Mr. Ford's Secret Sellout

What happened when 'our Shah-forsaken clients, the Kurds,' turned to the U.S.

by William Safire

Washington, Feb. 4 - One section of the still-secret Pike committee report especially troubling to the White House is the revelation of a shameful action for which President Ford must be held responsible: the betrayal of the Kurdish people.

[Safire places the blame on Kissinger; says Ford was "hopelessly dependent" on him.]

The callous, amoral voice may be Henry Kissinger's, but that decision of only eleven months ago is the direct responsibility of Gerald Ford. If the President wants to defend this sell-out of the Kurds at the command of the Shah, let him do so; if he wants to disavow this act of American dishonor, let him fire the adviser who urged the dishonorable decision upon him.

See also Safire, 12 Feb 76