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THE WHITE HOUSE COMMENT LINE
Tuesday, February 16, 1993
3:00 pm Report
20 Lines Operating

Summary:

From 9:00 to 3:00 pm, the Comment
and Opinion Line received 2481 calls.

Issues of the Day:

* Reaction to President's speech last night

Support	225
Oppose	549

* Raising taxes (general comments)

Support	65
Oppose	708

A. Taxation of middle incomes

Support	37
Oppose	329

B. Energy Tax

Support	24
Oppose	118

C. Taxation of upper incomes

Support	26
Oppose	110

* Cut Government spending first

Support	453
Oppose	4

From 9:00 pm last night to 9:00 am this morning, the Comment Line
received 2828 calls.

THE WHITE HOUSE COMMENT LINE
Tuesday, February 16, 1993
10:00 to 11:00 am Report

Summary:

From 10:00 to 11:00 am this morning, the Comment and Opinion Line received 786 calls.

Issues of the Day:

* Reaction to President's speech last night

Support	77
Oppose	167

* Raising taxes (general comments)

Support	17
Oppose	169

A. Taxation of middle incomes

Support	13
Oppose	97

B. Energy Tax

Support	11
Oppose	41

C. Taxation of upper incomes

Support	14
Oppose	54

* Cut Government spending first

Support	109
Oppose	0

From 9:00 pm last night to 9:00 am this morning, the Comment Line received 2828 calls.

THE WHITE HOUSE COMMENT LINE
Tuesday, February 16, 1993
12:00 noon Report
20 Lines Operating

Summary:

From 9:00 to 12:00 noon, the Comment
and Opinion Line received 1249 calls.

Issues of the Day:

*** Reaction to President's speech last night**

Support	101
Oppose	252

*** Raising taxes (general comments)**

Support	24
Oppose	312

A. Taxation of middle incomes

Support	22
Oppose	147

B. Energy Tax

Support	16
Oppose	57

C. Taxation of upper incomes

Support	19
Oppose	74

*** Cut Government spending first**

Support	183
Oppose	0

From 9:00 pm last night to 9:00 am this morning, the Comment Line
received 2828 calls.

THE WHITE HOUSE COMMENT LINE
Tuesday, February 16, 1993
8:00 pm Report
20 Lines Operating

Summary:

From 9:00 am to 8:00 pm, the Comment
and Opinion Line received 3801 calls.

Issues of the Day:

* Reaction to President's speech last night

Support	396
Oppose	824

* Raising taxes (general comments)

Support	107
Oppose	1109

A. Taxation of middle incomes

Support	56
Oppose	467

B. Energy Tax

Support	46
Oppose	177

C. Taxation of upper incomes

Support	50
Oppose	191

* Cut Government spending first

Support	732
Oppose	18

From 9:00 pm last night to 9:00 am this morning, the Comment Line
received 2828 calls.

THE WHITE HOUSE COMMENT LINE
Tuesday, February 16, 1993
9:00 pm Report
20 Lines Operating

Summary:

From 9:00 am to 9:00 pm, the Comment
and Opinion Line received 4095 calls.

Issues of the Day:

*** Reaction to President's speech last night**

Support	436
Oppose	936

*** Raising taxes (general comments)**

Support	130
Oppose	1205

A. Taxation of middle incomes

Support	61
Oppose	532

B. Energy Tax

Support	46
Oppose	194

C. Taxation of upper incomes

Support	56
Oppose	224

*** Cut Government spending first**

Support	791
Oppose	18

From 9:00 pm last night to 9:00 am this morning, the Comment Line
received 2828 calls.

THE WHITE HOUSE COMMENT LINE
Tuesday, February 16, 1993
7:00 pm Report
20 Lines Operating

Summary:

From 9:00 am to 7:00 pm, the Comment
and Opinion Line received 3527 calls.

Issues of the Day:

* Reaction to President's speech last night

Support	362
Oppose	780

* Raising taxes (general comments)

Support	87
Oppose	1032

A. Taxation of middle incomes

Support	56
Oppose	447

B. Energy Tax

Support	32
Oppose	164

C. Taxation of upper incomes

Support	36
Oppose	137

* Cut Government spending first

Support	675
Oppose	11

From 9:00 pm last night to 9:00 am this morning, the Comment Line
received 2828 calls.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
DAILY PRESS BRIEFING

I N D E X

Tuesday, February 16, 1993

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE
DAILY PRESS BRIEFING

DPC #24

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 1993, 12:21 P.M.
(ON THE RECORD UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED)

MR. BOUCHER: Good afternoon, ladies and gentlemen. I thought I'd start off by giving you the basic outlines of the trip that's coming up just so you have it. Obviously, we'll be adding more detail, including specific events and meetings as the trip proceeds. We'll try to get you a press schedule of some sort before we leave.

The trip -- the basic outlines are as follows: We leave Wednesday night after the President's economic speech. Thursday evening, we'll arrive in Cairo. Friday evening, we go on from Cairo to Amman. Saturday evening, we move on to Damascus. Sunday evening, on to Riyadh. Monday morning, we'll travel to Kuwait, and then from Kuwait we head on to Israel. In Israel, on Tuesday and Wednesday nights. Thursday, we go to --

Q Is it Monday night, too?

MR. BOUCHER: Monday night to Israel; yes. Then Tuesday night, Wednesday night, we're also in Israel.

Thursday, the 25th, we go on to Geneva for the meetings with the Russian Foreign Minister and then proceed to Brussels that evening. Friday, meetings in Brussels, and then return to Washington.

Q Do you have an estimated time of departure tomorrow, or an estimated time of return on the 26th?

MR. BOUCHER: Both late. The departure tomorrow is after the President's economic speech. I forget if it's 10:00 p.m. or 11:00 p.m. It's something like that.

Q Is the Secretary going to be meeting with any other bilateral -- will he have any bilateral meetings with other Foreign Ministers in Brussels?

MR. BOUCHER: I expect that he would. I don't have any list at this point now.

Q The only business in Geneva is Kozyrev?

MR. BOUCHER: Yes, that I know of at this point. Everything is subject to change and filling-in and amendment. The principal purpose of Geneva is to go meet with the Russian Foreign Minister there.

Q Is he planning to meet with the Lebanese Foreign Minister at any place along the way?

MR. BOUCHER: We'll fill in meetings later. At this point, I just wanted to get you the basic outlines of the schedule.

That's all I had to tell you, so we'll be glad to take any questions you've got.

Q Richard, is the Secretary going to meet with the President of Kosovo today? It's not on the schedule. I just wanted to know.

MR. BOUCHER: I hadn't heard about that. I can double-check.

Q Could you also -- if he's not, why not, given the --

MR. BOUCHER: Who, exactly, are we talking about?

Q The President of Kosovo.

MR. BOUCHER: Dr. Rugova?

Q Rugova; right.

MR. BOUCHER: I'll have to check and see.

Q Given what the Secretary said at his press conference last week about how critical it is that the war in the Balkans not be expanded to Kosovo, one might think he would give this opportunity to sort of meet with them and talk about the situation and make a public statement that would re-enforce the message that he's trying to send to the Serbs.

MR. BOUCHER: Well, I would say, first of all, he has made a public statement that re-enforces the message he's trying to send to the Serbs. He made that public statement here last week.

As for the specifics of a visit by Dr. Rugova and whether we have a meeting or not, I'll have to check on that to find out for you.

Q Richard, could we go back to the trip for a minute? The Secretary is saying, you know, he's just starting out, he's got things to learn about the Middle East. Can you share with us, if you can, how the Secretary has been preparing

for this trip, in terms of any kind of special preparation that he may be doing to come up to speed for this trip, any kind of presentations he's had or anything?

MR. BOUCHER: I don't think I can do the whole thing for you. Obviously, he's been deeply involved in matters involving the Middle East since his arrival here. He's talked to a number of the Foreign Ministers and leaders in the region. He's had several meetings himself directly with visitors. He's meeting this morning with Foreign Minister Peres.

He, as you know, about a week or so ago, had a meeting over lunch with Secretary Baker. He's talked to other former Secretaries of State, and, obviously, he's been very closely in touch with the people in-house who work on this.

Q Richard, is this his first trip to the region, even including his previous tenure over here?

MR. BOUCHER: That's something I'll have to check on, Sid. I don't know.

Q When you check on that, could you check also on his involvement with the Camp David process way back when? You remember Camp David?

MR. BOUCHER: Yes, he was involved with that. I don't know if that ever brought him to the region before. I'll have to check.

Sonia.

Q Russian Foreign Minister Kozyrev is reported as saying that he wants to discuss an arms sales plan with the Secretary next week in which Russia would actually be helped to sell arms in the world market. Would the United States be receptive to something like that?

MR. BOUCHER: I hadn't seen that comment, Sonia, so I hadn't checked on anything. Obviously, we've discussed arm sales with the Russians before. We've discussed it bilaterally, multilaterally. We had the discussion among the Perm Five where we agreed on guidelines for responsible transfers, and we made the point that, certainly, Russia can sell arms. But we continue to believe that they should sell them responsibly and avoid sales to places where the sales might be destabilizing. That's a dialogue that we've had with the Russians that we would expect to continue with the Russians.

Q Richard, what is Reginald Bartholomew up to now that he's the Special Envoy?

MR. BOUCHER: Funny you should ask. U.S. Special Envoy Reginald Bartholomew met in Moscow Saturday, February 13,

Tuesday, 2/16/93

with Russian Foreign Minister Kozyrev, and separately with a delegation of Russian parliamentarians. We do believe that Russia can play a useful role in helping the international community achieve results from the negotiations. Ambassador Bartholomew returned to the United States on Sunday, February 14.

He's currently in Washington on consultations with the Department, the NSC, and other U.S. Government offices. He's participated in meetings at the White House on Yugoslavia to review the situation and his assignment. He's met separately with the Secretary, National Security Advisor Lake, and the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

In addition, he's scheduled to meet with the Vice President, with the CIA Director, and the Secretary of Defense before he travels to New York, and he now expects to go to New York on Thursday.

I'd add in here, the Secretary also talked to Secretary Vance and just talked about Ambassador Bartholomew's meetings in Moscow, and his expected schedule.

Q Has the Secretary talked at all since the New York meetings with David Owen?

MR. BOUCHER: Not that I know of, Ralph. He's been keeping in touch with Cyrus Vance.

Q What will Reggie be doing once he goes to New York? How will he proceed there to try to work out the differences on the Vance-Owen plan?

MR. BOUCHER: I don't think at this point, John, I can give you too much detail. That remains to be worked out. Obviously, he has to meet with Vance and Owen. He has to keep talking with them and see where we can make our contribution to the process.

Q Would you expect that he would join the Secretary for the meeting in Brussels, for example, or perhaps even a meeting in Geneva should the issues of Bosnia-Herzegovina be raised there, as I would imagine they would be. I don't know that they will be.

MR. BOUCHER: I would expect that we would discuss Yugoslavia and Bosnia, both with the Russians and with the NATO allies, but I don't know if Reggie plans on being there or not.

Q Richard, can you give us any more idea of what he discussed with the Russians, what sort of guarantees they gave us, what they're willing to do to help complement our efforts?

MR. BOUCHER: I don't think I can, Sid. As you know, the Russians have said that they're Deputy Foreign Minister

Vitaliy Churkin will be following the talks, working on the talks from the Russian side of things. He's scheduled to arrive in New York today.

Q Churkin?

MR. BOUCHER: Yes, Churkin is, we understand. Bartholomew expects to consult with him, among others, to coordinate our efforts. Both, I expect, will be seeing what we can best do to contribute to the process.

Q Would you expect Bartholomew to take part, for example, in meetings with people like the Kosovan President, and so on, maybe perhaps representatives of Macedonia, and so on? Would you expect him to branch out into those other areas? Or is his mandate limited to the Vance-Owen negotiations on Bosnia-Herzegovina?

MR. BOUCHER: I don't think it's necessarily one or the other, Ralph. We don't know exactly who he will be meeting with as part of this process, but I would expect he would meet with other parties and other governments to the extent that they play a role and that they have an interest in this process.

Q Okay. So that means that he might also, for example, talk with Belgrade leaders?

MR. BOUCHER: Again, we don't have an exact schedule or list of people that he will or will not be meeting with.

Q But, Richard, do you envision this as now -- this process has been referred to as "Vance-Owen." Is it now going to be Vance-Owen-Bartholomew-Churkin? It sounds like a law firm. (Laughter) Is this going to be the four of them sitting down negotiating with the parties together?

MR. BOUCHER: No. The Secretary said last Friday that we don't necessarily expect to be at the table. Then he described, I think very clearly, our role as working in support of Vance-Owen. It's still the Vance-Owen process.

It's an attempt on our part to make a contribution to try to get to an agreement that the parties can accept and, as we said last week, to help implement such an agreement.

Q Do you have any time frame for this?

MR. BOUCHER: The talks are scheduled to resume later this week. As I said, Ambassador Bartholomew expects to go up there on Thursday.

Q No, I mean, do you have any deadline --

MR. BOUCHER: You mean, for completion?

Q Right.

MR. BOUCHER: No.

Q Richard, can you tell us what the situation is in Sarajevo? And does the U.S. have anything further to say about this whole idea of boycotting aid and what kind of impact it's having and what efforts are being made to dissuade the government from this course of action?

MR. BOUCHER: Well, let me give you the rundown, then, on both the fighting and humanitarian assistance.

In terms of the fighting, Sarajevo remained under heavy Bosnian Serb artillery bombardment on Monday. This is the fifth consecutive of that. The western suburbs of Stup and Hadzici, on the road to the airport, reportedly are also being shelled by the Bosnian Serbs.

Meanwhile, the Bosnia Government offensive continues against the Serb-held Sarajevo suburb of Ilidza, which is between the airport and Stup.

Elsewhere in Bosnia, Brcko was also reported to be under Bosnian Serb artillery fire. Bosnian Government forces were continuing attacks against Bosnian Serb villages of Bratunac and Cajnice -- it's as close as I can come to that one -- along Bosnia's eastern border.

In terms of airlift, there have been no humanitarian flights into Sarajevo since Friday, February 12. Bosnian authorities have refused to accept further relief distributions until the Muslim enclaves in eastern Bosnia receive assistance.

On Friday, there were 15 flights; six of them U.S. The U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees estimates now that there are 2,800 metric tons of supplies in the airport warehouse.

Q How much?

MR. BOUCHER: Twenty-eight hundred metric tons of supplies.

Countries that participate in the airlift are concentrating on shifting the base of operations from Zagreb to Ancona, Italy. Flights from Ancona could begin tomorrow, February 17, should the Bosnian authorities reverse their current policy of refusal to accept humanitarian aid.

On convoys, the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees is making a third attempt today to reach Cerska with a convoy of humanitarian relief supplies. The convoy was stopped at a Serbian checkpoint on February 14, and has not been allowed to proceed.

Embassy Belgrade -- our Embassy in Belgrade understands that U.N. mediator Cyrus Vance has contacted Serbian leaders Karadzic and Milosevic, and that Karadzic has agreed to open the route.

U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees officials, however, remain skeptical. They've sent a second convoy to the area today in a challenge to the Serbs who have blocked the earlier convoy.

The U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees' convoy to Tuzla is also being held up by the Bosnian Serbs.

We deplore the blocking of aid to needy populations in eastern Bosnia, Sarajevo, and elsewhere in the former Yugoslavia. We call once more on all parties to the conflict to honor their commitments, to cooperate fully with efforts to deliver humanitarian aid throughout the former Yugoslavia.

Q Does that mean -- you're saying, when you say you "deplore the blocking of aid," the United States now feels that both the Serbs and the Bosnian Government are responsible for preventing humanitarian aid from getting through? So, essentially, you've got a situation where the international community is trying to send aid into places where people who are in control, in authority on both sides don't want to have it go there; is that correct?

MR. BOUCHER: Essentially, yes, Ralph. The situation is that there are people -- Bosnian Serbs -- that are blocking relief supplies from places that we know are in very difficult straits, places that haven't gotten supplies before. That remains something that the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees is trying to send convoys down that road. But at the same time, we don't think that because of that situation the Bosnian Government should be blocking the distribution of supplies in Sarajevo either. Both of these parties should let the aid go through.

Q But, Richard, are you in a situation where the Bosnian Government can now -- I mean, the U.N. forces on the ground: What are their instructions? If the Bosnian Government says you can't deliver the aid in Sarajevo, the aid simply sits there? There's not going to be any attempt to go around the government or ignore the government and deliver the aid against the government's wishes?

MR. BOUCHER: Mary, their instructions, at least to the extent that I can describe them for you from here, are in U.N. resolutions, they're in the backing that the international community has given them to find the best way to deliver food

and to get supplies to people who need it. As to precisely what they're going to do on the ground, I'll have to leave that to them.

Q What are they doing right now?

Q How is the assessment of the ways to get aid through going? What steps are being considered?

MR. BOUCHER: We've been taking a number of steps and looking at the overall situation. We've been in close touch with the United Nations. We're contacting non-governmental organizations about the situation out there, and we're collecting information on the humanitarian situation in a variety of ways.

Planning is also underway for the humanitarian assessment mission. We hope to be able to announce soon who will lead the team, how many members it will have, where it will go. The team would be expected to look at the whole spectrum of humanitarian needs in Bosnia and, as I said, we're collecting this kind of information in other ways as well.

Q But in the meantime, Richard, people are literally dying. What about our pledge to use all necessary means to get relief -- these relief supplies in?

MR. BOUCHER: And, as I tell you, we think that these relief supplies should go in; that the parties have made commitments to let them in -- specifically, Vance has been working on this more recently and got a pledge from Karadzic. We'll see if it works or not. But we've made very clear our view that these relief supplies should be allowed to be distributed.

Q Are you putting the Serbs and the Bosnians on the same level in this respect? I mean, apparently a part of the population in Sarajevo accepts the decision of the government to halt -- I mean, stop this food for a while until the villages in eastern Bosnia get their share of the food.

MR. BOUCHER: Jacques, I don't think I'd say I'm putting them on the same level on this. Obviously, there are different actions being taken by the different parties. There's fighting going on, and there's forced blockage of relief supplies that need to get to some areas that are very desperate in eastern Bosnia. We've described that, and you've seen it described in press reports as well. It's a very difficult and desperate situation for many of these places. So that does remain a focus of the U.N.'s efforts.

Q Is the U.S. Government making any special efforts to try to get those convoys through to eastern Bosnia?

MR. BOUCHER: As you know, the convoys are run by the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees, and we support their efforts in trying to get through.

Sonia?

Q The European President, Jacques Delors, said today that the deterioration on the ground there and the growing intransigence of the warring parties is a direct result of U.S. indecision and delay in formulating its policy. And he also said that a Balkan war is very likely in two months time. Do you think he's being overly pessimistic there?

MR. BOUCHER: Sonia, I hadn't seen those comments, so I would just refer you back to what the Secretary said about our involvement, and our involvement will indeed be active in trying to bring a solution to this conflict and in trying to help the EC and the U.N. who have been working on this to reach a successful conclusion to this.

But we've also been active in other ways. We'll be active in tightening sanctions and looking at various ways to ensure the delivery of humanitarian supplies and all the other things that the Secretary listed.

Q Richard, when did Vance talk to Karadzic?

MR. BOUCHER: I don't think I know exactly.

Q Over the weekend or today?

MR. BOUCHER: I think it was the last day or two, but I don't know exactly, Sid.

Q Richard, is the Bosnian Government actually doing anything physical to stop deliveries from being made?

MR. BOUCHER: I don't know, Mary.

Q So, I mean -- but no deliveries are being made, right?

MR. BOUCHER: That's right.

Q What do you mean when you say you're going to -- you're working to "ensure delivery" of humanitarian supplies? The airlifts have stopped, the convoys are blocked by the Serbs, the deliveries to Sarajevo are apparently blocked by the decision of the Bosnian Government.

Is the U.S. and its allies -- are the U.S. and its allies doing anything to ensure delivery in spite of the decision by the Bosnian Government to stop the aid from getting -- being distributed in Sarajevo?

MR. BOUCHER: Ralph, what precisely is going to be done right now in Sarajevo is currently in the hands of the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees. They're trying to get the convoys into eastern Bosnia. They would like, and we would like them, to be able to distribute again in Sarajevo. We think it's important to make these distributions.

But you know the whole history of this is there have been on-again, off-again fights. There have been problems here and problems there, and the UNHCR has in the past been able to overcome these obstacles.

We're also looking at other ways, from gathering information and doing what planning we can, to try to find even better ways of ensuring the delivery of humanitarian supplies.

Q Richard, are you concerned at all about the status of the U.N. troops on the ground there, if they now seem to be at odds with the Bosnian Government as well as with the Bosnian Serbs? I mean, do you think their position is made more precarious by this?

MR. BOUCHER: I don't think I could describe it that way, Mary, no.

Q Could I ask you to take the question, please, of Jacques Delors saying the United States has missed an opportunity to assist the situation in Bosnia-Herzegovina? Would you take a look at his remarks and --

MR. BOUCHER: I'll see if there's anything we want to say after reading his remarks, Ralph.

Q What's the reason for moving the staging area from Zagreb to Ancona, Italy?

MR. BOUCHER: It has to do with the difficulties that the flights out of Zagreb encountered. I think there were radar lock-ons, and there was some firing at a German flight, and they just felt that we could stage it better out of Ancona. So that was about a week ago they started working on this.

Q It sounds like a surrender, Richard.

MR. BOUCHER: No, it sounds like another way to get the relief through -- to make sure that we can get it through.

Q But you're accepting blatant, aggressive interference.

MR. BOUCHER: We're accepting the fact that we've got to get the aid through and, if there's problems in one area, we're going to find a better way and a different way.

Q Is the assessment that's being conducted on ways to get aid through -- is force being considered as part of that?

MR. BOUCHER: It's really too early for me to try to describe any particular conclusions, but they'll be looking at various ways of ensuring the aid gets delivered.

Q So, Richard, weren't the lock-ons and the other problems occurring at the Sarajevo airport, not at the -- not in --

MR. BOUCHER: No, I don't think that's right. I don't remember where the lock-ons were, but the shooting at the German aircraft was out of Zagreb.

Q Richard, on -- are you still on Bosnia?

Q Yes.

Q O.K.

Q Just a clarification on something Christopher said in his statement. His little thing at the end of his statement about pledging a U.S. military contribution to implement the Vance-Owen settlement -- does that in any way, shape or form include a pledge to a similar contribution prior to a settlement being reached, such as, for example, in the use of providing or getting humanitarian aid through to people who need it?

MR. BOUCHER: Ralph, I guess what I would say is he described the willingness for the United States to participate and participate militarily in the implementation of an agreement, both the role of the United States in trying to get an agreement and then the willingness of the United States to participate in the implementation.

So, no, he didn't talk about military participation in advance of that, but actually we're already involved in terms of the flights, in terms of the logistics planning and various other ways in assisting the humanitarian effort.

Q And has the U.S. offered recently to provide any ground personnel in connection with the humanitarian assistance?

MR. BOUCHER: Well, once again, we do have personnel, logistics personnel and others, who are working with UNHCR on the program of humanitarian assistance.

Q And where are they?

MR. BOUCHER: They've been in Zagreb. They've been in -- with the planning cells. I think that some of them have been in and out of Bosnia before.

Q Richard, on another subject, the Secretary's trip again: The Palestinians are saying they're going to boycott the peace talks, even if Arab states come, because the deportees are not being repatriated immediately.

Has this been conveyed to the Secretary or to the Department that they plan to boycott the peace talks? And do you still expect that the Secretary will be able to meet with Palestinians in the region? And are there any more meetings planned here between officials in the Department and Palestinians before the Secretary's trip begins tomorrow?

MR. BOUCHER: I haven't heard of any meetings today or tomorrow, but let me double-check. As you know, Ed Djerejian and his group and a number of other officials had meetings with Hanan Ashrawi. I think there were three meetings last week.

Certainly, the Secretary has been kept informed and up to speed on everything that's going on in the region, and he'll discuss these things further when he gets out there.

Q Have the -- the other part of my question was, have the Palestinians conveyed to the Secretary or to anyone in the Department their utter rejection of what the Security Council did and the fact that they're going to boycott the peace talks?

MR. BOUCHER: We've been in touch with the Palestinians. We've been in touch with other parties. But at this point I think I want to leave the issue for his further discussions.

Q If I may make a clever tie between the two stories here: Does the U.S. have any comment on Israel's decision to accept about 100 Bosnian Muslim refugees under the U.N. program for assigning refugees?

MR. BOUCHER: I didn't know about that, Ralph, so I guess I'd just say any help from anybody is welcome.

Q And can you refresh my memory on where the U.S. stands on that front at this point? How many Bosnian refugees are actually in the United States?

MR. BOUCHER: I'd refresh my memory, too. I think we put up a written answer to that about a week ago, and I think --

Q I'll go and look at it.

MR. BOUCHER: I think we ought to look at that.

Q Richard, to go back to a legal point about the use of the term "expellee" versus "deportee," the Israelis use the term "expellee." As you know, the difference is that one cannot be deported from one's home country; one can only be expelled from one's home country and deported from a second country.

Could you get clarification from the people in the legal department as to why the United States uses the term "deportee"? It is apparently some kind of legalistic reason and not because it's gone into common parlance.

MR. BOUCHER: I'll see if there is indeed a legalistic reason. It's the term that we've been using all along.

Q On an immigration matter, I wondered if you've got a position on the Chinese migrants that have ended up down at the Marshall Islands. They were on the ship Eastwood, I think.

MR. BOUCHER: Yes. The motor vessel Eastwood. They were in a difficult situation out there. They've been allowed to disembark, or whatever, in the Marshall Islands, and we certainly respect and welcome the steps the government of the Marshall Islands has taken to allow these people to be taken care of.

The first indications that we have is that the Chinese nationals that are on board are intending illegal immigrants as part of a smuggling operation. But until an assessment is completed, according to the standard international humanitarian definitions, I wouldn't want to speculate about a final determination on their status.

Q The Hong Kong Government said it's being contacted by the U.S. Government on the issue. What would you like to see the Hong Kong Government doing?

MR. BOUCHER: We don't expect at this point that the Hong Kong Government would be involved in resolving the matter. I guess I'll just leave it at that.

Q Richard, on Haiti, do you have anything with respect to the human rights observers, the folks at Guantanamo or tightening of the embargo?

MR. BOUCHER: I do have some on the teams that are going down there. As far as the folks on Guantanamo, I think the White House has been discussing that, and I'll leave that one to other agencies.

There's an initial group of 40 Organization of American States observers who traveled to Haiti on Sunday. Thirteen U.S. citizens are part of that group. The United Nations has also sent a survey team to Haiti to prepare for its observers, and obviously the U.N. and the OAS can get you further details.

Q Richard, I understand that there are a group of Nobel Laureates going to Rangoon to petition on behalf of Aung Suu Kyi. Do you have anything on that?

Tuesday, 2/16/93

MR. BOUCHER: Yes. That's right. We're aware of this visit. It's a visit by Nobel Laureates to Thailand. We're pleased that they've decided to travel to Southeast Asia to rally international support for the release from house arrest of Aung Suu Kyi.

We share the goal of the immediate release of Aung Suu Kyi, herself a Nobel Peace Prize recipient in 1991. The Burmese military regime, however, has denied visas to the group, preventing their entry into Burma.

Our view has been and continues to be that the Burmese regime should honor the results of the May 1990 elections and release all the remaining political prisoners.

We welcome Thailand's support for this distinguished group. As the world community seeks to improve respect for human rights, the efforts of these Laureates should have everyone's support.

Q Are there any Americans among them?

Q Who are they?

MR. BOUCHER: Who are they? I don't know. I'm sorry. I'll try to check and see if we know that.

Q Speaking of visas, just to tidy up something. If Bartholomew's going to New York on Thursday, should we be looking for Mr. Karadzic to return as well? If so, has he been granted permission to return?

MR. BOUCHER: I think those involved in the talks do expect and obviously hope for the attendance of all parties in those talks. As for Mr. Karadzic himself, I understand he's currently back in the former Yugoslavia. He has not to date applied for a second visa.

Q Will he be granted one? I mean, what's the U.S. policy on travel to and from these negotiations by the relevant parties?

MR. BOUCHER: The U.S. policy is to look at it when he applies for a visa, but you know what we did last time.

Q So the U.S. policy is not to state publicly that it wants to facilitate the talks by providing permission for these people. It wants to reserve the right to make the decision on a case-by-case, instance-by-instance basis?

MR. BOUCHER: We have to do that, because we do that in all visa cases, Ralph. But you know that at the request of Vance and Owen last time, we were willing to issue a visa to Mr. Karadzic, because we do think it's important that people participate in these talks.

Q Have they asked him?

MR. BOUCHER: He hasn't applied for a new visa yet.

Q And they haven't asked -- they haven't said when he does apply --

MR. BOUCHER: Oh, have Vance and Owen asked. I don't know if they specifically asked or suggested it again, but we know their views.

Q Have we had enough?

Q Thank you.

(The briefing concluded at 12:51 p.m.)

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GUIDANCE

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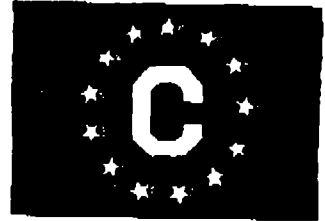
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 1993

POSTED	Mongolia	Consular Information Sheet (Feb 12)
AFRICA	Somalia	- Deadline Passes for Weapons' Inventories
		- Transition to UN Forces/UNOSOM Deputy Commander an American
	South Africa Chad	- Status of Constitutional Discussions
		- Fighting & Human Rights Violations In South/ National Conference/AmCts/US Aid
LATIN AMERICA	Nicaragua	- Sandinistas and Rearmed Contras
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U. S. Department of State
Bureau of Consular Affairs
Washington, DC 20520

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Consular Information Sheet

Mongolia — Consular Information Sheet

February 12, 1993

Embassy Location: The U.S. Embassy is located in Micro Region 11, Big Ring Road, Ulaanbaatar. the telephone numbers are (976-1) 329095 and 329606.

Country Description: Mongolia is a country undergoing substantial political and economic changes. In June 1992 it held democratic elections for the second time since the resignation of the former government in 1990. Tourist facilities and services are not widely available.

Entry Requirements: Passports and visas are required, as is an invitation from a Mongolian host. An exit and entry visa costs \$25. Multiple entry visas can only be obtained in Ulaanbaatar. Transit visas for stays of 48 hours or less require an onward ticket, a visa for the next destination and a fee of \$15. Foreign travelers to Mongolia are required to register within three days of their arrival with the police at a Citizens' Information and Registration Center. A Tourist visa for up to 90 days requires confirmation from the Mongolian Travel Agency Zhuulchin, or from a private Mongolian travel agency, and a \$25 fee. For more details and information on visa issuance and fees and registration requirements, the traveler may contact the Embassy of Mongolia at 2833 M Street N.W., Washington, D.C. 20007, telephone (202) 333-7117.

Medical Facilities: Medical facilities in Mongolia are limited and some medicine is unavailable. Plague, while relatively rare, is endemic to Mongolia from August to October, and affected areas of the country may be quarantined for limited periods during that time. Doctors and hospitals often expect immediate cash payment for health services. U.S. medical insurance is not always valid outside the United States. In some cases, supplemental medical insurance with specific coverage abroad including provision for medical evacuation has proved useful. The international travelers hotline at the Centers for Disease Control, tel. (404) 332-4559, has additional useful health information.

Information on Crime: A sharp increase in thefts aboard international trains to Russia has recently been reported. Useful information on guarding valuables and protecting personal security while traveling abroad is provided in the Department of State pamphlet, "A Safe Trip Abroad". It is available from the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402.

Drug Penalties: Penalties for possession, use or trafficking in illegal drugs are strict, and convicted offenders can expect jail sentences and fines.

Currency Regulations: Either U.S. dollars or American Express travelers checks are widely accepted. Thomas Cook travelers checks in U.S. dollars can also reportedly be used. The American Express card is acceptable in a few locations. Cash advances against credit cards are not obtainable and there are no international banks.

Power Shortages: Severe fuel shortages and problems with the central heating and electrical systems are currently causing seriously reduced heating levels and power outages in Ulaanbaatar, the capital, and the cities of Darhan and Erdenet. Some smaller towns in the countryside reportedly have no heat or electricity at all. The U.S. Embassy has advised all

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Americans resident in Mongolia that, should the energy situation continue to deteriorate this winter, it will recommend that Americans living outside of Ulaanbaatar move into the capital to permit access to international transportation and communications in the event of problems.

Delay in Arrival of Checked Baggage: Passengers arriving in Ulaanbaatar by plane from Beijing routinely encounter prolonged delays ranging from overnight to four days in the delivery of their checked luggage. Mongolian Airlines (MIAT) more frequently delays baggage delivery than Air China, the only other carrier (except for a weekly Aeroflot flight) serving Mongolia. Including warm clothing and other essentials in carry-on baggage decreases the inconvenience for the traveler.

Accommodations: Hotels are few in number and are often fully booked.

Registration: Americans who register at the U.S. Embassy can obtain updated information on travel, security and health problems within the country.

This replaces the Consular Information Sheet issued November 13, 1992 to reflect the energy situation.

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AF PRESS GUIDANCE
February 16, 1993

SOMALIA: WEAPONS INVENTORIES

Q: What is your reaction to the failure of Somali factions to meet the February 15 deadline for submitting inventories of their weaponry?

A: -- WE HAVE MADE IT CLEAR TO THE 15 FACTIONS WHICH SIGNED THE ADDIS ABABA CEASE-FIRE AND DISARMAMENT ACCORD THAT WE FULLY EXPECT THEM TO COMPLY WITH ITS TERMS. THIS INCLUDES THE SUBMISSION OF INVENTORIES OF WEAPONRY NOW HELD BY THE FACTIONS.

-- THIS IS A COMPLICATED PROCESS AND OCCASIONAL DELAYS IN FULFILLING VARIOUS ELEMENTS OF THE AGREEMENT CAN BE EXPECTED.

-- WE WILL CONTINUE TO WORK WITH THE UNITED NATIONS TO ENSURE THAT THE PARTIES TO THE ACCORD TAKE ALL NECESSARY STEPS TO HONOR ITS PROVISIONS.

IO PRESS GUIDANCE
February 16, 1993

SOMALIA

Q: Where are we on UNOSOM II? Does the Secretary General's report mention 25,000 troops, including 5,000 from the U.S.? Are those numbers accurate?

A: -- WE UNDERSTAND THE SECRETARY GENERAL'S LATEST REPORT ON SOMALIA IS STILL IN A DRAFT STAGE.

-- DURING REGULAR CONSULTATIONS WITH UN OFFICIALS, INCLUDING THE SECRETARY GENERAL, WE HAVE RECOMMENDED THAT THE UN FORCE (UNOSOM II) THAT WILL ASSUME RESPONSIBILITY FROM THE U.S.-LED FORCES (UNITAF) BE OF SUFFICIENT SIZE AND STRENGTH TO DETER ALL THREATS TO THE SECURE ENVIRONMENT NOW BEING ESTABLISHED IN SOMALIA.

Q: Will an American be the deputy commander of UNOSOM II? Will he command a U.S. troop contingent? If not, does this mean U.S. troops will be under UN command?

A: -- I WILL NOT SPECULATE ABOUT WHAT THE UNOSOM II COMMAND STRUCTURE WILL LOOK LIKE.

-- WE CONSULT REGULARLY WITH THE UN SECRETARY GENERAL, WHO WILL NAME THE COMMANDER AND DEPUTY COMMANDER OF UNOSOM II, ABOUT THE FULL RANGE OF MILITARY OPERATIONS IN SOMALIA.

AF/S PRESS GUIDANCE
February 16, 1993

SOUTH AFRICA - CONSTITUTIONAL DISCUSSIONS

Q: Do you have any comment on the reports of progress in constitutional discussions in South Africa?

- A: -- SOME PROGRESS WAS MADE DURING RECENT BILATERAL DISCUSSIONS AMONG VARIOUS PARTIES. THE GOVERNMENT AND THE INKATHA FREEDOM PARTY ARE MEETING THIS WEEK, AND THE ANC AND INKATHA ARE PREPARING FOR A POSSIBLE MARCH MEETING OF THEIR LEADERS. WE FIND THESE DEVELOPMENTS POSITIVE AND ENCOURAGING.**
- CORE ISSUES, SUCH AS THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN CENTRAL AND REGIONAL GOVERNMENTS AND THE CREATION OF A BROAD-BASED MULTI-PARTY GOVERNMENT FOR A TRANSITIONAL PERIOD, ARE UNDER DISCUSSION.**
- EFFORTS ARE UNDER WAY TO RESUME MULTILATERAL TALKS, AND BRING THE VIEWS OF ALL PARTIES INTO THE PROCESS. WE APPLAUD THESE EFFORTS AND BELIEVE THEY SHOULD BE PUSHED AHEAD AS FAST AS POSSIBLE.**
- WE URGE ALL PARTIES TO FACILITATE THE RESUMPTION OF MULTILATERAL DISCUSSIONS, AND TO COOPERATE AND BE FLEXIBLE IN THE SEARCH FOR WORKABLE COMPROMISES.**

AF/C PRESS GUIDANCE
February 16, 1993

CHAD

Q: What is happening in southern Chad?

A: -- FIGHTING BROKE OUT JANUARY 22 BETWEEN THE CSNPD REBEL GROUP AND THE CHADIAN ARMY IN A VILLAGE NEAR THE BORDER OF THE CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC. SINCE THEN, ARMY UNITS HAVE PURSUED REBELS IN THE SURROUNDING AREA. CHADIAN REFUGEES HAVE CROSSED THE BORDER INTO THE CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC, AND THERE HAVE BEEN MULTIPLE REPORTS OF CASUALTIES AND DESTRUCTION OF VILLAGES.

Q: What is the Department's reactions to reports of human rights violations in the south?

A: -- THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT IS DEEPLY CONCERNED ABOUT THE REPORTS OF SERIOUS HUMAN RIGHTS ABUSES BY SOLDIERS IN SOUTHERN CHAD. REPORTS OF ATTACKS AGAINST CIVILIANS, INCLUDING KILLINGS, BEATINGS, AND THE BURNING AND LOOTING OF VILLAGES BY MEMBERS OF THE SECURITY FORCES, ARE PARTICULARLY DISTURBING. OUR EMBASSY IN N'DJAMENA IS RAISING OUR CONCERNS WITH OFFICIALS AT ALL LEVELS. WE CALL UPON THE GOVERNMENT OF CHAD TO CONDUCT A FULL AND IMPARTIAL INVESTIGATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS ABUSES BY SOLDIERS UNDER ITS CONTROL AND TO PUNISH THOSE RESPONSIBLE FOR THESE ABUSES.

Q: How does this new fighting relate to Chad's National Conference?

A: -- THE OUTBREAK OF FIGHTING IN THE SOUTH IS ESPECIALLY DISTURBING IN LIGHT OF THE NATIONAL CONFERENCE WHICH OPENED JANUARY 15 AND HAS BEEN IN SESSION EVER SINCE. WE SUPPORT THE EFFORTS OF THE GOVERNMENT OF CHAD, THE PATRIOTIC SALVATION MOVEMENT, AND THE MANY OTHER POLITICAL PARTIES AND CIVIC GROUPS THAT ARE WORKING WITHIN THE CONTEXT OF THE CONFERENCE TO ADDRESS CHAD'S PROBLEMS, DEVELOP A NEW CONSTITUTION, AND PLAN FOR ELECTIONS.

WE URGE THE GOVERNMENT OF CHAD, THE CSNPD, AND OTHER OPPOSITION FORCES TO REACH AN AGREEMENT THROUGH THEIR RESPECTIVE DELEGATIONS AT THE NATIONAL CONFERENCE TO CEASE HOSTILITIES, PROTECT THE CIVILIAN POPULATION, AND REFRAIN FROM THE USE OF ARMS TO RESOLVE POLITICAL DIFFERENCES. WE URGE ALL OF THE CHADIAN PEOPLE TO RESOLVE THEIR DIFFERENCES THROUGH PEACEFUL DIALOGUE AND LEGITIMATE POLITICAL MEANS.

Q: Are Americans safe?

A: -- THERE ARE APPROXIMATELY 85 AMERICANS LIVING THROUGHOUT SOUTHERN CHAD, INCLUDING 41 PEACE CORPS VOLUNTEERS. OUR EMBASSY IS MONITORING THE SITUATION CLOSELY AND HAS HAD NO REPORTS OF ANY VIOLENCE AGAINST AMERICANS.

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Q: How much aid does the U.S. give to Chad?

A: -- IN 1992, THE UNITED STATES GAVE \$15.08 MILLION TO CHAD, \$13 MILLION OF WHICH WAS FROM THE DEVELOPMENT FUND FOR AFRICA. IN ADDITION TO OUR ONGOING ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS THIS YEAR, WE ARE CONTRIBUTING \$75,000 IN 116 (E) HUMAN RIGHTS FUNDING IN SUPPORT OF CHAD'S NATIONAL CONFERENCE.

**ARA Press Guidance
February 16, 1993**

NICARAGUA: REARMED CONTRAS

Q. Any comment on reports of clashes between the Sandinista Army and rearmed Contras in northern Nicaragua?

**A. — FROM OUR INFORMATION, SEVERAL HUNDRED
FORMER MEMBERS OF THE NICARAGUAN RESISTANCE
AND DEMOBILIZED SANDINISTA ARMY SOLDIERS IN
LOOSELY ORGANIZED GROUPS ARE ACTIVE IN
NORTHERN NICARAGUA.**

**— THESE GROUPS ARE ATTACKING GOVERNMENT AND
PRIVATE FACILITIES, CLASHING WITH THE
SANDINISTA ARMY AND SOMETIMES FIGHTING WITH
EACH OTHER.**

**— WE URGE ALL NICARAGUANS TO WORK OUT THEIR
DIFFERENCES PEACEFULLY IN A SPIRIT OF
RECONCILIATION.**

— MORE —

- //
- **WE ALSO URGE THE NICARAGUAN GOVERNMENT TO
DO ITS PART TO ADDRESS THESE DIFFERENCES BY
BRINGING ITS SECURITY FORCES FULLY UNDER
CIVILIAN CONTROL, BRINGING THOSE WHO HAVE
MURDERED FORMER MEMBERS OF THE RESISTANCE
TO JUSTICE AND RESOLVING PROPERTY ISSUES SO
THAT NICARAGUA'S RECONCILIATION AND RECOVERY
CAN PROCEED.**

Q. What about reports that Nicaraguans in Miami support the "recontras?"

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A. — WE HAVE SEEN THOSE REPORTS, BUT WE HAVE SEEN NO EVIDENCE OF OUTSIDE SUPPORT FOR THOSE REARMED; ANY SUCH SUPPORT WOULD BE A VIOLATION OF THE NEUTRALITY ACT AND UNACCEPTABLE.

(IF ASKED)

Q. Have you looked into the reports?

A. — WE HAVE INFORMED THE FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION ABOUT THE REPORTS; YOU MAY WANT TO CHECK WITH THEM.

Q. What's the status of U.S. aid to Nicaragua?

A. — \$50 MILLION IN U.S. ASSISTANCE TO NICARAGUA AUTHORIZED IN PREVIOUS FISCAL YEARS REMAINS UNDER REVIEW.

— THE ADMINISTRATION IS CONSULTING WITH CONGRESS AND OTHER INTERESTED PARTIES ABOUT FUTURE AID TO NICARAGUA

**ARA Press Guidance
February 16, 1993**

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MEXICO: EMBASSY MANAGEMENT

Q. Any comment on the GAO report on Mexico?

A. -- WE'RE IN A POSITION WHERE A GAO REPORT HAS BEEN DELIVERED TO CONGRESS AND IS DISCUSSED IN THE PRESS, BUT IS NOT AVAILABLE TO US OR TO THE GENERAL PUBLIC. WE UNDERSTAND THIS REPORT WAS DONE FEBRUARY 8 AND WILL BE AVAILABLE TO US MARCH 8.

-- UNTIL WE HAVE THE REPORT, WE CAN'T DISCUSS IT. NONETHELESS, LET ME DISCUSS THE SITUATION IN MEXICO.

-- THE MANAGEMENT OF OUR EMBASSY IN MEXICO CITY AND THE NINE U.S. CONSULATES THROUGHOUT MEXICO IS A COMPLEX CHALLENGE. WE RECOGNIZE THE NEED TO IMPROVE OPERATIONS.

-- APART FROM THE GAO REPORT, WE RECOGNIZED THE NEED TO IMPROVE PROPERTY MANAGEMENT. WE HAVE SET UP AN ENTIRELY NEW SYSTEM OF INVENTORY CONTROLS TO PREVENT LOSSES.

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- **WE HAVE REDUCED ^(STAFF AT) THE GUADALAJARA CONSULATE BY ABOUT FIFTY PERCENT.**
- **WE RECOMMENDED CLOSING THE CONSULATE IN MAZATLAN.**
- **TO CUT COSTS, WE ARE NOT FILLING ABOUT THIRTY POSITIONS WHICH ARE NOW VACANT.**

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- **GAO HAS BEEN LOOKING AT MANAGEMENT OF OVERSEAS POSTS, AND SPECIFICALLY MEXICO, FOR WELL OVER A YEAR.**

- **WE HAVE MET WITH GAO AND IDENTIFIED SOME AREAS WHERE WE SEE A NEED FOR IMPROVEMENT. THESE INCLUDE MANAGEMENT OF REAL PROPERTY, CASHIER OPERATIONS, TRAINING AND COMPETITIVE BIDDING FOR CONTRACTS.**

- **I'LL ALSO NOTE THAT THE INSPECTOR GENERAL'S OFFICE HAS A TEAM IN MEXICO ADDRESSING THESE ISSUES.**

- **WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING THE FINAL GAO REPORT AND THE INSPECTOR GENERAL'S REPORT. UNTIL WE GET A COPY OF THE GAO REPORT, I WILL WITHHOLD COMMENT ON IT.**

**ARA Press Guidance
February 16, 1993**

HAITI: OBSERVERS

Q. Any update on the international civilian observers in Haiti?

A. - AN INITIAL GROUP OF 40 ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES (OAS) OBSERVERS TRAVELED TO HAITI LAST SUNDAY.

- THIRTEEN U.S. CITIZENS ARE PART OF THAT GROUP.

- THE UNITED NATIONS SENT A ^(7-MEMBER) SURVEY TEAM TO HAITI TO PREPARE FOR ITS OBSERVERS.

- I WOULD REFER YOU TO THE UN AND OAS FOR FURTHER DETAILS.

Q: What was the difference between the teams?

A: -- THE OAS TEAM WAS MADE UP OF OBSERVERS WHO HAVE BEGUN TO LOOK AT THE HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION IN HAITI.
-- THE UN TEAM IS PREPARING THE WAY FOR A LARGER OBSERVER MISSION.

RP PRESS GUIDANCE
February 16, 1993

HAITI IN-COUNTRY REFUGEE PROCESSING

Q. Could you provide an update on the status of in-country refugee processing in Port-au-Prince?

- A. -- THREE ADDITIONAL IMMIGRATION AND NATURALIZATION SERVICE OFFICERS (INS) HAVE BEEN ADDED TO THE ADJUDICATION STAFF AT THE PROCESSING CENTER IN PORT-AU-PRINCE. THE ADDITION OF THESE OFFICERS HAS DOUBLED OUR INTERVIEWING CAPACITY. THE INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR MIGRATION IS IN THE PROCESS OF HIRING ADDITIONAL STAFF TO PREPARE APPLICANTS' CASES FOR INS DECISION.**
- OVER 7,700 HAITIANS HAVE COMPLETED THE PRELIMINARY APPLICATION FOR REFUGEE STATUS: 3,230 OF THESE APPLICANTS HAVE ALREADY BEEN INTERVIEWED BY INS.**
- OF THESE, 334 HAVE BEEN APPROVED FOR REFUGEE STATUS. 192 HAVE ALREADY ARRIVED IN THE UNITED STATES. 2,890 HAVE BEEN REJECTED.**

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Q. What is the status of the Technical Team's report on its findings and recommendations?

A. -- THE TECHNICAL TEAM HAS COMPLETED ITS REPORT AND THE TEAM'S FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS ARE CURRENTLY UNDER REVIEW.

-- WE ARE UNABLE TO PROVIDE YOU WITH ANY FURTHER INFORMATION AT THIS TIME.

Q. May we have an update on the numbers of Haitians picked up?

A. -- THE LAST INTERDICTION OCCURRED ON FEBRUARY 1, WHEN NINE PEOPLE WERE PICKED UP. SINCE THE NINE WERE FOUND INSIDE U.S. TERRITORIAL WATERS, THEY WERE TAKEN TO MIAMI TO PURSUE THEIR CLAIMS TO ASYLUM.

-- THESE WERE THE ONLY HAITIANS TO BE PICKED UP SINCE JANUARY 22.

-- THE TOTAL NUMBER OF HAITIANS PICKED UP SO FAR THIS YEAR IS 1,363. MOST OF THESE WERE PICKED UP PRIOR TO THE COMPLETION OF THE DEPLOYMENT OF ADDITIONAL COAST GUARD CUTTERS IN THE AREA ON JANUARY 19.

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- OF THE 1,363 PICKED UP SO FAR THIS YEAR, 1,002 WERE RETURNED DIRECTLY TO HAITI, AND 361 WERE TAKEN TO MIAMI TO PURSUE CLAIMS FOR POLITICAL ASYLUM.
- THE ABOVE FIGURES BRING THE TOTAL NUMBER OF HAITIAN BOAT PEOPLE PICKED UP SINCE THE COUP TO OVER 42,600.
- APPROXIMATELY 10,500 OF THESE WERE SCREENED IN PRIOR TO THE MAY EXECUTIVE ORDER AND BROUGHT TO THE U.S. TO PURSUE THEIR CLAIMS FOR ASYLUM.
- SOME 6,400 HAITIANS HAVE BEEN RETURNED DIRECTLY TO HAITI SINCE THE EXECUTIVE ORDER.
- ALL HAITIANS WHO ARE RETURNED ARE PROVIDED WITH INFORMATION ON HOW TO APPLY FOR REFUGEE STATUS THROUGH OUR IN-COUNTRY REFUGEE PROCESSING PROGRAM IN PORT AU PRINCE.

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**EAP PRESS GUIDANCE
February 16, 1993**

BURMA/THAILAND -- VISIT OF NOBEL LAUREATES

Q: Does the department have any comment or reaction to the Nobel laureates appeal for the release of Aung San Suu Kyi?

A: -- WE ARE AWARE OF THE VISIT OF THE NOBEL LAUREATES TO THAILAND AND ARE PLEASED THAT THEY HAVE DECIDED TO TRAVEL TO SOUTHEAST ASIA TO RALLY INTERNATIONAL SUPPORT FOR THE RELEASE FROM HOUSE ARREST OF AUNG SAN SUU KYI (AWNG-SAHN-SOO-CHEE).

-- WE SHARE THEIR GOAL OF THE IMMEDIATE RELEASE OF AUNG SAN SUU KYI, HERSELF A NOBEL PEACE PRIZE RECIPIENT IN 1991,

-- THE BURMESE MILITARY REGIME HAS DENIED VISAS TO THE GROUP, PREVENTING THEIR ENTRY TO BURMA. WE CONTINUE TO CALL ON THE BURMESE REGIME TO HONOR THE RESULTS OF THE MAY 1990 ELECTIONS AND TO RELEASE ALL REMAINING POLITICAL PRISONERS.

-- WE WELCOME THAILAND'S SUPPORT FOR THIS DISTINGUISHED GROUP. AS THE WORLD COMMUNITY SEEKS TO IMPROVE RESPECT FOR HUMAN RIGHTS, THE EFFORTS OF THESE LAUREATES SHOULD HAVE EVERYONE'S SUPPORT.

Q: Can you give us an update on Aung San Suu Kyi's situation?

A: -- AUNG SAN SUU KYI REMAINS UNDER HOUSE ARREST AFTER NEARLY FOUR YEARS. WE CONTINUE TO CALL FOR THE IMMEDIATE LIFTING OF HER DETENTION, THE IMMEDIATE RELEASE OF ALL REMAINING POLITICAL PRISONERS AND FOR THE MILITARY REGIME IN BURMA TO HONOR THE RESULTS OF THE 1990 ELECTIONS.

EAP PRESS GUIDANCE
February 16, 1993

MARSHALL ISLANDS/CHINA/HONG KONG: M/V EAST WOOD AND CHINESE

Q: What is U.S. policy concerning the more than 500 Chinese nationals aboard the M/V East Wood who have been disembarked at Kwajalein, Republic of the Marshall Islands?

A: -- FIRST INDICATIONS ARE THAT THESE CHINESE NATIONALS ARE INTENDING ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS AS PART OF A SMUGGLING OPERATION.

-- HOWEVER, UNTIL AN ASSESSMENT OF THEIR SITUATION IS COMPLETED ACCORDING TO INTERNATIONAL HUMANITARIAN STANDARDS, I CANNOT SPECULATE ABOUT ANY FINAL DETERMINATION CONCERNING THEIR STATUS.

Q: Is the U.S. seeking the assistance of the Hong Kong Government in resettling or providing temporary refuge for these people?

A: -- I DO NOT WISH TO GET INTO THE DETAILS OF OUR DISCUSSIONS WITH THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT.

-- HOWEVER, WE DO NOT EXPECT THAT THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT WILL BE INVOLVED IN RESOLVING THIS MATTER.

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EUR PRESS GUIDANCE
February 16, 1993

**YUGOSLAVIA 6-POINT PLAN:
HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE**

Q: Secretary Christopher said that a U.S. team would do an urgent assessment of humanitarian needs in Bosnia. Who will head it? How many people will take part? When will they go? Where will they go? What is happening on this in general?

A: -- WE ARE TAKING A NUMBER OF STEPS

-- WE ARE CONSULTING WITH THE UN

-- WE ARE CONTACTING NONGOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

-- WE ARE COLLECTING INFORMATION ON WHAT IS THERE

-- SOME PEOPLE WILL GO TO THE AREA

-- PLANNING IS WELL UNDERWAY FOR THE HUMANITARIAN ASSESSMENT MISSION. WE HOPE TO ANNOUNCE SOON WHO WILL LEAD THE TEAM, HOW MANY MEMBERS IT WILL HAVE, AND WHERE IT WILL GO TO.

-- THE TEAM WILL LOOK AT THE WHOLE SPECTRUM OF HUMANITARIAN NEEDS IN BOSNIA. IT WILL INCLUDE EXPERTS QUALIFIED TO DEFINE WHERE INCREASED U.S. ASSISTANCE COULD BE MOST HELPFUL AND WHAT RESOURCES ARE NEEDED TO ENSURE THAT THE TARGET NEEDS ARE MET.

Q: Are you planning to use force?

A: -- THERE ARE VARIOUS WAYS TO ENSURE DELIVERIES.

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EUR PRESS GUIDANCE**February 16, 1993****YUGOSLAVIA 6-POINT PLAN:
SANCTIONS ENFORCEMENT**

Q: Secretary Christopher has said we will do more on sanctions. What is the status of our renewed effort? What are we doing?

**A: A SPECIAL INTERAGENCY TASK FORCE ON
SERBIAN/MONTENEGRIN SANCTIONS HAS BEEN ESTABLISHED
IN THE STATE DEPARTMENT TO ENHANCE THE
IMPLEMENTATION OF SANCTIONS MEASURES IMPOSED
UNDER UN RESOLUTIONS 713, 757 AND 787.**

**THIS WEEKEND THE U.S. SENT OUT A DETAILED DESCRIPTION
OF ^(SOME) NEW PROPOSALS TO STRENGTHEN THE
IMPLEMENTATION AND ENFORCEMENT OF SANCTIONS TO THE
UN, CSCE, EC, FRONT-LINE STATES AND ALLIES IN EUROPE.**

**AMONG OTHER THINGS WE ARE DISCUSSING WITH THEM INITIALLY/
^(FOUR AREAS)
ARE 1) TIGHTER CONTROLS ON TRANSHIPMENTS AND
HUMANITARIAN EXCEPTIONS; 2) MORE TECHNICAL
ASSISTANCE FOR NEIGHBORING STATES, INCLUDING
DEPLOYMENT OF MORE SANCTIONS ASSISTANCE
MONITORING TEAMS (SAMS); 3) STRICTER FINANCIAL
SANCTIONS; 4) PROSECUTION OF VIOLATORS.**

Q: Is there a new team for the sanctions enforcement effort? Where will the team go? When will it go? Who will the team see?

A: THE STATE DEPARTMENT'S TASK FORCE WAS SET UP TO PROVIDE INFORMATIONAL, OPERATIONAL AND POLICY GUIDANCE TO SUPPORT THE NATIONAL SECURITY ADVISER TO THE VICE PRESIDENT. THE DEPARTMENT WILL CONTINUE TO WORK WITH OUR ALLIES AND FRIENDS TO ENSURE THAT SANCTIONS ARE STRICTLY IMPLEMENTED. THIS WILL ENTAIL DISCUSSIONS AND PERHAPS OVERSEAS TRAVEL.

Q: If asked: Who will lead the new effort?

A: LEON FUERTH, NATIONAL SECURITY ADVISER FOR VICE PRESIDENT GORE, HAS TAKEN ON RESPONSIBILITY FOR COORDINATING SANCTIONS ENFORCEMENT WITHIN THE U.S. GOVERNMENT.

EUR PRESS GUIDANCE
February 16, 1993

YUGOSLAVIA 6-POINT PLAN:
VANCE/OWEN PROCESS

**Q: What happened with the Bartholomew mission in Moscow?
Where is Ambassador Bartholomew now? Where is Russian
Deputy Foreign Minister Churkin now? What will his role be?
How will we coordinate with him?**

- A: — U.S. SPECIAL ENVOY AMBASSADOR REGINALD
BARTHOLOMEW MET IN MOSCOW SATURDAY, FEBRUARY
13, WITH RUSSIAN FOREIGN MINISTER KOZYREV AND
SEPARATELY WITH A DELEGATION OF RUSSIAN
PARLIAMENTARIANS. WE BELIEVE RUSSIA CAN PLAY A
USEFUL ROLE IN HELPING THE INTERNATIONAL
COMMUNITY ACHIEVE RESULTS FROM THE
NEGOTIATIONS. BARTHOLOMEW RETURNED TO THE U.S.
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 14.**
- BARTHOLOMEW IS CURRENTLY IN WASHINGTON ON
CONSULTATIONS IN THE DEPARTMENT, THE NSC AND
OTHER USG OFFICES. HE HAS PARTICIPATED IN MEETINGS
AT THE WHITE HOUSE ON YUGOSLAVIA TO
REVIEW THE SITUATION AND HIS ASSIGNMENT AND HAS
MET SEPARATELY WITH THE SECRETARY, NSC ADVISOR
LAKE AND THE CHAIRMAN OF THE JOINT CHIEFS OF
STAFF.**
- SECRETARY CHRISTOPHER HAS TALKED TO SPECIAL
ENVOY VANCE ABOUT AMBASSADOR BARTHOLOMEW'S
MEETINGS IN MOSCOW AND ABOUT HIS SCHEDULE**

IN ADDITION, HE IS SCHEDULED TO MEET WITH THE VICE PRESIDENT, CIA DIRECTOR WOOLSEY AND THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE BEFORE HE TRAVELS TO NEW YORK ON THURSDAY.

- DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER VITALIY CHURKIN IS SCHEDULED TO ARRIVE IN NEW YORK TODAY. CHURKIN HAS BEEN DESIGNATED BY RUSSIAN PRESIDENT YELTSIN AS RUSSIA'S ENVOY TO THE NEGOTIATIONS. AMBASSADOR BARTHOLOMEW EXPECTS TO MEET AND CONSULT WITH CHURKIN, AMONG OTHERS, TO COORDINATE OUR EFFORTS.**

EUR PRESS GUIDANCE
February 16, 1993

BOSNIA-HERZEGOVINA: FIGHTING UPDATE

Q: Do you have an update on the situation in Bosnia-Herzegovina?

A: -- SARAJEVO REMAINED UNDER HEAVY BOSNIAN SERB ARTILLERY BOMBARDMENT MONDAY, FOR THE FIFTH DAY CONSECUTIVE DAY. THE WESTERN SUBURBS OF STUP (STOOP) AND HADZICI (HAH-jee-chee) ON THE ROAD TO THE AIRPORT, REPORTEDLY ARE ALSO BEING SHELLLED BY THE BOSNIAN SERBS.

-- MEANWHILE, A BOSNIAN GOVERNMENT OFFENSIVE CONTINUES AGAINST THE SERB-HELD SARAJEVO SUBURB OF ILIDZA (EEL-eed-zah), WHICH IS BETWEEN THE AIRPORT AND STUP.

-- ELSEWHERE IN BOSNIA, BRCKO (BIRCH-koh) ALSO WAS REPORTED TO BE UNDER BOSNIAN SERB ARTILLERY FIRE. BOSNIAN GOVERNMENT FORCES WERE CONTINUING THEIR ATTACKS AGAINST THE BOSNIAN SERB VILLAGES OF BRATUNAC (BRAH-too-nach) AND CAJNICE (CHAY-nee-chah) ALONG BOSNIA'S EASTERN BORDER.

**IO PRESS GUIDANCE
FEBRUARY 16, 1993**

BOSNIA-HERZEGOVINA HUMANITARIAN RELIEF

HUMANITARIAN AIRLIFT

- THERE HAVE BEEN NO HUMANITARIAN FLIGHTS TO SARAJEVO SINCE FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 12. BOSNIAN AUTHORITIES HAVE REFUSED TO ACCEPT FURTHER RELIEF DISTRIBUTIONS UNTIL THE MUSLIM ENCLAVES IN EASTERN BOSNIA RECEIVE ASSISTANCE.**
- ON FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 12, FIFTEEN FLIGHTS -- SIX U.S. -- DELIVERED 133.2 METRIC TONS OF FOOD, MEDICINE, BLANKETS AND SLEEPING BAGS.**
- THE UNITED NATIONS HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR REFUGEES ESTIMATES THAT THERE ARE 2,800 METRIC TONS OF SUPPLIES IN THE AIRPORT WAREHOUSE.**
- COUNTRIES THAT PARTICIPATE IN THE AIRLIFT ARE CONCENTRATING ON SHIFTING THE BASE OF OPERATIONS FROM ZAGREB TO ANCONA, ITALY. FLIGHTS FROM ANCONA COULD BEGIN TOMORROW, FEBRUARY 17, SHOULD THE BOSNIAN AUTHORITIES REVERSE THEIR CURRENT POLICY OF REFUSAL TO ACCEPT HUMANITARIAN AID.**

CONVOYS

- THE UNITED NATIONS HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR REFUGEES IS MAKING A THIRD ATTEMPT TODAY, FEBRUARY 16, TO REACH CERSKA WITH A CONVOY OF HUMANITARIAN RELIEF SUPPLIES. THE CONVOY WAS STOPPED AT A SERBIAN CHECKPOINT ON FEBRUARY 14 AND HAS NOT BEEN ALLOWED TO PROCEED.
- EMBASSY BELGRADE UNDERSTANDS THAT UN MEDIATOR VANCE HAS CONTACTED SERB LEADERS KARADZIC AND MILOSEVIC AND THAT KARADZIC HAS AGREED TO OPEN THE ROUTE.
- UNITED NATIONS HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR REFUGEES OFFICIALS REMAIN SKEPTICAL AND HAVE SENT A SECOND CONVOY TO THE AREA TODAY IN A CHALLENGE TO THE SERBS WHO HAVE BLOCKED THE EARLIER CONVOY.
- A UNITED NATIONS HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR REFUGEES' CONVOY TO TUZLA IS ALSO BEING HELD UP BY BOSNIAN SERBS.
- WE DEPLORE THE BLOCKING OF AID TO NEEDY POPULATIONS IN EASTERN BOSNIA AND ELSEWHERE IN THE FORMER YUGOSLAVIA. WE CALL, ONCE MORE, ON ALL PARTIES TO THE CONFLICT TO HONOR THEIR SOLEMN COMMITMENTS, MADE DURING THE LONDON CONFERENCE AND REPEATED PUBLICLY ON SEVERAL OCCASIONS, TO COOPERATE FULLY WITH EFFORTS TO DELIVER

IO PRESS GUIDANCE
February 16, 1993**SECURITY COUNCIL DISCUSSIONS ON BOSNIA-HERZEGOVINA**

Q. What is planned at the UN this week?

**A. -- WE EXPECT TALKS TO RESUME
WEEK.**

LATER THIS

ARRIVALS IN NEW YORK

Q. Where is Karadzic? Has he applied for another visa?

**A. -- KARDZIC IS CURRENTLY BACK IN THE FORMER YUGOSLAVIA. HE
HAS NOT, TO DATE, APPLIED FOR A SECOND VISA.**

Q. Are the other parties in New York?

**A. -- REPRESENTATIVES OF THE BOSNIAN GOVERNMENT AND THE
BOSNIAN CROATS REMAIN IN THE U.S.**

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EUR PRESS GUIDANCE
February 16, 1993

CROATIA: FIGHTING UPDATE

Q: Do you have an update on the fighting in Croatia?

**A: -- SERBS AND CROATS CONTINUE TO EXCHANGE
ARTILLERY FIRE IN NORTHERN DALMATIAN TOWNS NEAR
ZADAR (ZAH-dar) AND NOVI GRAD (NOH-vee GRAHD).**

**EUR Press Guidance
February 16, 1993**

RUSSIA: SECRETARY'S MEETING WITH FEDEROV

Q: Did Secretary Christopher meet with a Russian official over the weekend? If so, why and at who's request?

A: -- THE SECRETARY MET WITH RUSSIAN DEPUTY PREMIER BORIS FEDEROV ON FEBRUARY 15 AT THE STATE DEPARTMENT.

-- THE SECRETARY AND FEDEROV REVIEWED RUSSIA'S ECONOMIC PLANS AND DISCUSSED WESTERN ASSISTANCE TO RUSSIA. FEDEROV GAVE HIM A DETAILED BRIEFING ON THE ECONOMIC SITUATION IN RUSSIA.

-- FEDEROV REQUESTED THIS MEETING AS ONE OF A NUMBER OF CALLS ON SENIOR MEMBERS OF THE NEW U.S. ADMINISTRATION. HE IS MEETING WITH TREASURY SECRETARY BENTSEN TODAY.

Feb 16, 1993

SECRETARY'S MIDDLE EAST SCHEDULE

SUBJECT TO CHANGE

Feb 17 (Wed)	Depart DC (after President's address)
Feb 18 (Thurs)	Cairo
Feb 19 (Fri)	To Amman in evening
Feb 20 (Sat)	To Damascus in evening
Feb 21 (Sun)	To Riyadh in evening
Feb 22 (Mon)	To Kuwait and Israel
Feb 23 (Tues)	In Israel
Feb 24 (Wed)	In Israel
Feb 25 (Thurs)	To Geneva and Brussels
Feb 26 (Fri)	Return to DC from Brussels

NEA PRESS GUIDANCE**February 16, 1993****OCCUPIED TERRITORIES:
DEMOLITION OF PALESTINIAN HOMES**

Q: What is your reaction to the report that the Israelis have adopted a new technique of destroying Palestinian homes when searching for suspects before allowing an appeals process?

A: WE ARE DEEPLY TROUBLED BY THE RECENT INCREASE IN VIOLENCE IN THE TERRITORIES AND BY THE PALESTINIAN AND ISRAELI CAUSALTIES.

THE UNITED STATES UNDERSTANDS THE DIFFICULT SECURITY PROBLEMS ISRAEL FACES WITH TERRORIST ATTACKS AND THAT THE GOVERNMENT OF ISRAEL HAS A DUTY TO PROTECT ITS CITIZENS.

AT THE SAME TIME, THE 1992 HUMAN RIGHTS REPORT REAFFIRMED OUR LONGSTANDING POSITION THAT CERTAIN ISRAELI PRACTICES, INCLUDING DEMOLITION OR SEALING OF HOUSES AS A FORM OF COLLECTIVE PUNISHMENT, CONTRAVENE SPECIFIC PROVISIONS OF THE FOURTH GENEVA CONVENTION.

Q: How does this practice impact on the peace talks?

A: ISSUES OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN THE OCCUPIED TERRITORIES ARE CURRENTLY ON THE TABLE IN THE BILATERAL PEACE TALKS.

THE CONTINUED VIOLENCE ON BOTH SIDES IS FURTHER EVIDENCE OF THE NEED TO ADVANCE THE MIDDLE EAST PEACE NEGOTIATIONS WITH URGENCY AND VIGOR.

(PRESIDENT CLINTON HAS ASKED

THE FACT THAT SECRETARY CHRISTOPHER TO MAKE HIS FIRST TRIP ABROAD AS SECRETARY OF STATE TO THE MIDDLE EAST UNDERSCORES THE COMMITMENT OF THE PRESIDENT AND THE SECRETARY TO THE GOAL OF REINVIGORATING THE PEACE TALKS. THE SECRETARY LOOKS FORWARD TO TALKING TO THE PARTIES ON A WHOLE RANGE OF ISSUES.

Q: What is your reaction to the Arab Human Rights group report on summary executions?

A: WE HAVE SEEN THE PRESS REPORTS AND OUR EMBASSY IS LOOKING INTO THE MATTER.

Drafted: NEA/P: WChamberlin

Cleared: NEA:MParrls

HA;GOba

S/P AMiller

NEA: EDJerejian

PM PRESS GUIDANCE
February 16, 1993

IRAQ: UN SPECIAL COMMISSION SURVEILLANCE FLIGHTS

Q: Is the UN Special Commission on Iraq going to challenge Iraq's refusal to allow UN helicopter surveillance flights over Baghdad?

A: -- UN SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTIONS 687 AND 707 ALLOW THE SPECIAL COMMISSION TO CONDUCT BOTH FIXED WING AND HELICOPTER FLIGHTS THROUGHOUT IRAQ FOR ALL RELEVANT PURPOSES, INCLUDING INSPECTION, SURVEILLANCE, AERIAL SURVEYS, TRANSPORTATION, AND LOGISTICS.

-- UN SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION 707 ALSO STATES THAT IRAQ MUST ALLOW THE UN SPECIAL COMMISSION AND THE INTERNATIONAL ATOMIC ENERGY AGENCY TO CONDUCT THESE FLIGHTS WITHOUT INTERFERENCE OF ANY KIND AND UPON SUCH TERMS AND CONDITIONS AS THE SPECIAL COMMISSION MAY DETERMINE.

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- THE UN SECURITY COUNCIL IS CLEAR: THE SPECIAL COMMISSION HAS THE RIGHT TO OVERFLY ANY AND ALL SITES IT DETERMINES ARE APPROPRIATE FOR ITS WORK.
- WE REFER YOU TO THE UN SPECIAL COMMISSION FOR OPERATIONAL DETAILS.

Q: What is happening with the latest inspection teams?

- A: -- THE SPECIAL COMMISSION'S FIFTEENTH BALLISTIC MISSILE INSPECTION TEAM ENTERED IRAQ ON FRIDAY AND IS INVENTORYING BALLISTIC MISSILE-RELATED EQUIPMENT.**
- THE INSPECTION IS PROCEEDING NORMALLY. WE REFER YOU TO THE SPECIAL COMMISSION FOR GREATER DETAIL.

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- **THERE IS ALSO A CHEMICAL DESTRUCTION GROUP DESTROYING CHEMICAL MUNITIONS AT MUTHANNA.**

Q: Has Iraq said that it will accept UN Security Council Resolution 715?

A: - UN SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION 687 CHARGES THE SPECIAL COMMISSION AND THE INTERNATIONAL ATOMIC ENERGY AGENCY WITH CONDUCTING CHALLENGE INSPECTIONS FOR IRAQI WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION ITEMS. UN SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION 715—WHICH IRAQ CONTINUES TO REJECT—LAYS OUT A DETAILED LONG-TERM MONITORING REGIME TO ENSURE THAT IRAQ CANNOT REGENERATE ITS WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION CAPABILITY.

- **WE CONTINUE TO INSIST ON IRAQI ACCEPTANCE OF THIS RESOLUTION; HOWEVER, WE HAVE NO INFORMATION THAT IRAQ HAS CHANGED ITS POSITION. YOU SHOULD ASK THE SPECIAL COMMISSION FOR DETAILS.**

NEA PRESS GUIDANCE
Tuesday, February 16, 1993

IRAQ

Q: What is your reaction to the Iraqi President Saddam Hussein's remarks regarding "new relations" with the U.S.?

A: WE HAVE SEEN THE REPORTS OF SADDAM'S PUBLIC COMMENTS SUGGESTING HIS DESIRE FOR NEW RELATIONS WITH THE UNITED STATES. AS GEORGE STEPHANOPOULOS SAID YESTERDAY, IRAQ WILL BE JUDGED BY ITS ACTIONS, NOT ITS WORDS.

RATHER THAN SEEKING IN GOOD FAITH TO IMPLEMENT UNITED NATIONS SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTIONS, IRAQ HAS SOUGHT WAYS OF AVOIDING THE REQUIREMENTS FOR UN MONITORING AND FOR THE EQUITABLE DISTRIBUTION OF HUMANITARIAN SUPPLIES.

IRAQ FULLY UNDERSTANDS THAT IT MUST IMPLEMENT ALL RELEVANT RESOLUTIONS AND KNOWS WHAT IT NEEDS TO DO TO COMPLY.

Q: Has the U.S. suggested a dialogue with the Iraqis via Ramsay Clark? Was he an emissary?

A: NO, RAMSAY CLARK DID NOT GO TO IRAQ ON BEHALF OF THIS GOVERNMENT.

IF IRAQI LEADERS HAVE ANYTHING TO SAY, THEY CAN RAISE IT WITH OUR MISSION TO THE UNITED NATIONS OR THROUGH THEIR INTERESTS SECTION IN WASHINGTON.

Q: What's happening in the "No-fly" zones?

A: IT REMAINS QUIET IN THE NO-FLY ZONES. (DETAILS TO PENTAGON.)

S/CT PRESS GUIDANCE
Tuesday, February 16, 1993

IRAN: FATWA AGAINST RUSHDIE

Q: What is your reaction to the renewal of the fatwa against Salman Rushdie?

A: — THE DEATH THREAT AGAINST MR. RUSHDIE IS A DIRECT ASSAULT ON FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION, A FUNDAMENTAL HUMAN RIGHT. IT IS ALSO FURTHER EVIDENCE OF IRAN'S SUPPORT FOR INTERNATIONAL TERRORISM. THE U.S. CONDEMNS BOTH THE DEATH THREAT AND THE BOUNTY AS INCOMPATIBLE WITH BASIC STANDARDS OF INTERNATIONAL CONDUCT. WE CALL UPON THE GOVERNMENT OF IRAN TO TAKE WHATEVER ACTION IS NECESSARY TO REPEAL IT.

- 2 -

Q. Has the US advised Iran through diplomatic channels of its opposition to the death threats against Salman Rushdie?

A. -THE UNITED STATES HAS REPEATEDLY AND PUBLICLY CONDEMNED THE DEATH THREATS AGAINST SALMAN RUSHDIE AND CALLED UPON THE GOVERNMENT OF IRAN TO TAKE WHATEVER ACTION IS NECESSARY TO REPEAL THEM.

- THE IRANIANS KNOW WELL THE U.S. POSITION ON THE DEATH THREAT AGAINST MR. RUSHDIE.

(IF PRESSED)

- WE DO NOT DESCRIBE THE SUBSTANCE OF DIPLOMATIC COMMUNICATIONS WITH IRAN.

**Drafted:S/CT:JReap
x78682**

**Cleared:S/CT:LEPope
NEA/NGA:MBernier-Toth
NEA/P:CMitchell**