

regional and country policies. Between 1961 and 1963, the Policy Planning Council coordinated preparation of these papers that were drafted in the relevant geographic bureau and sent for comment to the Department of Defense, the Central Intelligence Agency, and other U.S. Government agencies. A complete set of the final papers, various drafts, and memoranda containing comments on the drafts is in Department of State, S/S Files: Lot 67 D 396.

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#### 14. Memorandum of Conversation

Washington, February 21, 1961, 4:02-4:35 p.m.

##### SUBJECT

Call by General Teimur Bakhtiar on The Secretary

##### PARTICIPANTS

The Secretary

Ambassador Ardeshir Zabeti, Iranian Embassy

Lt. General Teimur Bakhtiar, Chief, Iranian Security and Information Organization

Mr. G. Lewis Jones, Assistant Secretary, NEA

Mr. John W. Bowling, Officer in Charge, Iranian Affairs, GII

General Bakhtiar said that his mission was to acquaint the new Administration with the situation in Iran and the very heavy burden which fell on Iran by virtue of its geographic position, its faithful efforts to enhance free world defense, and its limited resources. Iran must defend itself and the Middle East by ensuring both an adequate military defense establishment and a rising standard of living for its people. It cannot accomplish both these tasks at once without assistance from the United States.

The General said that the Iranian public could not understand why, if CENTO was a worthwhile organization, the United States did not join it. Iran was bound by its CENTO commitments to try to build a defense

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Source: Department of State, Central Files, 033881/2-2161. Secret. Drafted by Bowling and approved in S on February 25. The time of the meeting is taken from Secretary Rusk's Appointment Book. (Johnson Library) Jones sent a briefing memorandum to Secretary Rusk on February 21 to prepare for this meeting. (Department of State, Central Files, 788 5/2-2161)