

Schwabach

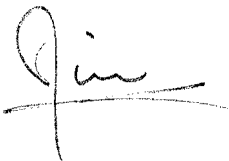
July 13, 1982

Merv:

As you know, my involvement with the escape did not include much of the time in Tehran or the overland escape, therefore my comments are rather limited. Straight forward errors of fact are inclosed. Other than those, I found very little factually wrong with the book. As we discussed on the phone I do feel that ``Rashid's`` real character needs to be buried a little more. I also got the feeling, strickly subjective, that the dialogue provided, sounded forced, too formal. That`s a general comment, I realize. I also realize that there will be additional drafts and editing before the work goes to press and that this problem should go away in that process.

Thanks for the opportunity to review the draft.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to be the name "Jim", with a horizontal line extending from the end of the signature.

STRAIGHT FORWARD ERRORS OF FACT

1. `RASHID` was provided a visa for entry into the US in Istanbul. It was done the morning after we returned from Ankara - while the colonel was under arrest. Either Pat or Ross called the consulate and prevailed on the embassy official who had visited us in the Sheraton. ``RASID`` and I then went to the Consulate. Unfortunately the main gate was closed because it was the Moslem Sabbath. Fortunately there was a side gate. We got the Duty Officer up, explained that we wanted a temporary visa and mentioned the Embassy Official's name (can't remember it). The DO called him and ten minutes later we had the visa and were on our way back to the Sheraton.
2. When we took off from Istanbul ``RASHID`` rode in the cockpit. That's when they hung the aircraft on it's nose on takeoff.
3. Although it makes a better story the way it's written I don't recall taking any of the handguns into either Turkey or Iran. We left them with Merv when we went to Paris. I was to have flown from Paris to Dallas, ground off the serial numbers, and then brought the pistols into Tehran when the colonel called for them. The call never came. Instead Pat and I were ordered into Tehran and told to bring only the knives and the goose shot. I put the knives in my gear and Pat carried the shot. Two days after we got there the colonel sent us to London to pick up the radios, a couple of sets of good maps and more cash. We unable to return to Iran by air, so we met Ralph in Istanbul where we were making arrangements to go in overland when we (Pat and I) were recalled to the states.
4. I don't recall contacting any special forces types about checking outgoing baggage. I think Merv called DFW and just asked them.