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S E R E T
SERIAL: DIADIN 243-6A

BODY

SUBJ: CHINA-IRAN: ARMS SALES. (U)

DOI: 31 AUG 87 (AS OF 2100 EDT)

TEXT: 1. CHINESE ARMS COMPANIES ARE USING THIRD-COUNTRY
INTERMEDIARIES TO CONTINUE NEGOTIATING SALES OF MILITARY EQUIPMENT,
INCLUDING SILKWORM MISSILES, WITH IRAN.

2. THE COMPANY WHICH PRODUCES THE MISSILES IS ALSO OFFERING
TECHNICAL MATERIALS AND TRAINING SESSIONS.

3. COMMENT: BEIJING IS STILL HIGHLY CONCERNED ABOUT
INTERNATIONAL CRITICISM OF ITS ARMS SALES TO PERSIAN GULF
BELLIGERENTS. NONETHELESS, CHINA HAS APPARENTLY DECIDED TO ALLOW ITS
MILITARY TRADING COMPANIES TO RESUME NEGOTIATIONS FOR NEW WEAPONS
SALES. CHINA PROBABLY PUT A HOLD ON NEW CONTRACTS DURING JULY WHILE
REASSESSING ITS ARMS POLICY, BUT NEGOTIATIONS FOR NEW SALES RESUMED
IN AUGUST.

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