of nationalization acceptance of which was indicated by Mr. Morrison in his remarks on May
two nine before the House of Commons. I understand that, while the Iranian government’s invitation for representatives to negotiate was addressed to the Anglo-Iranian Oil Company, the Iranian government has indicated that it would have no objections if such company negotiators were also officials of His Majesty’s government.

I know that you are fully aware of the serious implications of this explosive situation. I am sure you can understand my deep concern that no action should be taken in connection with this dispute which would result in disagreement between Iran and the free world. I am confident that a solution acceptable both to Britain and Iran can be found. I sincerely hope that every effort will be made to accomplish this objective."

A copy of this message was picked up by Mr. Roundtree of the State Department Code Room at 310925Z.

Recd. from USS WILLIAMSBURG at Blue # 33 310925Z/v