

JANE SCHELL
OCI
7242
9 DECEMBER 63

SECRET

BOOK MESSAGE IN BRITAIN

ROUTINE

87787

BRIN LOND AMMA AEDI HERN MADH ANKA ALAI DONS PARI
MUNI BASH KHAR LISB COPE NASO BEIR LEOP MEXI FROB NEWD
DAMA RABA NOBI HAGU VIEN KAHY TPLI SAGO HEID ATHE JIDD
TNIS CYRU TERE CBR OSLO CAIR MOGA PACY CNVA ROHE FRAN

PBSAND

NEAR EAST - AFRICA BRIEF

(INFOR RELEASABLE TO LIAISON. NO NOFORN IN THIS MESSAGE)

1. SYRIA: THE POWER STRUGGLE WITHIN THE SYRIAN REGIME AP-
PEARS TO BE RESOLVING IN FAVOR OF THE MODERATE FACTION LED BY
PREMIER HAFIZ

EFFORTS BY HAFIZ, A MILITARY MEMBER OF THE BAAATH PARTY, TO
ASSOCIATE THE REGIME WITH NON-BAAATH POLITICAL ELEMENTS HAVE GAINED
MOMENTUM, AND BAAATHIST EXTREMISTS LED BY VICE PREMIER UMRAN WHO
OPPOSE THIS MOVE ARE BEING ECLIPSED. GENERAL UMRAN STILL OCCUPIES
HIS GOVERNMENTAL POST, HOWEVER, AND DESPERATE COUNTERACTION BY HIM
AND HIS SUPPORTERS IN THE ARMY AND THE BAAATH-DOMINATED NATIONAL
GUARD CANNOT BE COMPLETELY DISCOUNTED.

THERE IS ALSO A POSSIBILITY THAT PRO-RASIST GROUPS WILL TRY TO
EXPLOIT THE DIVISION WITHIN THE REGIME BY ATTEMPTING TO SEIZE POWER.

(COPY)

END OF MESSAGE

SECRET

J.C. GRAHAM

J.B. CASTLE

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