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CLANDESTINE SERVICE HISTORY

OVERTHROW OF PREMIER MOSSADEQ OF IRAN

November 1952-August 1953

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S E C R E T

HISTORIAN'S NOTE

This paper, entitled Overthrow of Premier Mossadeq of Iran, was written in March 1954 by Dr. Donald N. Wilber who had played an active role in the operation. The study was written because it seemed desirable to have a record of a major operation prepared while documents were readily at hand and while the memories of the personnel involved in the activity were still fresh. In addition, it was felt advisable to stress certain conclusions reached after the operation had been completed and to embody some of these in the form of recommendations applicable to future, parallel operations.

Documents pertaining to the operation described in this paper are in the Project TPAJAX files which are held by the Iran Branch of the Near East and South Asia Division.

All proper names mentioned in this paper have been checked for accuracy and completeness. A serious effort has been made to supply the first name and middle initial of each individual. The omission of any first names and middle initials indicates that such information could not be located.

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March 1969

S E C R E T

[The C.I.A.'s secret history of the 1953 coup in Iran was a nearly 200-page, typewritten document, comprising the author's own account of the operation and a set of planning documents that he attached to the file. The New York Times is publishing the introduction and the planning documents on the World Wide Web. But the newspaper decided not to publish the main text after consulting with prominent historians who believed that there was a serious risk that some of those named in the C.I.A. history as foreign agents might face retribution in Iran if their names were made public. Certain names in the documents that are being published have also been deleted.]

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