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Folder Title:

Bosnia: [Department of] State Materials [binder] [1]

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Legal Advisor-Baker, James

Original OA/ID Number:

999

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Withdrawal/Redaction Sheet

Clinton Library

DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
001a. memo	Cover Sheet Re: Bosnia Arms Documents [partial] (1 page)	04/30/1996	P3/b(3)
001b. list	Index of Documents Made Available to SSCI (3 pages)	00/00/0000	P1/b(1)
001c. memo	Re: Bosnia (3 pages)	05/31/1994	P1/b(1)

COLLECTION:

Clinton Presidential Records
National Security Council
Legal Advisor (James Baker)
OA/Box Number: 999

FOLDER TITLE:

Bosnia: [Department of] State Materials [binder] [1]

2017-0035-F

in260

RESTRICTION CODES

Presidential Records Act - [44 U.S.C. 2204(a)]

P1 National Security Classified Information [(a)(1) of the PRA]
P2 Relating to the appointment to Federal office [(a)(2) of the PRA]
P3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(a)(3) of the PRA]
P4 Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential commercial or financial information [(a)(4) of the PRA]
P5 Release would disclose confidential advice between the President and his advisors, or between such advisors [(a)(5) of the PRA]
P6 Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(a)(6) of the PRA]

C. Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in donor's deed of gift.

PRM. Personal record misfile defined in accordance with 44 U.S.C. 2201(3).

RR. Document will be reviewed upon request.

Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]

b(1) National security classified information [(b)(1) of the FOIA]
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b(9) Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA]

~~TOP SECRET/CODEWORD~~

UNCLASSIFIED UPON REMOVAL
OF CLASSIFIED ATTACHMENTS
Initials: JK Date: 1-9-2018
2017-0035-F

BOSNIA: State Materials

James E. Baker
Deputy Legal Adviser
National Security Council
456-9111

~~TOP SECRET/CODEWORD~~

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United States Department of State

Washington, D.C. 20520

~~TOP SECRET CODEWORD ATTACHED~~

April 30, 1996

NSC: Mr. Baker
[redacted] (b)(3)
DOD: Mr. Sheehan

[001a]

SUBJECT: Bosnia Arms Documents

Attached for your information are the documents that the Department of State has provided to the SSCI on arms shipments to Bosnia.


Jon Gibney
INR/IL
647-1153

UNCLASSIFIED UPON REMOVAL
OF CLASSIFIED ATTACHMENTS
Initials: JK Date: 1-9-2016

2017-0035-F

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001b. list	Index of Documents Made Available to SSCI (3 pages)	00/00/0000	P1/b(1)

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CATEGORY I DOCUMENTS PROVIDED TO THE HILL

42

Mushin Arms

Lift

P-1

Question:

If lift and strike were pursued, how would pumping weapons into the region be compatible with retaining UNPROFOR? How is turning a blind eye to Iranian arms deliveries to Bosnia compatible with retaining UNPROFOR and preserving some measure of regional stability?

Answer:

- o We believe that it would be difficult to reconcile a continued UNPROFOR presence, as currently configured, and lift and strike. Lift and strike would require, at the least, drawing UNPROFOR into protected positions.

- o The U.S. does not turn a blind eye to Iranian or any other violations of the arms embargo. As you know, however, the Administration is required by the Nunn-Mitchell Amendment to forego enforcement of the embargo.

L28

Question for the Record Submitted to
Secretary of State Warren Christopher
by Congressman Lightfoot
House Appropriations Committee
Subcommittee on Foreign Operations
March 1, 1994

BOSNIA

Question:

28c. What role have Libya, Iran and other Muslim states played in encouraging the Bosnian Muslims to fight on? What level and nature of support have Libya, Iran and other Muslim states supplied the Bosnian Muslims?

Answer:

The Bosnian government has received extensive political support and some financial and other material support from Islamic countries. A number of radical Islamic states, such as Libya and Iran, have attempted unsuccessfully to sway the Government away from the peace process. Others have been supportive of the overall diplomatic and peacemaking effort. Several of these radical Islamic states reportedly have allowed some of their citizens to serve in Bosnian government military forces and may have supplied some weapons and other instruments of war to the Bosnians.

MS

Drafted:EUR/EE:
SEEEYYUG 7998, ext. 7-4138, 3/14/94

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PAGE 02 STATE 128797 140428Z
AMEMBASSY MALABO
AMCONSUL SHANGHAI

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INFORM CONSULS ALSO FOR USEC/USOEC

E.O. 12356: N/A
TAGS: OPRC
SUBJECT: DAILY PRESS BRIEFING - FRIDAY, MAY 13, 1994

THE FOLLOWING SUBJECTS COVERED IN TODAY'S BRIEFING:

FORMER YUGOSLAVIA
REPORTED RECEIPT OF IRANIAN ARMS BY BOSNIA 1-2
US VIEW OF ARMS EMBARGO 2
RUSSIAN PARLIAMENT VOTE TO LIFT EMBARGO ON SERBS 2

NORTH KOREA
TALKS WITH US IN NEW YORK RE: NUCLEAR ISSUE 3
ARRIVAL OF IAEA INSPECTION TEAM 3

RWANDA
DISCUSSIONS AT UN ON CIVIL STRIFE 5

CHINA
HUMAN RIGHTS/MFN 5

AITI
OAS AGREEMENT ON HAITI POLICIES 5-6
TIGHTENING SANCTIONS 6

WILLIAM GRAY'S ROLE/TITLE 6
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BEGIN TEXT:

PAGE 1

MR. JOHNSON: GOOD AFTERNOON, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN. I DON'T HAVE ANY PREPARED STATEMENTS. SO IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS, I'LL DO MY BEST TO ANSWER THEM FOR YOU.

Q DO YOU HAVE ANY COMMENT ON THE STORY ABOUT IRANIAN WEAPON SALES IN BOSNIA?

MR. JOHNSON: JUST SOMETHING VERY BRIEF. SINCE ANY INFORMATION ON THIS ISSUE WOULD COME THROUGH INTELLIGENCE SOURCES, I CAN'T, OF COURSE, CONFIRM OR DENY THE REPORTS.

I WOULD SAY IT'S THE POLICY OF THE UNITED STATES TO RESPECT THE U.N. ARMS EMBARGO ON THE NATIONS THAT FORMERLY COMPRISED YUGOSLAVIA. AND ALTHOUGH WE DO FAVOR LIFTING THE EMBARGO ON BOSNIA, WE CONTINUE TO BELIEVE SERIOUS RISKS ARE INVOLVED IN LIFTING IT UNILATERALLY. WE BELIEVE IT'S IMPORTANT THAT U.N. SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTIONS BE FULLY OBSERVED.

Q IS THERE ANY CONSIDERATION BEING GIVEN TO REPRIMANDING THE BOSNIAN MUSLIMS FOR TAKING THIS SHIPMENT OR TRYING TO BRING ANY ACTION AGAINST IRAN?

MR. JOHNSON: I REALLY DON'T HAVE ANYTHING BEYOND WHAT I'VE SAID ABOUT IT. I DON'T HAVE ANYTHING ON ANY
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PAGE 04 STATE 128797 140428Z
FURTHER ACTIONS THAT MIGHT BE PLANNED.

Q CAN YOU TAKE THAT QUESTION? IRAN IS A U.N. MEMBER.

MR. JOHNSON: I'LL LOOK INTO IT, BUT I'M GOING TO HAVE TO BE QUITE CIRCUMSPECT TODAY ON ANY COMMENTS I MAKE ON ANYTHING IN BOSNIA BECAUSE THE SECRETARY AND A NUMBER OF YOUR COLLEAGUES ARE WITH HIM. AND THAT'S THE SUBJECT OF DISCUSSION IN GENEVA. I WON'T MAKE ANY PROMISES TO YOU, BUT I'LL LOOK INTO IT.

Q DAVID, WHEN THIS HAPPENED EARLIER, THE STATE DEPARTMENT WAS WILLING TO TALK ABOUT IT. AS I GATHER FROM THE NEWS REPORTS, SOME OF THE INFORMATION IS NOT COMING FROM

PAGE 2

INTELLIGENCE SOURCES BUT FROM DIPLOMATIC SOURCES, INCLUDING AMERICAN DIPLOMATIC SOURCES IN VIENNA. FOR EXAMPLE. I'M WONDERING WHY YOU CAN'T THEREFORE DISCUSS, AT LEAST, WHAT THEY'VE BEEN ABLE TO DISCUSS WITH REPORTERS AT THE EMBASSY IN VIENNA?

MR. JOHNSON: I DON'T HAVE ANYTHING FOR YOU ON WHAT MAY OR MAY NOT HAVE BEEN SAID IN VIENNA. WHAT I SAID WAS THAT ANY INFORMATION THAT WE WOULD HAVE TO CONFIRM OR DENY THE REPORTS WOULD COME THROUGH INTELLIGENCE SOURCES.

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Q YES, BUT I'M SAYING THAT THE POST APPARENTLY GOT SOME CONFIRMATION OR DENIAL, OR I THINK SOME STATEMENT, ON THE TRANSSHIPMENT OF THIS SHIPMENT FROM THE U.S. EMBASSY -- FROM STATE DEPARTMENT PEOPLE IN VIENNA. IF THEY CAN GET CONFIRMATION FROM THEM THERE, WHY WE CAN'T WE GET CONFIRMATION OR DENIAL HERE?

MR. JOHNSON: I SIMPLY DON'T HAVE ANYTHING BEYOND WHAT I'VE SAID.

Q I'D LIKE TO ASK A DIFFERENCE ANGLE ON THE EMBARGO ISSUE. THE RUSSIAN PARLIAMENT TODAY VOTED ON A FIRST READING OF DRAFT LAW TO UNILATERALLY BREAK THE EMBARGO AGAINST THE SERBS AND START TRADING WITH THEM. DO YOU HAVE A COMMENT ON THAT?

MR. JOHNSON: THE ONLY THING I WOULD SAY IS THAT THIS RAISES, AGAIN, THE NECESSITY OF OPERATING IN CONCERT IN THE U.N. ON CHANGING THE NATURE OF EMBARGOES THAT HAVE BEEN ADOPTED BY U.N. ACTION AND UNDERSCORES WHAT WE'VE BEEN SAYING FOR THE LAST 24 HOURS ABOUT NEEDING TO DO THIS WITH OUR ALLIES AND NOT UNILATERALLY.

Q TO GO BACK TO SAUL'S POINT, WHICH I THINK WAS A GOOD ONE, THE LAST TIME THIS ISSUE CAME UP, THE UNITED STATES WAS ONLY TOO WILLING TO SORT OF PUBLICLY TAKE CREDIT FOR HAVING A ROLE IN INTERCEPTING THIS SHIPMENT. WERE YOU NOT AWARE OF IT BEFOREHAND? WAS THERE NO WAY THAT THIS COULD HAVE BEEN PREVENTED?

MR. JOHNSON: I'M NOT IN A POSITION TO REVIEW THE

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PAGE 06 STATE 128797 140428Z

PRIOR HISTORY WITH YOU. I'VE REALLY SAID ALL I CAN SAY ON IT. BECAUSE IF WE WERE TO HAVE ANY INFORMATION ON IT, IT WOULD HAVE COME THROUGH INTELLIGENCE SOURCES.

Q WHAT'S THE LATEST OF WHAT'S GOING ON IN GENEVA? ANYTHING?

MR. JOHNSON: I WOULD REFER YOU TO THE PARTY IN GENEVA. I'M NOT IN A POSITION TO COMMENT ON WHAT THE TRAVELLING PARTY IS DOING. THEY ARE IN A POSITION TO DO

AGE 3

THAT THEMSELVES, AND THEY'VE GOT 13 OR 12, I GUESS, OF YOU ALONG WITH THEM TO REPORT ON THAT.

Q WHAT CAN YOU SAY ABOUT TALKS IN NEW YORK
YESTERDAY WITH THE NORTH KOREANS?

MR. JOHNSON: I CAN CONFIRM FOR YOU THAT
WORKING-LEVEL OFFICIALS FROM THE STATE DEPARTMENT MET
WITH REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE NORTH KOREAN MISSION TO
THE U.N. IN NEW YORK ON THURSDAY AFTERNOON IN CONNECTION
WITH EFFORTS TO RESOLVE THE NUCLEAR ISSUE. IT WAS
SIMILAR TO MEETINGS WHICH HAVE TAKEN PLACE BEFORE.

IN THAT RESPECT, WE

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a
*** Current Classification *** UNCLASSIFIED

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INFORM CONSULS ALSO FOR USEC/USOEC

E.O. 12356: N/A

TAGS: OPRC

SUBJECT: DAILY PRESS BRIEFING - MONDAY JUNE 27, 1994

THE FOLLOWING TOPICS WERE COVERED IN TODAY'S BRIEFING:

NORTH KOREA

THIRD ROUND OF TALKS ON NUCLEAR ISSUE.....1

STATUS OF KOREAN NUCLEAR FACILITY 3

MIDDLE EAST PEACE

U.S. REACTION TO SUMMARY OF ISRAELI REPORT ON

HEBRON MASSACRE 3-6

IMPLEMENTATION OF DECLARATION OF PRINCIPLES 5

PROPOSED AID MISSION 5, 10

HAITI

PROCESSING OF BOAT PEOPLE/REFUGEES 6-8

APPROVALS/DENIALS/PENDING STATUS 7

HUMANITARIAN RELIEF 8-9

STATUS OF AIR FLIGHTS 10

BOSNIA

CONTACT GROUP MEETING/WORK.....11-12

UPDATE ON FIGHTING 11-12

ALLEGATIONS OF IRANIAN ARMS TRANSFERS TO REGION ..12-13

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SOMALIA
SITUATION IN MOGADISHU--INTER-CLAN FIGHTING 14
SOME U.S. LIAISON OFFICE STAFF MOVED TO NAIROBI 14-16

JAPAN
STATUS OF FRAMEWORK DISCUSSIONS 17

BEGIN TEXT:

PAGE 1

MR. MCCURRY: LET'S START. I'M READY. ARE YOU
READY? GO. DO IT.

Q DID YOU SEE ARISTIDE'S COMMENT IN WHICH HE SAID
HE COULD NEVER, EVER ENDORSE THE NOTION OF A U.S. --

MR. MCCURRY: I THINK HE SAID, NEVER, NEVER, NEVER.
MAYBE IT WAS NEVER, NEVER, EVER.

Q PRESUMABLY, YOU HAVE SOME GUIDANCE ON THAT?

MR. MCCURRY: I DON'T HAVE SOME GUIDANCE ON THAT. I
WILL TELL YOU THAT HAS BEEN HIS POSITION FOR SOME TIME.

Q HE'S BEEN A LOT MORE AMBIGUOUS ABOUT IT; THAT'S
NOT HIS POSITION FOR SOME TIME.

MR. MCCURRY: I'LL GET MORE ON THAT. IF YOU'RE NOT
SATISFIED WITH THAT ANSWER, I'LL DO BETTER.

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PAGE 04 STATE 171643 280808Z
I THINK YOU ALL KNOW THAT WE DID CONFIRM TODAY A
REPORT FROM NORTH KOREA THAT THE THIRD ROUND OF TALKS ON
THE NUCLEAR ISSUE IN GENEVA WILL BEGIN JULY 8. AND OUR
DELEGATION, AS YOU WOULD EXPECT, WILL BE HEADED BY
ASSISTANT SECRETARY GALLUCCI AND VICE FOREIGN MINISTER
KANG SUK-JU WILL HEAD THE NORTH KOREAN DELEGATION.

YOU'RE LYOKING AT ME AS IF I'M GOING TO SAY MORE
THAN THAT. I WILL IF BEGGED TO DO SO.

Q THERE WAS A REPORT IN A SOUTH KOREAN NEWSPAPER
THAT WE WILL OFFER, AFTER OTHER THINGS ARE WORKED OUT,
TO HAVE A LIAISON OFFICE IN NORTH KOREA.

MR. MCCURRY: WHERE DO THEY GET THAT STUFF? IT'S
HARD TO KNOW WHERE THAT COMES FROM. WE WOULD CERTAINLY
HOPE THAT RELATIONS WITH NORTH KOREA WOULD IMPROVE IN
THE FUTURE, AND THAT IN THE CONTEXT OF OUR DIALOGUE, A
BROAD AND THOROUGH DIALOGUE, THAT ISSUES LIKE THE STATUS
OF OUR DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS COULD BE ADDRESSED. BUT I'M
NOT AWARE

PAGE 2

THAT THERE IS ANY FORMAL PLAN AT THIS POINT THAT WILL BE PURSUED IN THE THIRD ROUND. INDEED, THERE WILL BE DISCUSSIONS OVER THE COMING WEEK ABOUT THE U.S. PRESENTATION AT THE THIRD ROUND.

I EXPECT THERE WILL BE CONTINUING CONSULTATIONS WITH OTHER GOVERNMENTS ABOUT THAT PRESENTATION AS WELL. WE
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PAGE 05 STATE 171643 280808Z
WILL HAVE A MUCH BETTER IDEA AS WE GET CLOSER TO JULY 8 OF THE PRESENTATION THAT THE UNITED STATES WILL MAKE. BUT IT WILL. AS THE PRESIDENT HAS INDICATED, INCLUDE ECONOMIC, SECURITY, AND POLITICAL CONSIDERATIONS.

Q CAN YOU SAY ANYTHING MORE ABOUT THIS PROCESS THAT YOU'RE GOING THROUGH NOW TO SORT OF GET READY FOR THESE TALKS? ARE YOU EXPECTING TO SIT DOWN THAT FIRST DAY AND LAY OUT A WHOLE SORT OF PANOPLY OF IDEAS AND PROPOSALS?

MR. MCCURRY: IF I'M NOT MISTAKEN, I BELIEVE THAT THEY HAVE AGREED THAT THE DPRK WILL HOST ON THE FIRST DAY, THE UNITED STATES WILL HOST ON THE SECOND DAY. THEY WILL TAKE A BREAK, THEY'LL RECONVENE AT SOME POINT THE FOLLOWING WEEK TO REVIEW SOME OF THE INITIAL PRESENTATIONS. BUT THIS INITIAL EXCHANGE, OR THIS INITIAL SESSION ITSELF, WILL PROBABLY LAST ABOUT A WEEK.

HOW IT WILL UNFOLD FROM THERE, WHAT HAPPENS SUBSEQUENT TO THAT INITIAL EXCHANGE IS SOMETHING WE JUST CAN'T SPECULATE ON AT THIS POINT.

SID.

Q HOW LONG IS THE UNITED STATES WILLING ENGAGE IN THESE TALKS?

MR. MCCURRY: WE HAVEN'T SET ANY TIME LIMIT ON IT. BUT I'D SAY WE ARE WILLING TO ENGAGE IN THIS BROAD AND

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PAGE 06 STATE 171643 280808Z
THOROUGH DIALOGUE SO LONG AS WE BELIEVE THAT IT'S PRODUCTIVE. AND BY "PRODUCTIVE," IT WOULD BE AIMED AT RESOLVING THE NORTH KOREAN NUCLEAR ISSUE AND ADDRESSING THE OTHER ISSUES THAT WE'VE IDENTIFIED SHOULD BE THE FOCUS OF A BROAD AND THOROUGH DIALOGUE.

CAROL.

Q ARE THE TWO INSPECTORS STILL IN PYONGYANG?

MR. MCCURRY: I BELIEVE THEY ARE. I WOULD DIRECT YOU TO THE IAEA. BUT I BELIEVE THEY HAD PLANNED TO ROTATE SOME PEOPLE IN AND OUT AND HAVE NOT ENCOUNTERED DIFFICULTIES IN DOING SO, BUT I'D ASK THAT YOU CHECK WITH THEM ON IT.

Q AND AS NEAR AS YOU KNOW EVERYTHING IS STILL IN ORDER; THEY'RE NOT DOING ANYTHING TO BREACH THE COMMITMENTS THEY'VE GIVEN YOU?

PAGE 3

MR. MCCURRY: THAT'S CORRECT. WE HAVE NOT RECEIVED ANY INFORMATION THAT INDICATES ANY CHANGE IN THE STATUS OF THE FACILITY.

Q THE ADMINISTRATION HAS HAD MONTHS AND MONTHS TO SORT OF THINK ABOUT ITS APPROACH TO NORTH KOREA, GOING BACK TO THE NOVEMBER MEETING WHEN KIM YOUNG SAM WAS HERE. ARE YOU SAYING THAT AFTER ALL THIS TIME NOTHING IS DECIDED IN TERMS OF HOW WE APPROACH THEM OR WHAT
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PAGE 07 STATE 171643 280808Z
WE'LL OFFER THEM AS PART OF A PACKAGE DEAL?

MR. MCCURRY: NO. WARREN, THERE HAS BEEN A LOT OF DISCUSSION. THE ENVIRONMENT FOR THE DISCUSSIONS WITH THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT HAS CHANGED BECAUSE OF CHANGES IN THE ATTITUDE EXPRESSED BY THE DPRK. BUT AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE SECOND ROUND LAST YEAR, THERE WAS AN UNDERSTANDING OF THOSE ELEMENTS THAT WOULD BE INCLUDED IN A BROAD AND THOROUGH DIALOGUE. THOSE ELEMENTS REMAIN. BUT PREPARING THAT PRESENTATION AND THINKING THROUGH THE PRESENTATION ITSELF IS SOMETHING THAT SENIOR POLICYMAKERS IN THE GOVERNMENT WILL BE WORKING ON IN THE COURSE OF THE COMING DAYS.

Q IS THE KOREAN NUCLEAR PROGRAM FROZEN IN PLACE?

IS THERE CONFORMITY TO THE THREE REQUIREMENTS THAT WE AGREED UPON?

MR. MCCURRY: BASED ON OUR UNDERSTANDING AT THIS MOMENT, YES. THE MAJOR ELEMENTS OF THE PROGRAM ARE FROZEN AS WE SO CLARIFIED IN THE EXCHANGE OF LETTERS WITH THE DPRK.

Q CAN WE GO TO THE MIDDLE EAST?

Q DO YOU HAVE ANY COMMENT ON THE ISRAELI COMMISSION JUDGE SHAMGAR'S REPORT ON THE HEBRON MASSACRE OF FEBRUARY 25?

MR. MCCURRY: WE'VE SEEN A SUMMARY OF THAT REPORT IN
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THE PRESS. WE DON'T HAVE ANY JUDGMENTS ABOUT THE SPECIFIC FINDINGS. WE DO KNOW THAT THE REPORT RECOGNIZES THAT THE AUTHORITIES SHOULD DO EVERYTHING THEY CAN TO PREVENT SUCH HORRENDOUS ACTS FROM OCCURRING IN THE FUTURE AND IT MAKES SPECIFIC RECOMMENDATIONS TO THAT EFFECT. THOSE RECOMMENDATIONS CLEARLY MERIT FULL

CONSIDERATION.

Q YOU TALK ABOUT ONE POINT IN THE 338-PAGE REPORT BY THE COMMISSION ABOUT SPECIFIC RECOMMENDATIONS OR SOMETHING, AND NOTHING ABOUT ALL THE REST OF IT

THE QUESTION IS, AS HAS BEEN ASKED, DOES THE STATE DEPARTMENT NOW BELIEVE THAT ONE DERANGED PERSON COMMITTED THIS CRIME IN THE MOSQUE ON FEBRUARY 25? NOT THE SETTLERS, IN GENERAL, NOT THE STATE OF ISRAEL, AND CERTAINLY NOT WORLD

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JEWRY. SO WHY DOESNT THE STATE DEPARTMENT COME OUT AND SAY, "IN THE PRESS WE'VE SEEN THIS, AND WE AGREE WITH THAT"?

MR. MCCURRY: JOE, I CANT OFFER YOU ANY JUDGMENTS ABOUT THE SPECIFICS IN THE REPORT BECAUSE WE DIDNT GO AND INDEPENDENTLY ASSESS THOSE FACTS. CERTAINLY, THERE'S NOTHING THAT WE ARE AWARE OF THAT WOULD DISPUTE THE ESSENTIAL FINDINGS, BUT IT'S NOT OUR PLACE TO RENDER A JUDGMENT ON A REPORT THAT HAS BEEN CONDUCTED BY THE GOVERNMENT OF ISRAEL.

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Q PRIME MINISTER RABIN SAID THAT HE WILL NOT BE

SURPRISED IF THERE WILL BE A SIMILAR MASSACRE LIKE THE ONE PERPETRATED THE 25TH OF FEBRUARY. WHAT DO YOU MAKE OF SUCH STATEMENT? IS THIS A NEFARIOUS SITUATION THERE OR WHAT?

MR. MCCURRY: I THINK THAT IS A SOBER ASSESSMENT BY THE PRIME MINISTER, THAT ENEMIES OF PEACE ON BOTH SIDES CONTINUE TO DO WHAT THEY CAN TO DESTROY THE PEACE PROCESS ITSELF.

Q MIKE, THIS IS AN ARGUMENT THAT'S BEEN ADVANCED AFTER THE FIRST WEEK OF THE KILLINGS IN THE MOSQUE. THE ARABS HAVE BEEN MAKING THIS AS A CRIME AGAINST HUMANITY BY THE STATE OF ISRAEL, THAT THE GOVERNMENT WAS AWARE OF IT, AND SO ON AND SO FORTH, TO ESTABLISH A POINT THAT SOMEWHERE IN THE HISTORY OF THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN ARABS AND ISRAELIS, THIS WILL BE A KEY POINT: YOU KILL OUR PEOPLE, THE WHOLE STATE OF ISRAEL IS RESPONSIBLE. THIS IS THE POINT THAT'S BEING MADE NOW IN THE QUESTION.

THE POINT IS THAT ONE MAN IS RESPONSIBLE, ACCORDING TO THE EVIDENCE, AND THE STATE DEPARTMENT IS WAFFLING.

MR. MCCURRY: I DIDNT WAFFLE. I THINK I WAS VERY DECLARATIVE IN ANSWERING THE QUESTION.

BETSY.

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Q WAIT. YOU WERE VERY DECLARATIVE IN ANSWERING THE QUESTION. I'M NOT FINDING FAULT WITH YOU. MIKE. YOU KNOW THAT, BUT WITH THE POLICY THAT IS MADE UPSTAIRS. WHEN WILL THE STATE DEPARTMENT COME OUT WITH A DEFINITIVE RESPONSE TO THIS REPORT THAT ONE MAN DID THIS JOB AND NOBODY ELSE WAS INVOLVED. AND WHAT RABIN MIGHT SAY TODAY OR MIGHT SAY TOMORROW, OR WHATEVER, IS NOT CONSEQUENTIAL TO THE ACT THAT HAD BEEN PERPETRATED ON FEBRUARY 25?

MR. MCCURRY: I HAVE GIVEN YOU A REACTION FROM THE DEPARTMENT, FROM THE U.S GOVERNMENT BASED ON THE SUMMARY OF THE REPORT THAT WE HAVE SEEN. I WILL SEE IF WE HAVE ACCESS TO THE COMPLETE REPORT. I WILL CERTAINLY DETERMINE WHETHER

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OR NOT THERE IS ANY FURTHER COMMENT THAT THE DEPARTMENT, OR THE U.S. GOVERNMENT WISHES TO MAKE ON THE REPORT.

SID.

Q AS FAR AS THE STATE DEPARTMENT IS CONCERNED, IS THE MATTER NOW CLOSED?

MR. MCCURRY: THE MATTER IS NOT CLOSED BECAUSE VIOLENCE CONTINUES IN THE TERRITORIES. THE DECLARATION IS BEING IMPLEMENTED, AND I DON'T THINK WE SHOULD OVERLOOK THE FACT THAT PROGRESS IS BEING MADE TO ADDRESS THE FUNDAMENTAL CORE ISSUES THAT LIE BEHIND THE DISPUTE
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BETWEEN ISRAEL AND THE PALESTINIANS. THERE HAVE BEEN IMPROVEENTS MADE AS A RESULT OF IMPLEMENTING THE DECLARATION.

SO, IN THAT SENSE. THE MATTER IS NOT CLOSED BECAUSE THE WORK TO RECONCILE THESE PARTIES SO THAT THEY CAN LIVE TOGETHER CONTINUES.

Q DO YOU THINK THAT THERE WILL BE, OR POSSIBLY NEEDED, A NEW MISSION FOR THE INTERNATIONAL OBSERVERS IN HEBRON WHO ARE LOOKING AT THE VIOLATIONS, OR SOMETHING LIKE THAT, AND REPORT TO THE UNITED NATIONS DUE TO THE FACT THAT THERE IS A PRECARIOUS SITUATION AND THE PRIME MINISTER IS WARNING -- THE AREA, THE TERRITORY IS NOT CLEAR AS A RESULT OF THIS REPORT AND THESE RESULTS? DO YOU THINK ANY MISSION THAT SHOULD BE GIVEN TO THE --

MR. MCCURRY: I WOULD HAVE TO GIVE YOU AN AUTHORITATIVE ASSESSMENT. I WOULD WANT TO GO AND CHECK AND SEE THE CURRENT STATUS OF THAT INTERNATIONAL MISSION, WHAT THE OBSERVERS THEMSELVES REPORT CURRENTLY, AND TAKE A LOOK AT THE QUESTION. BUT I'M WILLING TO DO SO IF YOU WANT TO POSE IT LATER ON IN THE WEEK. I'LL SEE IF WE CAN GET SOMETHING BETTER FOR YOU.

Q THE UNITED NATIONS SECURITY COUNCIL HAD A RESOLUTION ON THIS ACT WHICH MADE IT APPEAR AS IF THE WHOLE STATE OF ISRAEL WAS INVOLVED, AND THE UNITED STATES SUPPORTED THAT RESOLUTION.

MR. MCCURRY: IS IT A RESOLUTION OR A PRESIDENT'S
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STATEMENT?

Q WELL, A PRESIDENTIAL STATEMENT BUT IT CAME OUT
-

MR. MCCURRY: THERE IS A DIFFERENCE.

Q - BUT AS FAR AS THE WORLD IS AWARE IT'S A
UNITED NATIONS RESOLUTION.

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THE QUESTION THAT I HAVE NOW IS WHETHER THE STATE DEPARTMENT WILL PURSUE THIS ACTION, THIS COMMISSION REPORT, AND BRING ABOUT A RESOLUTION IN THE UNITED NATIONS THAT WILL VINDICATE THE COMMISSION'S STATEMENTS THAT WERE MADE YESTERDAY AND CLARIFY THIS MATTER FOR ALL TIME, THAT IT WAS THE ACT OF ONE MAN AND NOBODY ELSE?

MR. MCCURRY: JOE THAT FALLS IN THE SAME PROVINCE AS THE QUESTION I ANSWERED JUST A LITTLE WHILE AGO.

BETSY.

Q DO YOU HAVE ANY RUNDOWN ON HAITIAN REFUGEES, UPDATING YOUR LIST ON FRIDAY? I UNDERSTAND THERE WERE ALMOST 800 PEOPLE PICKED UP IN THE LAST THREE DAYS.

MR. MCCURRY: LET'S DO THE NUMBERS. GET YOUR CALCULATORS READY.

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SINCE WE LAST REPORTED ON FRIDAY, OVER THE WEEKEND THERE HAVE BEEN 785 HAITIANS PICKED UP FROM ABOUT 25 BOATS. I CAN BREAK THOSE DOWN BY DAYS IF THERE IS INTEREST IN THAT. WE'VE GOT THAT, IF SOMEONE WANTS THAT, YOU CAN CHECK IN LATER. THAT WOULD BRING THE TOTAL NUMBER UP NOW SINCE THE COMFOBEGAN ITS OPERATIONS TO 1,148. WE'VE GOT SOME BREAKDOWNS ON WHAT -- THE VARIOUS STATUS, OF PEOPLE WHO ARE BEING PROCESSED ON BOARD THE COMFORT.

I'D SAY THE MOST INTERESTING THING IS, IT DOES APPEAR THAT SMALLER BOATS WITH FEWER NUMBERS OF INDIVIDUALS SEEM TO BE DEPARTING, INDICATING THAT MANY OF THEM DON'T EXPECT TO MAKE THE JOURNEY ALL THE WAY TO FLORIDA, IF THAT IS INDEED THEIR DESTINATION.

IN OTHER RESPECTS, THE PROCESSING ABOARD THE COMFORT ITSELF IS REPORTED TO BE GOING SMOOTHLY. THEY ROTATE PEOPLE IN AND OUT, AND THEY'VE GOT PEOPLE AT VARIOUS STAGES OF EITHER BEING APPROVED FOR REFUGEE STATUS IN WHICH CASE THEY TRANSSHIPPED TO GUANTANAMO FOR A FORMAL SCREENING AT THE INS LEVEL, OR THEY ARE REPATRIATED IF

THEY ARE FOUND NOT TO HAVE A WELL-FOUNDED FEAR OF PERSECUTION.

Q ALL OF THESE PEOPLE WERE TAKEN TO THE COMFORT

MR. MCCURRY: THEY ARE IN VARIOUS STAGES OF BEING TAKEN TO THE COMFORT. IT PROBABLY CHANGES AS THEY GO ALONG. I BELIEVE SOME ARE -- IT LOOKS LIKE MOST OF THEM
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ARE GOING TO THE COMFORT, BUT NOT ALL OF THEM HAVE ARRIVED THERE YET. I THINK THEY PICK THEM UP AND THEN THEY'RE HELD ABOARD THE CUTTERS THAT PICK THEM UP AND ARE MOVED IN STAGES TO THE COMFORT SO THE COMFORT CAN ACCOMMODATE PEOPLE AS THEY COME IN. THEY DON'T BRING EVERYBODY ALL AT ONCE, NECESSARILY.

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SID.

Q SO, MIKE, IT WOULD APPEAR THAT YOUR MESSAGE OF FRIDAY ABOUT HAVING A BETTER CHANCE IN-COUNTRY IS FALLING ON DEAF EARS? IT WOULD APPEAR THAT WAVES OF HAITIANS ARE NOW LEAVING BOUND JUST FOR THE COMFORT; WOULD YOU AGREE WITH THAT?

MR. MCCURRY: I DIDN'T SAY "WAVES," SID. I SAID 785 HAITIANS LEFT IN 25 BOATS. YOU CAN CHARACTERIZE IT HOWEVER YOU SEE FIT. IF YOU WANT TO WRITE THE STORY AGAIN THAT WE CONTINUE TO URGE HAITIANS TO CONSIDER THE IN-COUNTRY PROCESSING, IN WHICH THEY ARE GOING TO BE MUCH SAFER, PLEASE WRITE THAT STORY AGAIN. THAT WOULD BE --

Q (INAUDIBLE).

MR. MCCURRY: SAY AGAIN?

Q IS THAT BABY BORN ABOARD THE SHIP A CITIZEN OF THE UNITED STATES?

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MR. MCCURRY: I DON'T KNOW THE ANSWER TO THAT. I DIDN'T REALIZE THERE WAS A BABY BORN. I CAN CHECK ON THAT.

Q DO YOU HAVE AN UPDATE ON HOW MANY PEOPLE HAVE BEEN GRANTED TEMPORARY POLITICAL ASYLUM?

MR. MCCURRY: COMING OFF OF THAT PROCESS?

Q YES

MR. MCCURRY: OF THE 1,148 INTERDICTED, THIS WOULD BE SINCE JUNE 15, 477 HAVE COMPLETED PROCESSING; 130 OF THOSE 477 HAVE BEEN APPROVED FOR REFUGEE STATUS; 347 HAVE BEEN DENIED. THE REMAINDER, OBVIOUSLY, PENDING.

Q MIKE, ABOUT THE QUESTION OF AID ESTABLISHING AN OFFICE IN EAST JERUSALEM --

MR. MCCURRY: SID HAS ANOTHER ONE.

Q I JUST WANTED TO GET AN ANSWER. IT APPEARS THAT MORE HAITIANS ARE LEAVING BOUND FOR THE COMFORT, NOT FOR FLORIDA, AS YOU SAY. AREN'T YOU CONCERNED THAT'S --

MR. MCCURRY: IT'S HARD TO KNOW WITHOUT KNOWING INDIVIDUAL CASE BY CASE, IT'S HARD TO KNOW THE DESTINATION. THE SEAWORTHINESS OF THE VESSELS LEAVING WOULD INDICATE THEY DON'T EXPECT TO JOURNEY ALL THE WAY
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TO FLORIDA.

Q DOESN'T THAT CONCERN THE STATE DEPARTMENT?

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MR. MCCURRY: IT CERTAINLY DOES. AS WE HAVE SAID REGULARLY AND REGULARLY, THEY PUT THEMSELVES AT GREAT RISK BY ATTEMPTING TO MAKE THAT VOYAGE OR ANY VOYAGE. SOMETIMES IN DILAPIDATED CRAFT THAT COULD VERY WELL RUN INTO TROUBLE IF THEY GET LOST OR IF THEY ENCOUNTER BAD WEATHER. AGAIN, WE SAY THAT WE ARE SATISFIED THAT WE'VE GOT A PROCESS IN PLACE IN-COUNTRY THAT COULD HELP THEM DETERMINE THE SAME THINGS THEY WOULD DETERMINE ABOARD THE COMFORT: IS THERE A WELL-FOUNDED FEAR OF PERSECUTION THAT LEADS TO AN APPROVAL OF REFUGEE STATUS?

Q WHAT'S THE IMPETUS FOR THIS RECENT INCREASE? IS IT THE SANCTIONS, THE SIEGE MENTALITY?

MR. MCCURRY: THAT'S EXACTLY WHAT OUR EXPERTS LOOK AT, AS THEY DETERMINE, CASE BY CASE, WITH EACH

INDIVIDUAL, WHETHER OR NOT IT'S AN ECONOMIC MOTIVATION, WHETHER OR NOT THERE IS, IN FACT, A FEAR OF PERSECUTION; WHAT EXACTLY IS THE MOTIVE OF THE PERSON LEAVING? THAT'S NOT A QUESTION YOU CAN ANSWER IN THE GENERAL BECAUSE WE HAVE A PROCESS THAT WE'VE DEVELOPED WITH THE U.N. HIGH COMMISSION FOR REFUGEES THAT LOOKS SPECIFICALLY CASE-BY-CASE AT HOW AN INDIVIDUAL IS ATTEMPTING TO LEAVE OR WHY AN INDIVIDUAL IS ATTEMPTING
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TO LEAVE.

Q I MEANT, WHAT IS TRIGGERING THIS CURRENT EXODUS?

MR. MCCURRY: WHAT'S TRIGGERING IT IS, IN SOME RESPECT, POOR CONDITIONS ON HAITI. THAT COULD BE DEFINED TO INCLUDE POOR ECONOMIC CONDITIONS, IN SOME CASES, BUT ALSO HUMAN RIGHTS ABUSES OF WHICH WE'VE SPOKEN HERE OFTEN.

BETSY.

Q IS RADIO DEMOCRACY GOING TO START BROADCASTING SOON?

MR. MCCURRY: I HAVE NOTHING NEW ON THAT. THE SAME ANSWER AS LAST WEEK SO FAR. WE'LL KEEP LOOKING AT IT THIS WEEK TO SEE IF THERE'S ANYTHING NEW.

Q THE MINISTER OF ECONOMICS IN THE PALESTINE NATIONAL AUTHORITY --

MR. MCCURRY: LET'S DO SOME MORE ON HAITI BEFORE WE SWITCH SUBJECTS.

Q SO APPARENTLY THERE'S A NUMBER OF NEW REPORTS OUT THAT A LOT OF FOOD AID HAS BEEN DIVERTED AT DIFFERENT POINTS ALONG THE WAY IN HAITI. DO YOU HAVE ANY RESPONSE? IS THE STATE DEPARTMENT RESIGNED TO THIS LEAKAGE, OR ARE WE TAKING FUNDAMENTAL NEW STEPS TO CHANGE THE SITUATION?

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MR. MCCURRY: I DON'T HAVE ANYTHING. WE ASKED TO SEE IF WE COULD GET SOME BASED ON THAT REPORT WE SAW EARLIER. WE'VE GOT SOME FOLKS LOOKING AT THAT. I'LL SEE IF I CAN GET AT THAT QUESTION TOMORROW WHEN THEY'VE

GOT A MORE DEFINITIVE ANSWER.

I WOULD SAY THAT WE HAVE SEEN THIS IN MANY PLACES IN THE WORLD WHERE WE PROVIDE HUMANITARIAN RELIEF. WE CERTAINLY SEE THIS IN THE FORMER YUGOSLAVIA. WE'VE SEEN IT ELSEWHERE IN AFRICA WHERE THERE ARE RELIEF PROGRAMS. THERE IS SOMETIMES LEAKAGE FROM THE PIPELINE OF DELIVERY. BUT THE EXTENT TO WHICH THAT'S A PROBLEM IN HAITI WE JUST DON'T HAVE A GOOD ASSESSMENT AT THIS POINT. WE WILL LOOK AT IT, THOUGH.

WARREN.

Q THERE WERE REPORTS OVER THE WEEKEND THAT THE ADMINISTRATION WAS GOING TO LIFT -- PULL THE VISAS -- CORRECT ME IF I'M WRONG -- ALL HAITIANS, OR VIRTUALLY ALL HAITIANS. IS THAT UNDER CONSIDERATION?

MR. MCCURRY: I BELIEVE YOU ARE CORRECT, THAT THAT WAS THE REPORT THAT I SAW IN THE NEWSPAPER -- THAT THEY WERE GOING TO LIFT THE VISAS OF ALL HAITIANS

Q (INAUDIBLE) THE POLICY?
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MR. MCCURRY: IT MIGHT WIND UP BEING TRUE.

Q IF IT IS TRUE, WOULDNT BE LARGELY SYMBOLIC SINCE THERE'S NO WAY TO LEAVE HAITI THESE DAYS EXCEPT ON UNSEAWORTHY BOATS?

MR. MCCURRY: IT'S NOT ENTIRELY TRUE. IF YOU WANT TO GO AIR FRANCE, YOU CAN GET OUT. I DON'T KNOW HOW YOU GO FROM THERE TO HERE. IT WOULD HAVE SOME CONSEQUENCE. IT WOULD REPRESENT YET ANOTHER WAY BY WHICH THOSE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE ABROGATION OF THE GOVERNOR'S ISLAND AGREEMENT FEEL THE PRESSURE AND FEEL THE RESPONSIBILITY THEY MUST TAKE FOR AN END TO THAT PROCESS WHICH WOULD BRING ABOUT THE TRANSFORMATION OF HAITI, THE RETURN OF DEMOCRACY, AND THE RETURN OF PRESIDENT ARISTIDE.

Q SO THESE ARE PEOPLE WHO ARE ALREADY OUT OF THE COUNTRY OR ARE IN THE UNITED STATES ON A U.S. VISA?

MR. MCCURRY: THOSE WOULD BE PEOPLE WHO, IN A LOT OF CASES, MIGHT HAVE A MULTIPLE ENTRY VISA. IF WE COULD WAIT MAYBE UNTIL WE SEE WHETHER THAT IS. IN FACT, THE POLICY OF THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT BEFORE WE GET TOO DEEPLY INTO A DISCUSSION THAT HAS BEEN REPORTED.

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Q BUT IT'S AT LEAST UNDER CONSIDERATION?

MR. MCCURRY: IT WOULD BE ACCURATE TO SAY THAT'S
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UNDER CONSIDERATION; YES.

Q ARE YOU LEANING ON THE FRENCH TO SUSPEND THEIR FLIGHTS TO AND FROM HAITI?

MR. MCCURRY: WE HAVE A PARTICULARLY ELEGANT WAY OF SAYING THAT. IT'S IN HERE SOMEWHERE.

Q STRANGE MORAL CALCULUS.

MR. MCCURRY: I DIDN'T SAY THAT. AIR FRANCE, THEY HAVE -- WHERE WE ARE ON FLIGHTS, I THINK, AS MOST OF YOU KNOW, AMERICAN AIRLINES WOULD BE THE U.S. CARRIER. THEIR LAST FLIGHT OUT WAS FRIDAY. AIR CANADA LAST FLIGHT WAS JUNE 21. ALM STOPPED SERVICE JUNE 23. COPA, WHICH IS A PANAMANIAN CARRIER, STOPPED SERVICE ON JUNE 23. HAITI TRANSAIR STOPPED SERVICE JUNE 24.

AIR FRANCE HAS THREE FLIGHTS WEEKLY. WE HAVE URGED THE FRENCH TO JOIN PANAMA, CANADA, THE NETHERLANDS, AND THE UNITED STATES IN SIMILARLY SUSPENDING ITS COMMERCIAL PASSENGER FLIGHTS INTO HAITI. WE UNDERSTAND THAT THE FRENCH ARE REVIEWING THIS REQUEST.

Q DO WE HAVE SOMETHING ON THE REPORT THAT THE AID -- THE STATE DEPARTMENT -- HAS DECIDED NOT TO ESTABLISH AN AID OFFICE IN EAST JERUSALEM?

MR. MCCURRY: NOTHING NEW FROM WHERE WE WERE ON THAT LAST WEEK.

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Q I HAVE A STATEMENT HERE FROM CONGRESSMAN GILMAN WHO SAYS THAT HE AND SEVERAL OTHER MEMBERS OF THE FOREIGN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE MET WITH BRIAN ATWOOD: "ATWOOD ASSURED US THAT AID HAS NO PLANS TO OPEN AN OFFICE IN EAST JERUSALEM. DOING SO WOULD PREJUDGE THE STATUS OF THE CITY WHICH IS ISRAEL'S NATIONAL CAPITAL." THE LAST PART, I ASSUME, WAS GILMAN'S STATEMENT ON ATWOOD'S.

MR. MCCURRY: WE ARE STILL WORKING ON THE

ADMINISTRATIVE ARRANGEMENTS FOR AN AID MISSION. AS TO THE SPECIFIC DETAILS OF THE ARRANGEMENTS, I DON'T HAVE ANYTHING FURTHER.

Q WAIT A MINUTE, MIKE. ON THIS SAME ISSUE -- IT'S THE SAME ISSUE -- THE GERMAN GOVERNMENT --

MR. MCCURRY: IT WAS THE SAME ISSUE LAST WEEK, JOE. WHY DON'T YOU GO BACK TO YOUR TRANSCRIPT.

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Q NO, THIS IS DIFFERENT. THE GERMAN GOVERNMENT HAS DECIDED TO EXPAND ITS RELATIONSHIP WITH THE PALESTINIANS, COMMERCIAL INVESTMENTS, AND SO ON. AND WHERE WILL THE OFFICE BE? NOT IN EAST JERUSALEM, OR IN ISRAEL ANYWHERE, BUT IN JERICHO. DO YOU HAVE ANY COMMENT ON THAT?

MR. MCCURRY: NO. CONTACT THE GERMAN EMBASSY. DO
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YOU HAVE SOMETHING?

Q YES, I DO. HAS THE SECRETARY DECIDED HIS TRAVEL PLANS? IS HE GOING TO THE MIDDLE EAST?

MR. MCCURRY: NO. NO, HE HASN'T DECIDED. IS HE THINKING ABOUT THAT? YES, AS HE'S INDICATED TO YOU HE IS.

Q WHAT ABOUT -- THERE'S BEEN A REPORT OUT OF GENEVA THAT THE FOREIGN MINISTERS MIGHT MEET ON BOSNIA ON FRIDAY. IS THAT A POSSIBILITY?

MR. MCCURRY: THAT DOES NOT SQUARE WITH ANY UNDERSTANDING I HAVE OF SECRETARY CHRISTOPHER'S CALENDAR.

Q WHAT ABOUT BOSNIA, GENERALLY? HAVE YOU HEARD ANYTHING FROM PARIS ON THOSE TALKS?

MR. MCCURRY: NO. I THINK AMBASSADOR REDMAN IS OVER THERE GETTING READY FOR THE MEETING OF THE CONTACT GROUP TOMORROW. BY TOMORROW, WE'LL SEE WHERE THINGS STAND.

Q ANY COMMENT ON THE RENEWED FIGHTING IN BOSNIA?

MR. MCCURRY: THERE'S VARIOUS REPORTS SCATTERED

AROUND BOSNIA OF RENEWED FIGHTING. THERE'S BEEN HEAVY FIGHTING BETWEEN THE BOSNIAN GOVERNMENT AND BOSNIAN SERBS AROUND DOBOJ. SHELLING EXCHANGES WERE REPORTED NEAR MAGLAJ, ZAVIDOVICI, GRADACAC, RIBNICA AND GRACANICA.

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BOSNIAN SERB FORCES SHELLED U.K. AND UKRAINIAN UNPROFOR FORCES IN GORAZDE. I THINK SOME OF YOU SAW A REPORT. I BELIEVE THERE WAS A BRITISH UNPROFOR SOLDIER WHO WAS KILLED AS PART OF THAT EXCHANGE.

SO THERE ARE INCREASING SIGNS THAT THE FRAGILE CEASE-FIRE THAT'S BEEN IN PLACE SINCE JUNE 10 IS BEING TESTED. I THINK THAT ADDS URGENCY TO THE WORK OF THE CONTACT GROUP AND CERTAINLY UNDERSCORES THE VERY TENUOUS NATURE OF THE PEACE PROCESS UNDERWAY IN BOSNIA. THEY ARE AT A POINT IN WHICH THE CONTACT GROUP ITSELF IS GOING TO PRESS HARD TO DEVELOP SOME TYPE OF PROPOSAL THAT CAN BE PRESENTED TO THE PARTIES THAT MIGHT END THIS WAR, BUT THERE ARE CERTAINLY SIGNS THAT THE SITUATION COULD GO THE OTHER DIRECTION.

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Q DOES THIS MAKE IT HARDER FOR THE CONTACT GROUP? I MEAN, SOME BOSNIAN COMMANDERS ARE CLAIMING THAT THE TIDE IS TURNED, AT LEAST IN CENTRAL BOSNIA, ON THEIR BEHALF, AND THAT AT LEAST SUGGESTS THAT THEY MAY BE LESS WILLING TO ACCEPT A SETTLEMENT.

MR. MCCURRY: IT IS IMPORTANT TO REMEMBER THAT THE PARTIES THEMSELVES HAVE DIFFERENT VIEWS WITHIN THEM. THE BOSNIAN GOVERNMENT CONTINUES TO EXPLORE WITH US DISCUSSIONS RELATED TO THE WORK OF THE CONTACT GROUP; THAT YOU DO SEE PUBLIC REPORTS FROM ELEMENTS OF THE BOSNIAN GOVERNMENT MILITARY CALLING AT THIS POINT FOR A

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WAR OF LIBERATION. SO THERE ARE CLEARLY DIFFERENT
POINTS OF VIEW. BUT WE WILL WORK WITHIN THE CONTEXT OF
THE CONTACT GROUP TO DEVELOP A PROPOSAL THAT CAN BE
SHARED AND PRESENTED FORMALLY TO THE PARTIES, INCLUDING
THE BOSNIAN GOVERNMENT.

Q MIKE, WHAT DOES THE ADMINISTRATION MAKE OF THIS
SORT OF POCKET OF MUSLIM RESISTANCE THAT THE BOSNIAN
GOVERNMENT IS FIGHTING AGAINST. I FORGET THE TOWN.

MR. MCCURRY: THE BIHAC POCKET AT THE --

Q YES.
MR. MCCURRY: -- NORTHWEST CORNER.

Q YES. WHAT DO YOU MAKE OF THAT?

MR. MCCURRY: THE ACCOUNTS THAT YOU'VE SEEN IN THE
NEWS PRESS OR THE NEWS ACCOUNTS THAT YOU'VE SEEN ARE
ACCURATE BASED ON OUR UNDERSTANDING. THERE IS A MUSLIM
SEPARATIST FACTION WITHIN THE NORTHERN PART OF THAT
BIHAC POCKET THAT HAS DECLARED ITSELF A SEPARATIST
ENTITY WITHIN THAT POCKET, AND IT'S A REFLECTION, I
THINK THAT THERE ARE SOME DIFFERENT APPROACHES WITHIN
THE BOSNIAN GOVERNMENT, WITHIN THE MUSLIM-BACKED
MILITARY; THAT THERE ARE DIFFERENT APPROACHES TO HOW
THEY SHOULD BE DEALING WITH THE BOSNIAN SERBS AND THE
CROATIANS.

THIS IS ON THE BORDER OF THE KRAJINA REGION, AND SO
IT'S ALWAYS BEEN -- IN THE LONG STRUGGLE TO SORT OUT THE
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WARRING FACTIONS IN BOSNIA HAS BEEN A FAIRLY COMPLICATED
SITUATION BECAUSE IT'S GOT A DIFFERENT OVERLAY OF
CONTENDING FORCES. COMPARED TO OTHER PARTS OF BOSNIA.

Q THIS MORNING THE WASHINGTON POST, I BELIEVE.
THE IRANIAN REPRESENTATIVE AT THE UNITED NATIONS IN A
LETTER TO THE EDITOR DENIED THAT IRAN SENT ANY MILITARY
ARMS TO THE BOSNIAN MUSLIMS. HAS THERE BEEN ANY
EVIDENCE TO THE CONTRARY? DO YOU HAVE ANY COMMENT ON
THAT?

MR. MCCURRY: NO. SAME ANSWER I GAVE ON FRIDAY.

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Q MIKE, DO YOU KNOW -- TO FOLLOW THAT -- WHEN
THERE MIGHT BE SOME KIND OF STATEMENT OR EXPLANATION OR
DENIAL?

MR. MCCURRY: AT WHATEVER POINT THAT I CAN PUBLICLY
SAY SOMETHING FURTHER.

JOE.

Q MIKE, THERE HAVE BEEN -- OLYMPIA --
CONGRESSWOMAN OLYMPIA SNOWE HAS SENT A LETTER.

APPARENTLY, TO THE SECRETARY -- SECRETARY CHRISTOPHER --

MR. MCCURRY: JOE WENT TO YOUR FAX MACHINE AND
WORKED ALL WEEKEND. YOU'VE GOT ALL THESE CONGRESSIONAL
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PRESS RELEASES THERE. (LAUGHTER) WHAT HAVE YOU GOT
THERE? TELL ME WHAT THIS ONE IS?

Q I'VE GOT SEVERAL OTHERS, IF YOU'LL BEAR WITH ME

MR. MCCURRY: I'LL BEAR WITH YOU. GO AHEAD

Q ASKING THE SECRETARY TO REFUSE TO ISSUE A VISA
TO SHEIK RASHID EL-GHANOUSHI OF THE TUNISIA ISLAMIC
FUNDAMENTALIST GROUP WHO WANTS TO COME TO THE UNITED
STATES.

MR. MCCURRY: THAT'S ONE THAT WILL REQUIRE SOME
HOMEWORK ON MY PART. (LAUGHTER)

Q WELL, I'VE CHECKED WITH THE INS, AND THEY SAID
THEY'RE STILL CONSIDERING IT, BUT I THOUGHT MAYBE THE
STATE DEPARTMENT MIGHT HAVE SOMETHING.

MR. MCCURRY: WHY DON'T WE CHECK AND SEE IF THERE'S
ANYTHING WE CAN DO FURTHER.

Q WHAT ABOUT THIS FORMER -- YOUNG, FORMER SAUDI
ARABIAN DIPLOMAT WHO HAS 14,000 PIECES OF EVIDENCE
AGAINST THE SAUDI ARABIAN GOVERNMENT. WHAT'S WITH HIM?

MR. MCCURRY: ACTUALLY, WE DID ADDRESS THAT SEVERAL
WEEKS AGO, AND I CAN'T REMEMBER THE ANSWER WE HAD ON
THAT. IF YOU'LL CHECK WITH OUR FOLKS.

Q WELL, HE'S LOOKING FOR ASYLUM. WILL WE GET
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SOMETHING ON THAT?

MR. MCCURRY: WE HAVE A BIT OF A PROBLEM, JOE, ON
THAT ONE, BECAUSE ASYLUM REQUESTS, AS THEY ARE
PROCESSED, IS SOMETHING COVERED ON PRIVACY ACT PROBLEMS,
AND THERE'S A LIMIT TO HOW MUCH WE CAN SAY ON THAT. I
THINK WE DID,

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THOUGH, HAVE AN ANSWER. IF YOU'LL CHECK WITH THE PRESS
OFFICE STAFF, WE HAD --

Q IF I MAY, THEN THERE'S ANOTHER THING HERE --
THIS IS LOCAL -- ABOUT THE HOSTAGES AND OTHER VICTIMS OF
FOREIGN TERRORISM WANT CONGRESS TO EXTEND U.S. LAW INTO
OTHER COUNTRIES. HAVE YOU SOMETHING ON THAT AS TO WHAT
THE STATE DEPARTMENT --

MR. MCCURRY: GIVE US A COPY OF THAT, AND I'LL CHECK FURTHER ON THAT ONE. THAT DOESN'T RING A BELL.

Q I'LL BE GLAD TO. THANK YOU FOR YOUR INDULGENCE.

MR. MCCURRY: I'M ALWAYS WILLING TO INDULGE. I'M AN INDULGENT SORT.

GEORGE.

Q DO YOU HAVE AN UPDATE ON THE WITHDRAWAL OF AMERICANS FROM SOMALIA?

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MR. MCCURRY: YES, I DO HAVE SOME ON THAT. JUST A LITTLE BIT, BECAUSE WE ARE ACTUALLY GETTING SOME CONFLICTING REPORTS FROM MOGADISHU, SO I'D LIKE TO WALK THROUGH SOME OF WHAT WE'VE HEARD, AND THEN JUST RIGHT PRIOR TO THE BRIEFING WE HEARD MAYBE A LITTLE SOMEWHAT DIFFERENT. BUT, AS YOU KNOW SINCE THURSDAY THERE'S BEEN SOME SERIOUS INTER-CLAN FIGHTING IN MOGADISHU BETWEEN THE HABRE GEDIR ON ONE SIDE -- THAT'S THE AIDEED FACTION -- AND A COALITION OF CLANS ON THE OTHER SIDE.

AS OF EARLIER TODAY, WE UNDERSTAND A CEASE-FIRE WAS SUPPOSED TO TAKE EFFECT. MOGADISHU HAS IN FACT BEEN QUIETER TODAY, BUT THERE HAVE BEEN JUST WITHIN THE LAST HOUR OR SO SOME REPORTS THAT THERE MAY HAVE BEEN SOME RESUMPTION OF SHELLING IN MOGADISHU. WE'RE TRYING TO CHECK THOSE REPORTS OUT NOW.

SOME OF THE GUN BATTLES THAT DID OCCUR OVER THE WEEKEND OCCURRED IN AREAS DIRECTLY ADJACENT TO THE UNOSOM COMPOUND. BUT FIGHTING DURING THE LAST 24 HOURS MOVED AWAY FROM THE COMPOUND. THE COMPOUND, AS FAR AS WE KNOW, WAS NOT THE TARGET OF ANY OF THE FIGHTING THAT OCCURRED OVER THE WEEKEND, BUT STRAY ROUNDS HAVE HIT THE COMPOUND, RESULTING IN SOME INJURIES. I THINK SOME OF YOU HAVE SEEN THE DETAILS ON IT. THERE WAS ONE AMERICAN WHO WAS INJURED. IT WAS NOT AN EMPLOYEE OF THE U.S. LIAISON OFFICE THERE BUT WORKED FOR -- WAS A U.S. CIVILIAN WORKING FOR A U.N. CONTRACTOR IN SOMALIA -- PART OF THE UNOSOM EFFORT.

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BECAUSE OF THE SECURITY CONSIDERATIONS IN MOGADISHU, WE ARE TEMPORARILY MOVING SOME OF THE STAFF AT OUR U.S.

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LIAISON OFFICE TO NAIROBI. IN NAIROBI, THEY'LL CONTINUE TO WORK ON SOMALI ISSUES. THERE HAS BEEN A TRAVEL WARNING -- A VERY STRONG TRAVEL WARNING -- AS I THINK MANY OF YOU KNOW, IN EFFECT FOR QUITE SOME TIME ON

SOMALIA, URGING AMERICAN CITIZENS NOT TO TRAVEL THERE, AND WE'RE NOT AWARE THAT THERE HAS BEEN ANY PROBLEM WITH THAT RESPECT.

THERE'S A SMALL NUMBER -- AND I CAN'T GET INTO DETAIL ON NUMBERS FOR SECURITY REASONS -- BUT THERE'S A SMALL NUMBER OF ESSENTIAL PERSONNEL AT THIS POINT WHO REMAIN BEHIND IN MOGADISHU TO CARRY OUT A LOT OF THE NECESSARY WORK WE DO IN LIAISON WITH THE U.N. MISSION, UNOSOM.

Q MIKE, DO YOU KNOW HOW MANY THEY'RE BRINGING OUT? CAN YOU SAY HOW MANY THEY'RE BRINGING OUT?

MR. MCCURRY: I DON'T WANT TO GET INTO THE NUMBERS FOR REASONS THAT RELATE TO SECURITY.

Q AND HOW MANY WERE THERE -- THE MISSION -- ITS STRENGTH PRIOR TO THE WITHDRAWAL. HOW MANY WERE THERE?

MR. MCCURRY: I WILL CHECK ON THAT, SID. I THINK IT WAS IN SEVERAL HUNDREDS. IT MAY HAVE BEEN --
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Q 500?

MR. MCCURRY: I'M CONFUSING NOW THE NUMBER OF AMERICANS CITIZENS WHO WERE PARTICIPATING IN THE UNOSOM EFFORT. THERE ARE AMERICANS ATTACHED TO UNOSOM. AND THEN THERE ARE PEOPLE SPECIFICALLY WITH THE LIAISON OFFICE, AND I'LL HAVE TO GO AND CHECK THE NUMBERS ON BOTH OF THOSE AND GET AN ACCURATE ACCOUNT. BUT WE'RE TRYING TO BE SOMEWHAT CIRCUMSPECT IN DESCRIBING NUMBERS FOR SECURITY REASONS.

Q BUT STRICTLY SPEAKING, THESE ARE CIVILIAN AMERICAN EMPLOYEES, NOT MEMBERS OF THE MILITARY.

MR. MCCURRY: THAT'S CORRECT.

Q DO YOU KNOW HOW MANY OTHER FOREIGNERS WERE HURT IN THIS LATEST ROUND OF FIGHTING?

MR. MCCURRY: I HAVE INFORMATION ON THE ONE AMERICAN WHO HAS BEEN INJURED, BUT I DON'T HAVE ON THE OTHERS. I CAN CHECK ON THAT.

Q ARE AMERICANS AT RISK IN SOMALIA? IS OUR DIPLOMATIC MISSION SECURE?

MR. MCCURRY: THE LIAISON OFFICE IS PROTECTED, BUT OVER THE WEEKEND WE DETERMINED IT WOULD BE ADVISABLE TO DO

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AN ORDERED DEPARTURE OF SOME OF THOSE NON-ESSENTIAL PERSONNEL.

Q MIKE, THE MINISTER OF ECONOMICS OF THE PALESTINE NATIONAL AUTHORITY. ABU ALLAH IS IN TOWN. I THINK HE MET WITH U.S. OFFICIALS, AND THERE IS A PROBLEM WITH THE DONORS TO PROVIDE ASSISTANCE TO THE PLO TO CONTINUE, AND PRESIDENT ARAFAT IS NOT MOVING TO JERICHO YET. DO YOU HAVE ANY ASSESSMENT OF WHAT THE SITUATION --

MR. MCCURRY: I GAVE A PRETTY GOOD -- ABU ALLAH'S SESSIONS HERE AT THE DEPARTMENT I COVERED ON FRIDAY AND GAVE A PRETTY GOOD RUNDOWN OF WHERE WE CURRENTLY VIEW THE REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE. YOU MIGHT WANT TO CHECK BACK. I DON'T HAVE ANYTHING NEWER THAN THAT TODAY.

Q IS HE HAVING ANY MORE MEETINGS HERE?

MR. MCCURRY: NOT THAT I HAVE INDICATED HERE. YOU MIGHT WANT TO DOUBLE-CHECK WITH NEA -- RICHARD LEBARON -- 647-5150 -- WILL BE GLAD TO TAKE YOUR CALL.

Q YOU'VE GOT THE NUMBER WRONG.

MR. MCCURRY: 715 -- OH, THAT'S HIS SECRET NUMBER. DON'T USE THAT ONE. (LAUGHTER)

Q AND LAST BUT NOT LEAST, DO YOU HAVE ANY ASSESSMENT OR A SITUATION REPORT ABOUT THE VISIT OF KING
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HUSSEIN OF JORDAN LAST WEEK TO THE UNITED STATES?

MR. MCCURRY: THE WHITE HOUSE HAD A GOOD STATEMENT

THAT SUMMARIZED THE CONVERSATION THAT PRESIDENT CLINTON HAD WITH THE KING AND GAVE A FAIRLY SUBSTANTIVE READOUT ON THEIR DISCUSSIONS, AND THAT'S EXACTLY WHERE IT IS AS OF TODAY.

STEVE.

Q HAITI. IS IT ALL RIGHT TO GO BACK THERE?

MR. MCCURRY: SURE.

Q OUR FOLKS DOWN THERE ASKED THE QUESTION, WAS THE LIST OF 240 PEOPLE WHOSE FINANCIAL TRANSACTIONS WERE BANNED OR STOPPED OR HALTED -- WAS THAT COMPILED BY TREASURY WITH INFORMATION FROM THE STATE DEPARTMENT, OR WAS IT PURELY A TREASURY DEPARTMENT OPERATION?

MR. MCCURRY: I WOULD HAVE TO CHECK WITH OFFICE OF FOREIGN ASSETS OVER AT TREASURY. THEY ADMINISTER THESE LISTS, BUT THEY TYPICALLY RELY UPON CLOSE INTERAGENCY COORDINATION IN DEVELOPING THEIR OWN ENFORCEMENT OF THE PRESIDENTIAL EXECUTIVE ORDER, AS WOULD BE THIS CASE. I

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MEAN, OBVIOUSLY THEY HAVE TO RELY ON REPORTING COMING
FROM OUR EMBASSY TO BETTER UNDERSTAND THE OBJECTIVES
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OUTLINED BY THE PRESIDENT AND IN THE EXECUTIVE ORDER.

SO I STRONGLY SUSPECT THE EMBASSY STAFF AND THE
STATE DEPARTMENT WERE INVOLVED IN HELPING PREPARE
MATERIALS FOR TREASURY, BUT IT IS A PROGRAM WITHIN
TREASURY'S DOMAIN, AND THAT'S PROBABLY THE BEST PLACE TO
ASK THE QUESTION, BUT I'LL SEE IF THERE'S ANYTHING WE
CAN GET.

Q THEY'VE GOT A NUMBER OF ANOMALIES THAT I
SUPPOSE YOU PROBABLY DON'T HAVE, DO YOU SPECIFIC --

MR. MCCURRY: NO. I THINK SPECIFIC INDIVIDUALS WHO
ARE BEING COVERED BY THIS OR SPECIFIC CASES THAT YOU'VE
HEARD ABOUT, I'D REALLY HAVE TO REFER YOU TO THE
TREASURY DEPARTMENT TO GET THE DETAIL ON THAT.

Q THE POLITICAL CONFUSION IN JAPAN CONTINUES.
DOES THE STATE DEPARTMENT HAVE ANY ASSESSMENT OF THIS,
AND IS THE STATE DEPARTMENT WORRIED ABOUT THE EFFECTS
THIS MIGHT HAVE ON THE DIPLOMACY AT THE G-7 SUMMIT?

MR. MCCURRY: YOU'RE CORRECT. IT'S AN INTERNAL
MATTER FOR THE JAPANESE, AND IT IS INAPPROPRIATE FOR US
TO SPECULATE OR COMMENT ON INTERNAL DECISION-MAKING
RELATING TO THE FORMATION OF A GOVERNMENT.

DESPITE THE RESIGNATION OF THE PRIME MINISTER, OUR
FRAMEWORK DISCUSSIONS HAVE BEEN CONTINUING AT A WORKING
LEVEL. FOR INSTANCE, THERE'S A MEETING ON FINANCIAL
SERVICES THIS AFTERNOON, I'M TOLD, OVER AT TREASURY;
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DISCUSSIONS ON INSURANCE AND GOVERNMENT PROCUREMENT MAY
RESUME LATER THIS WEEK. I DON'T BELIEVE ANYBODY OVERLY
OPTIMISTIC THAT ANY OF THESE DISCUSSIONS WILL LEAD TO
SOME TYPE OF BREAKTHROUGH THAT COULD BE DISCUSSED WHEN
THE TWO LEADERS MEET IN THE CONTEXT OF THE G-7 SESSION.

BUT WE HAVE BEEN IN POSITIONS BEFORE, TO RESPOND TO
YOUR QUESTION -- POSITIONS BEFORE IN WHICH OUR OWN
BILATERAL ECONOMIC DISCUSSIONS WITH JAPAN HAVE OCCURRED
AT MOMENTS IN WHICH THERE HAVE BEEN TRANSITION WITHIN
THE JAPANESE GOVERNMENT, AND THAT HAS NOT INTERFERED
WITH OUR ABILITY IN THE PAST TO CONTINUE DISCUSSIONS AND
TO CONTINUE TO ATTEMPT TO RESOLVE MANY OF THE
FUNDAMENTAL CONCERNS WE HAVE ABOUT THE BALANCE IN THE
ECONOMIC RELATIONSHIP.

Q BUT NO FEELING THIS IS GOING TO INTERFERE WITH
THE G-7 SUMMIT?

MR. MCCURRY: WITH THE SUMMIT ITSELF, NO. THE PLANNING IS UNDERWAY FOR THE SUMMIT IN NAPLES. THE ITALIAN GOVERNMENT HAS BEEN VERY GOOD ABOUT DESIGNING, WE THINK, A

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VERY INTERESTING AGENDA. AND I KNOW THAT THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT AND PRESIDENT CLINTON ARE VERY MUCH LOOKING FORWARD TO THE DISCUSSIONS IN NAPLES. I DON'T WANT TO AT THIS POINT SPECULATE ABOUT THE IMPACT THAT THE POLITICAL DYNAMIC IN JAPAN WOULD HAVE ON THAT SUMMIT
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MEETING.

CONNIE.

Q WHILE YOU'RE ON ASIA, DID YOU BY ANY CHANCE HAVE ANYTHING ELSE ON THE -- ANYTHING ON THE TAIWANESE TALKS THAT WERE CONDUCTED LAST WEEK? THESE ARE THE

IMPOSITIONS THAT WERE IMPOSED BECAUSE OF THE BEAR/TIGER SITUATION.

MR. MCCURRY: I DON'T HAVE ANYTHING ON THAT. I'LL HAVE TO CHECK. I'VE HEARD SOME DISCUSSIONS BUT NOTHING I'D WANT TO TRY TO RECONSTRUCT HERE WITHOUT CHECKING A LITTLE FURTHER.

Q CAN I GO BACK TO MR. CHRISTOPHER'S TRIP, UPCOMING TRIP. AN ISRAELI NEWSPAPER THIS MORNING SAID HAT MR. CHRISTOPHER WILL ARRIVE IN THE REGION JULY THE 15TH, AND HE WILL REMAIN IN THE AREA FOR THREE WEEKS.

MR. MCCURRY: THEY HAD HIM THERE JULY 10TH LAST WEEK, SO NOW --

Q NOW IT'S 15TH.

MR. MCCURRY: NOW JULY 15TH. I'LL BET YOU -- LET'S BET IT WILL END UP SOMEWHERE IN BETWEEN THE TWO, BUT I DON'T HAVE ANY ITINERARY AT THIS POINT.

Q WILL HE REMAIN IN THE AREA THREE WEEKS. LIKE THEY SAID?

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MR. MCCURRY: I FIND THAT EXTRAORDINARILY HARD TO BELIEVE, GIVEN THE ASEAN MINISTERIAL MEETINGS THAT WILL OCCUR IN BANGKOK WITHIN THAT SAME TIME FRAME.

Q THANK YOU.

MR. MCCURRY: THANK YOU.

SANAA MINIMIZE CONSIDERED. CHRISTOPHER

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E.O. 12356: N/A
TAGS: OPRC
SUBJECT: EUR DAILY PRESS GUIDANCE - JUNE 24, 1994
PARIS ALSO FOR USOECD, ROME ALSO FOR VATICAN, USVIENNA FOR USDEL
CSCE

1. THE FOLLOWING PRESS GUIDANCE WAS PREPARED AND
APPROVED BY THE BUREAU OF EUROPEAN AND CANADIAN AFFAIRS
FOR THE DEPARTMENT BRIEFING. QUESTIONS SHOULD BE
DIRECTED TO ARIC SCHWAN, EUR/PPA.

2. FIGHTING UPDATE: BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA

Q: WHAT IS THE FIGHTING SITUATION IN BOSNIA? IS THE
CEASE-FIRE STILL HOLDING? IS THE SITUATION
DETERIORATING?

A: -- THERE ARE REPORTS OF SKIRMISHES BETWEEN
BOSNIAN GOVERNMENT AND BOSNIAN SERB FORCES
NEAR DOBOJ (DOUGH-BOY) IN CENTRAL BOSNIA.

-- FIGHTING IN BIHAC (BEE-HAHTCH) BETWEEN
BOSNIAN GOVERNMENT FORCES AND FORCES LOYAL
TO INSURRECTIONIST LEADER ABDIC HAS
SUBSIDED.

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-- DUTCH UNPROFOR FORCES CAME UNDER BOSNIAN
SERB SMALL ARMS FIRE NEAR TOESAK
(TEH-OH-SACK) NORTHEAST OF TUZLA
(TOOZ-LAH) IN NORTHERN BOSNIA.

-- WHILE THERE HAVE BEEN SPORADIC FLAIR-UPS
DURING THE CEASE-FIRE, PARTICULARLY IN THE
BIHAC AREA, THE OVERALL LEVEL OF FIGHTING
REMAINS LOWER THAN IT WAS BEFORE THE
CEASE-FIVE WAS NEGOTIATED.

3. BOSNIA-HERZEGOVINA: AMB. REDMAN

Q: WHERE IS AMBASSADOR REDMAN? IS HE MEETING WITH
ANYONE?

A: -- AMBASSADOR REDMAN IS IN WASHINGTON.

-- WE EXPECT THE NEXT CONTACT GROUP MEETING WILL
TAKE PLACE THIS COMING TUESDAY IN PARIS.

4. BOSNIA-HERZEGOVINA: PEACE TALKS

Q: IS THE OPPORTUNITY FOR PEACE SLIPPING AWAY?

A: -- NO, WE DO NOT BELIEVE THE OPPORTUNITY FOR
PEACE IS SLIPPING AWAY.
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-- THE U.S., EU AND RUSSIA ARE WORKING CLOSELY
TOGETHER IN PUTTING TOGETHER A TERRITORIAL
APPROACH BASED ON THE 51/49 PERCENT CONCEPT
THAT BOTH PARTIES HAVE PREVIOUSLY AGREED TO.

-- OUR AIM IS TO PROVIDE THE BOSNIAN GOVERNMENT
WITH THE "VIALE, REALISTIC AND REASONABLE
TERRITORY" APPROVED AT THE MAY 13 GENEVA
MINISTERIAL.

-- ALTHOUGH NO NEGOTIATING EFFORT CAN BE ASSURED
OF SUCCESS IN ADVANCE, WE REMAIN HOPEFUL THAT
BOTH PARTIES WILL RECOGNIZE THAT THE BEST HOPE
FOR THE FUTURE OF THEIR PEOPLES RESTS IN A
NEGOTIATED SETTLEMENT AND NOT IN A
CONTINUATION OF THIS TERRIBLE CONFLICT.

5. BOSNIA-HERZEGOVINA/CROATIA: IRANIAN ARMS SHIPMENTS

Q: CAN YOU CONFIRM REPORTS REGARDING IRANIAN ARMS
SHIPMENTS THROUGH CROATIA TO BOSNIA?

A: -- IT IS THE POLICY OF THE UNITED STATES TO
RESPECT THE UN ARMS EMBARGO ON THE NATIONS

THAT FORMERLY COMPRISED YUGOSLAVIA.

-- WE STRONGLY BELIEVE THAT UN SECURITY COUNCIL
RESOLUTIONS MUST BE FULLY RESPECTED.
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6. GREECE: DEFENSE MINISTER'S MEETING WITH U/S TARNOFF

Q: DID DEFENSE MINISTER ARSENIS MEET WITH U/S
TARNOFF? WHAT WAS DISCUSSED?

A:-- DEFENSE MINISTER ARSENIS AND U/S TARNOFF
HAD A PRODUCTIVE EXCHANGE OF VIEWS ON JUNE
21. THEY DISCUSSED A VARIETY OF TOPICS OF
MUTUAL INTEREST, INCLUDING THE GENERAL
SITUATION IN THE BALKANS, POLICY TOWARD
BOSNIA, GREECE'S RELATIONS WITH ALBANIA,
THE DISPUTE BETWEEN GREECE AND THE FORMER
YUGOSLAV REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA, GREECE'S
RELATIONS WITH TURKEY, AND EFFORTS TO
RESOLVE THE CYPRUS MATTER.

7. TURKEY: RESTRICTIONS ON FOREIGN ASSISTANCE

Q: PRIME MINISTER CILLER HAS MADE STRONG REMARKS
AGAINST THE U.S. SENATE'S PROPOSAL TO RESTRICT
FOREIGN ASSISTANCE TO TURKEY. WHAT DO WE KNOW
ABOUT WHAT SHE SAID? WHAT EXACTLY DID THE SENATE
AGREE TO AND IS IT BINDING? WHAT IS THE USG
RESPONSE TO HER COMMENTS?

A: -- I REFER YOU TO PRESS REPORTS FOR THE SUBSTANCE
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OF WHAT THE PRIME MINISTER REPORTEDLY SAID.
THE PRIME MINISTER HAS NOT BEEN IN CONTACT
WITH THE USG ON THIS MATTER.

-- THERE IS PROPOSED LEGISLATION BEFORE THE
SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE THAT WOULD
PLACE RESTRICTIONS ON THE USE OF U.S.-SUPPLIED
WEAPONS FOR INTERNAL SECURITY. THIS PROVISION
REMAINS IN COMMITTEE.

-- WE DO NOT HAVE ANY INFORMATION BEYOND THESE
REPORTS AND WOULD PREFER NOT TO COMMENT AT
THIS TIME.

Q: HOW DOES THE DEPARTMENT FEEL ABOUT THE DIFFERENT
LEGISLATION ON THE HILL TO CUT AID TO TURKEY AND
TO BAN THE USE OF WEAPONS? WHAT IS THE STATUS OF
EACH? OUR POSITION ON EACH? ARE WE DISCUSSING

WITH THEM?

A: -- WE ARE OPPOSED TO RESTRICTIONS ON ASSISTANCE TO TURKEY. TURKEY IS A NATO ALLY AND LONGSTANDING FRIEND OF THE UNITED STATES.

-- PROPOSED CONGRESSIONAL LEGISLATION ON THIS MATTER REMAINS UNDER CONSIDERATION.

-- WE ARE DISCUSSING OUR CONCERNS WITH THE CONGRESS.

(FYI: THERE ARE VARIOUS PROPOSALS IN THE HOUSE AND UNCLASSIFIED

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SENATE THAT WOULD RESTRICT MILITARY ASSISTANCE TO TURKEY. THE HOUSE PROPOSAL WOULD WITHHOLD 25 OF TURKEY'S 1995 MILITARY FINANCING PENDING A REPORT ON ALLEGED HUMAN RIGHTS ABUSES AND PERFORMANCE ON CYPRUS. THE SENATE'S PROVISION WOULD NOT ALLOW TURKEY TO USE U.S.-SUPPLIED WEAPONS FOR INTERNAL SECURITY E.G., AGAINST THE PKK)

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*** Current Classification *** UNCLASSIFIED

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E.O. 12356: N/A

TAGS: OPRC

SUBJECT: EUR DAILY PRESS GUIDANCE - AUGUST 3, 1994

PARIS ALSO FOR USOECD, ROME ALSO FOR VATICAN, USVIENNA FOR USDEL
CSCE

1. THE FOLLOWING PRESS GUIDANCE WAS PREPARED AND
APPROVED BY THE BUREAU OF EUROPEAN AND CANADIAN AFFAIRS
FOR THE DEPARTMENT BRIEFING. QUESTIONS SHOULD BE
REFERRED TO ARIC SCHWAN, EUR PUBLIC AFFAIRS.

2. SERBIA: MILOSEVIC'S WARNINGS TO THE BOSNIAN SERBS

Q: MILOSEVIC'S WARNINGS TO THE SERBS - WHAT DO WE
THINK? IS HE SERIOUS? DO WE HAVE ANY INDICATION THAT HE
WILL CUT OFF SUPPLIES, ETC.? ANY EVIDENCE OF DEEDS
VERSUS JUST WORDS? RESPONSE FROM BOSNIAN SERBS?

A: -- WE ARE AWARE THAT SERB AUTHORITIES IN BELGRADE
HAVE CHOSEN TO SUPPORT THE CONTACT GROUP
PROPOSAL AND ADMONISH THE BOSNIAN SERBS TO DO
SO. HOWEVER, THERE IS NO EVIDENCE AT THIS
TIME THAT ANY CONCRETE STEPS HAVE BEEN TAKEN
BY BELGRADE TO ISOLATE THE BOSNIAN SERBS.

-- WE UNDERSTAND THAT THE BOSNIAN SERB MILITARY
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COMMAND AND THE BOSNIAN SERB "ASSEMBLY" ARE
MEETING TODAY TO DECIDE WHETHER A REFERENDUM
WILL BE HELD ON THE CONTACT GROUP PROPOSAL.
THE SERB GOVERNMENT IN BELGRADE CLEARLY STATED
THAT ANY SUCH REFERENDUM "DOES NOT HAVE THE
RIGHT TO DECIDE THE FATE OF
(SERBIA-MONTENEGRO)."

3. BOSNIA: ONGOING ETHNIC CLEANSING

Q: WHAT DO WE KNOW ABOUT ONGOING ETHNIC CLEANSING?
ARE BOSNIAN SERBS TRYING TO CONSOLIDATE GAINS IN THESE
AREAS, ENSURE THAT THEY WILL KEEP THEM?

A: -- WE ARE AWARE -- MOSTLY THROUGH UNPROFOR -- OF
REPORTS THAT ETHNIC CLEANSING CONTINUES IN
SERB-HELD AREAS OF BOSNIA, BUT CANNOT CONFIRM
THEM.

-- WE BELIEVE THAT PERPETRATORS OF ETHNIC
CLEANSING SHOULD BE SUBJECT TO THE WAR CRIMES
TRIBUNAL.

4. BOSNIA: FIGHTING UPDATE

Q: WHAT IS THE FIGHTING SITUATION IN BOSNIA?

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A: -- NEAR SARAJEVO, HEAVY FIGHTING HAS BEEN
REPORTED BETWEEN BOSNIAN SERB AND BOSNIAN
FEDERATION FORCES AT VISOKO (VEE-SOH-KOH).

-- IN SARAJEVO, A FRENCH UNPROFOR REPAIR CREW
WORKING NEAR THE AIRPORT CAME UNDER SNIPER
FIRE; NO CASUALTIES WERE REPORTED.

-- IN UKRAINE, THE UNPROFOR SOLDIER WHO WAS HIT
BY GROUND FIRE WHILE ABOARD A UN AIRCRAFT TWO
WEEKS AGO HAS DIED OF HIS WOUNDS.

-- FIGHTING CONTINUES IN THE WESTERN ENCLAVE OF
BIHAC, WHERE BOSNIAN FEDERATION FORCES NOW
SURROUND THE TOWN OF PECIGRAD
(PEH-CHEE-GRAHD), A STRONGHOLD OF REBEL LEADER
ABDIC (AHB-DEECH).

5. CROATIA: FIGHTING UPDATE

Q: WHAT IS THE FIGHTING SITUATION IN CROATIA?

A: -- IN THE AFTERMATH OF CROAT CIVILIANS' EFFORTS
TO LIMIT THE MOVEMENT OF UN FORCES INTO
SERB-HELD CROATIA, CROAT POLICE ARE PREVENTING

UN VEHICLES FROM CROSSING SOME CHECKPOINTS
INTO THE UN PROTECTED AREAS. ALL CROSSINGS
INTO SECTOR EAST ARE BLOCKED.

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-- UNPROFOR IS CONTINUING DISCUSSIONS ON THIS
SUBJECT WITH CROAT AUTHORITIES.

6. IRANIAN ARMS SHIPMENTS TO BOSNIA

- WE ARE AWARE OF REPORTS THAT IRAN IS USING RUSSIAN
PLANES TO SEND WEAPONS TO BOSNIA IN VIOLATION OF
THE UN EMBARGO. WE ARE LOOKING INTO THOSE
REPORTS; WE CANNOT COMMENT ON THEM AT THIS TIME AS
WE DO NOT COMMENT ON INTELLIGENCE MATTERS.
- IT IS THE POLICY OF THE UNITED STATES TO RESPECT
THE UN ARMS EMBARGO ON THE NATIONS THAT FORMERLY
COMPRISED YUGOSLAVIA. WE BELIEVE IT IS IMPORTANT
THAT UN SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTIONS BE FULLY
RESPECTED.
- ALTHOUGH WE FAVOR LIFTING THE EMBARGO ON BOSNIA,
WE CONTINUE TO BELIEVE SERIOUS RISKS ARE INVOLVED
IN LIFTING IT UNILATERALLY.

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AMEMBASSY TALLINN IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY TASHKENT IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY TBILISI IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY VILNIUS IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY YEREVAN IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY ZAGREB IMMEDIATE
INFO USIA WASHDC 0000

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PLEASE PASS TO ALL PAOS USIA PLEASE PASS TO EU

E.O. 12356: N/A
TAGS: OPRC
SUBJECT: EUR DAILY PRESS GUIDANCE - JUNE 24, 1994
PARIS ALSO FOR USOECD, ROME ALSO FOR VATICAN, USVIENNA FOR USDEL
CSCE

1. THE FOLLOWING PRESS GUIDANCE WAS PREPARED AND
APPROVED BY THE BUREAU OF EUROPEAN AND CANADIAN AFFAIRS
FOR THE DEPARTMENT BRIEFING. QUESTIONS SHOULD BE
DIRECTED TO ARIC SCHWAN, EUR/PPA.

2. FIGHTING UPDATE: BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA

Q: WHAT IS THE FIGHTING SITUATION IN BOSNIA? IS THE
CEASE-FIRE STILL HOLDING? IS THE SITUATION
DETERIORATING?

A: - THERE ARE REPORTS OF SKIRMISHES BETWEEN
BOSNIAN GOVERNMENT AND BOSNIAN SERB FORCES
NEAR DOBOJ (DOUGH-BOY) IN CENTRAL BOSNIA.

- FIGHTING IN BIHAC (BEE-HAHTCH) BETWEEN
BOSNIAN GOVERNMENT FORCES AND FORCES LOYAL
TO INSURRECTIONIST LEADER ABDIC HAS
SUBSIDED.

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- DUTCH UNPROFOR FORCES CAME UNDER BOSNIAN SERB SMALL ARMS FIRE NEAR TOESAK (TEH-OH-SACK) NORTHEAST OF TUZLA (TOOZ-LAH) IN NORTHERN BOSNIA
- WHILE THERE HAVE BEEN SPORADIC FLAIR-UPS DURING THE CEASE-FIRE, PARTICULARLY IN THE BIHAC AREA, THE OVERALL LEVEL OF FIGHTING REMAINS LOWER THAN IT WAS BEFORE THE CEASE-FIVE WAS NEGOTIATED.

3. BOSNIA-HERZEGOVINA: AMB. REDMAN

Q: WHERE IS AMBASSADOR REDMAN? IS HE MEETING WITH ANYONE?

- A: -- AMBASSADOR REDMAN IS IN WASHINGTON.
- WE EXPECT THE NEXT CONTACT GROUP MEETING WILL TAKE PLACE THIS COMING TUESDAY IN PARIS.

4. BOSNIA-HERZEGOVINA: PEACE TALKS

Q: IS THE OPPORTUNITY FOR PEACE SLIPPING AWAY?

- A: -- NO, WE DO NOT BELIEVE THE OPPORTUNITY FOR PEACE IS SLIPPING AWAY.
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- THE U.S., EU AND RUSSIA ARE WORKING CLOSELY TOGETHER IN PUTTING TOGETHER A TERRITORIAL APPROACH BASED ON THE 51/49 PERCENT CONCEPT THAT BOTH PARTIES HAVE PREVIOUSLY AGREED TO.
- OUR AIM IS TO PROVIDE THE BOSNIAN GOVERNMENT WITH THE "VIALE, REALISTIC AND REASONABLE TERRITORY" APPROVED AT THE MAY 13 GENEVA MINISTERIAL.
- ALTHOUGH NO NEGOTIATING EFFORT CAN BE ASSURED OF SUCCESS IN ADVANCE, WE REMAIN HOPEFUL THAT BOTH PARTIES WILL RECOGNIZE THAT THE BEST HOPE FOR THE FUTURE OF THEIR PEOPLES RESTS IN A NEGOTIATED SETTLEMENT AND NOT IN A CONTINUATION OF THIS TERRIBLE CONFLICT.

5. BOSNIA-HERZEGOVINA/CROATIA: IRANIAN ARMS SHIPMENTS

Q: CAN YOU CONFIRM REPORTS REGARDING IRANIAN ARMS SHIPMENTS THROUGH CROATIA TO BOSNIA?

- A: -- IT IS THE POLICY OF THE UNITED STATES TO RESPECT THE UN ARMS EMBARGO ON THE NATIONS

THAT FORMERLY COMPRISED YUGOSLAVIA.

-- WE STRONGLY BELIEVE THAT UN SECURITY COUNCIL
RESOLUTIONS MUST BE FULLY RESPECTED.
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6. GREECE: DEFENSE MINISTER'S MEETING WITH U/S TARNOFF

Q: DID DEFENSE MINISTER ARSENIS MEET WITH U/S
TARNOFF? WHAT WAS DISCUSSED?

A:-- DEFENSE MINISTER ARSENIS AND U/S TARNOFF
HAD A PRODUCTIVE EXCHANGE OF VIEWS ON JUNE
21. THEY DISCUSSED A VARIETY OF TOPICS OF
MUTUAL INTEREST, INCLUDING THE GENERAL
SITUATION IN THE BALKANS, POLICY TOWARD
BOSNIA, GREECE'S RELATIONS WITH ALBANIA,
THE DISPUTE BETWEEN GREECE AND THE FORMER
YUGOSLAV REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA, GREECE'S
RELATIONS WITH TURKEY, AND EFFORTS TO
RESOLVE THE CYPRUS MATTER.

7. TURKEY: RESTRICTIONS ON FOREIGN ASSISTANCE

Q: PRIME MINISTER CILLER HAS MADE STRONG REMARKS
AGAINST THE U.S. SENATE'S PROPOSAL TO RESTRICT
FOREIGN ASSISTANCE TO TURKEY. WHAT DO WE KNOW
ABOUT WHAT SHE SAID? WHAT EXACTLY DID THE SENATE
AGREE TO AND IS IT BINDING? WHAT IS THE USG
RESPONSE TO HER COMMENTS?

A: -- I REFER YOU TO PRESS REPORTS FOR THE SUBSTANCE
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OF WHAT THE PRIME MINISTER REPORTEDLY SAID.
THE PRIME MINISTER HAS NOT BEEN IN CONTACT
WITH THE USG ON THIS MATTER.

-- THERE IS PROPOSED LEGISLATION BEFORE THE
SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE THAT WOULD
PLACE RESTRICTIONS ON THE USE OF U.S.-SUPPLIED
WEAPONS FOR INTERNAL SECURITY. THIS PROVISION
REMAINS IN COMMITTEE.

-- WE DO NOT HAVE ANY INFORMATION BEYOND THESE
REPORTS AND WOULD PREFER NOT TO COMMENT AT
THIS TIME.

Q: HOW DOES THE DEPARTMENT FEEL ABOUT THE DIFFERENT
LEGISLATION ON THE HILL TO CUT AID TO TURKEY AND
TO BAN THE USE OF WEAPONS? WHAT IS THE STATUS OF
EACH? OUR POSITION ON EACH? ARE WE DISCUSSING

WITH THEM?

A. -- WE ARE OPPOSED TO RESTRICTIONS ON ASSISTANCE TO TURKEY. TURKEY IS A NATO ALLY AND LONGSTANDING FRIEND OF THE UNITED STATES.

-- PROPOSED CONGRESSIONAL LEGISLATION ON THIS MATTER REMAINS UNDER CONSIDERATION.

-- WE ARE DISCUSSING OUR CONCERNS WITH THE CONGRESS.

(FYI: THERE ARE VARIOUS PROPOSALS IN THE HOUSE AND UNCLASSIFIED

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SENATE THAT WOULD RESTRICT MILITARY ASSISTANCE TO TURKEY. THE HOUSE PROPOSAL WOULD WITHHOLD 25 OF TURKEY'S 1995 MILITARY FINANCING PENDING A REPORT ON ALLEGED HUMAN RIGHTS ABUSES AND PERFORMANCE ON CYPRUS. THE SENATE'S PROVISION WOULD NOT ALLOW TURKEY TO USE U.S.-SUPPLIED WEAPONS FOR INTERNAL SECURITY E.G., AGAINST THE PKK)

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*** Current Classification *** UNCLASSIFIED

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XMT AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST
AMEMBASSY MALABO
AMCONSUL SHANGHAI

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INFORM CONSULS ALSO FOR USUC/USOEC

E.O. 12356: N/A
TAGS: OPRC
SUBJECT: DAILY PRESS BRIEFING - MONDAY, NOVEMBER 7,
1994

THE FOLLOWING TOPICS WERE DISCUSSED IN TODAY'S PRESS
BRIEFING:

MIDDLE EAST PEACE PROCESS
ISRAELI-SYRIAN TALKS ON GOLAN/US PARTICIPATION .1-2

BOSNIA
UN DISCUSSIONS ON LIFTING SANCTIONS 2,3

FIGHTING/UN PROTEST/EMBARGO ON BOSNIANS 3,6
PEACE PLAN DISCUSSIONS BY CONTACT GROUP 3-5

NATO
MEMBERSHIP/PARTNERS FOR PEACE 6-7

CUBA
REFUGEES/VOLUNTARY RETURNS 7-8

HAITI
REFUGEES 8,9

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RUSSIA
ZHIRINOVSKY VISIT TO US 10

BEGIN TEXT:

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MS. SHELLY: WELCOME TO THE STATE DEPARTMENT, LADIES
AND GENTLEMEN. I DON'T HAVE ANY OPENING STATEMENTS TO
READ, SO I'LL BE HAPPY TO GO DIRECTLY TO YOUR QUESTIONS.

Q THERE'S A REPORT FROM CAIRO QUOTING FAROUK
AL-SHARA, THE SYRIAN FOREIGN MINISTER, AS SAYING THAT
THERE MIGHT BE DIRECT TALKS BETWEEN SYRIA AND ISRAEL
FOLLOWING THE SECRETARY OF STATE'S NEXT TRIP TO THE
REGION. DO YOU HAVE ANYTHING DIRECTLY FROM THE SYRIANS
THAT WOULD SUGGEST THAT MIGHT BE THE CASE?

MS. SHELLY: WE ARE, OF COURSE, WATCHING THAT TRACK
WITH GREAT INTEREST, BUT, AS I THINK YOU KNOW, OUR
POLICY HERE IS THAT WE LEAVE IT UP TO THE PARTIES TO
MAKE ANNOUNCEMENTS OF THAT KIND. SO WE WILL WAIT FOR
THE PARTIES TO DO THAT AND TAKE THAT AS THE DEFINITIVE
ANNOUNCEMENT.

Q I HAVE A FOLLOW-UP. (INAUDIBLE) DIRECT TALKS?
DON'T YOU WANT TO ENCOURAGE SUCH A THING? I THINK YOUR
POLICY IS TO MEDIATE IF THEY WON'T TALK TO EACH OTHER,
BUT YOU'D RATHER THEY TALK TO EACH, WOULDNT YOU?

MS. SHELLY: BARRY, I'M NOT SURE THAT I NEED TO GET
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INTO A NEW CHARACTERIZATION OF THE U.S. ROLE. WE
CERTAINLY --

Q (INAUDIBLE)

MS. SHELLY: I'M NOT SURE THAT COVERING OLD GROUND IS NECESSARY EITHER, BUT YOU KNOW WE ARE, OF COURSE, VERY INTERESTED IN SEEING PROGRESS ON THAT TRACK, AS MOST RECENTLY EVIDENCED BY THE VISIT TO THE REGION OF THE PRESIDENT.

AGAIN, CERTAINLY WE'D LIKE TO SEE PROGRESS, AND WHENEVER WE CAN SEE A ROLE WHICH IS USEFUL FOR US TO PLAY, WE CERTAINLY TRY TO DO THAT. BUT AS TO ANNOUNCEMENTS ABOUT TALKS, NEW FORMATS, NEW PARTICIPATION, THINGS LIKE THAT, WE DO LEAVE IT UP TO THEM TO MAKE THOSE ANNOUNCEMENTS.

PAGE 2

Q I WAS GOING TO ASK YOU, CHRISTINE, COULD YOU TELL US WHETHER THE PRESIDENT OR THE PRESIDENTIAL PARTY WAS ASKED ABOUT THE POSSIBLE AMERICAN ROLE, MILITARY ROLE OR PEACEKEEPING ROLE ON GOLAN, AND WHETHER GENERALLY WHAT WAS REPEATED WAS WHAT WE KNOW THE POLICY TO BE AND THAT IS THAT THE UNITED STATES STANDS READY TO PARTICIPATE IF THE PARTIES WANT THE UNITED STATES TO DO THAT?

MS. SHELLY: THE FIRST PART OF YOUR QUESTION ABOUT QUESTIONS RAISED WITH THE PRESIDENTIAL PARTY, YOU'D HAVE
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TO DIRECT THAT TO THE WHITE HOUSE. BUT TO MY KNOWLEDGE
--

Q (INAUDIBLE) THE PRESIDENTIAL PARTY WAS THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

MS. SHELLY: OKAY. BUT AGAIN THE SECRETARY HAS TAKEN THAT QUESTION ON SEVERAL OCCASIONS AND TO MY KNOWLEDGE THERE IS NO CHANGE IN THE POSITION.

Q THAT WOULD HAVE BEEN THE POSITION THAT -- IF IT WAS DISCUSSED, THAT WOULD HAVE BEEN THE POSITION IN THE MEETING WITH ASSAD? I MEAN, IT HASN'T CHANGED, HAS IT?

MS. SHELLY: NO, THE U.S. POSITION HAS NOT CHANGED. THE SECRETARY DID ADDRESS THAT, I THINK, ON SEVERAL RECENT OCCASIONS, WHICH IS THAT IF THE PARTIES REQUESTED THE U.S. TO PARTICIPATE IN SOME KIND OF AN ARRANGEMENT, THAT SUBJECT TO THE CONDITIONS -- AND OBVIOUSLY CONSULTATIONS WITH THE U.S. CONGRESS -- THAT THE U.S. WOULD CERTAINLY BE WILLING TO CONSIDER THAT TYPE OF PARTICIPATION.

Q IS IT POSSIBLE -- AND I KNOW THIS IS TERRIBLY HYPOTHETICAL -- BUT WOULD THE UNITED STATES -- THE POSSIBILITY THAT THE SENATE MIGHT CHANGE LEADERSHIP,

COULDN'T THAT PUT A TERRIBLE CRIMP IN THE AMERICAN
PROMISE TO PARTICIPATE IN SUCH A LINE?

MS. SHELLY: THAT IS SO HYPOTHETICAL THAT I AM
ABSOLUTELY GOING TO DUCK.

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OTHER QUESTIONS. OTHER SUBJECTS.

Q CHRISTINE, WHAT IS THE PROGRAM THIS WEEK -- OR
INDEED IS IT THIS WEEK -- REGARDING THE U.N. SECURITY
COUNCIL RESOLUTION ON THE ARMS EMBARGO IN BOSNIA?

MS. SHELLY: AS I THINK YOU KNOW, AMBASSADOR
ALBRIGHT CIRCULATED OUR DRAFT RESOLUTION IN THE COUNCIL
ON OCTOBER 28. WHAT WE'VE HAD SO FAR HAVE BEEN A SERIES
OF INFORMAL DISCUSSIONS ON THE DRAFT. DISCUSSION OF THE
RESOLUTION AND OTHER MATTERS CONCERNING THE OVERALL
SITUATION IN BOSNIA IS SCHEDULED TO RESUME TOMORROW WHEN
THE COUNCIL HAS PLANNED ACTUALLY AN OPEN DEBATE ON
BOSNIA.

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AN OPEN DEBATE IN THE COUNCIL PROVIDES AN
OPPORTUNITY FOR ALL U.N. MEMBERS -- NOT JUST THE
SECURITY COUNCIL MEMBERS -- TO PARTICIPATE IN THE
DISCUSSIONS. SO WE WILL HAVE THAT DISCUSSION BEGINNING
TOMORROW AND THEN SEE WHERE WE GO FROM THERE.

Q I NOTICED THAT MR. AKASHI TODAY HAD SOME
INTERESTING REMARKS REGARDING HIS READING OF THE LATEST
OFFENSIVE OF THE BOSNIAN GOVERNMENT' SUGGESTING THAT
PERHAPS IT WOULD HAVE SOME POSITIVE CONSEQUENCES IN
TERMS OF FORCING THE SERBS TO RE-LOOK AT THEIR POSITION.

IS THERE ANY READING THAT YOU HAVE OF AKASHI'S
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REMARKS, AND DO THEY BY ANY CHANCE REFLECT MAYBE NEW
THINKING IN THE SECURITY COUNCIL OF PEOPLE WHO
PREVIOUSLY HAD OPPOSED THE NOTION OF LIFTING THE EMBARGO
MIGHT BE CHANGING THEIR IDEAS?

MS. SHELLY: I CONFESS, I HAVE NOT SEEN MR. AKASHI'S
REMARKS, BUT CERTAINLY THE INCREASED FIGHTING GOING ON
IN BOSNIA IS A SOURCE OF CONCERN TO EVERYONE --
CERTAINLY TO THE MEMBERS OF THE CONTACT GROUP AND

CERTAINLY TO OTHER SECURITY COUNCIL AND U.N. MEMBERS.

AS YOU KNOW, THE FIGHTING GOT SO BAD OVER THE COURSE OF THE WEEKEND -- AND IN RESPONSE TO CRIES FROM UNPROFOR OR PROTESTS TO BOTH OF THE PARTIES TO STOP THEIR ACTIONS -- THE U.N. GENERAL REQUESTED A NATO SHOW OF FORCE -- THE CLOSE AIR SUPPORT -- AND TWO NATO AIRCRAFT FLEW OVER THE REGION ON SATURDAY NIGHT AND ON SUNDAY MORNING, ALTHOUGH THEY DIDN'T FIRE ANY WEAPONS.

THE CONTACT GROUP, OF COURSE, IS ALSO THE PLACE WHERE A LEAD ROLE IN THE DIPLOMACY IS STILL UNDERWAY. THE CONTACT GROUP MET IN ZAGREB OVER THE WEEKEND TO DISCUSS THE PEACE PROCESS. THOSE DISCUSSIONS WILL CONTINUE. THERE'S NOT ANY PARTICULAR CHANGE. DESPITE SOME REPORTS TO THE CONTRARY IN THE DISCUSSIONS WHICH ARE UNDERWAY, THE PLAN IS NOT AT THIS POINT TO CONSIDER THINGS LIKE REOPENING THE MAP. THAT IS NOT ON THE AGENDA.

THE CONTACT GROUP TERRITORIAL PROPOSAL IS NOT SUBJECT TO CHANGE, AND ONCE THE BOSNIAN SERBS ACCEPT IT
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-- IF THEY WOULD ACCEPT IT, AS WE HAVE SAID ON MANY OCCASIONS BEFORE, ADJUSTMENTS TO IT COULD BE MADE AS THE RESULT OF THE MUTUAL AGREEMENT AMONG ALL OF THE BOSNIAN PARTIES.

THERE IS ONE REPORT THAT REFERENCED THE ACCEPTANCE OF THE TERRITORIAL PROPOSAL BY THE BOSNIAN SERBS AS A KIND OF STARTING POINT. IT'S THE STARTING POINT ONLY INsofar AS IT COULD BE A BEGINNING TO LOOK AT SOME OF THE OTHER ISSUES, SUCH AS CONSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENTS. BUT AGAIN THE FIRST

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STEP IN THAT DIRECTION IS ACCEPTANCE OF THE MAP, AND ACCEPTANCE OF THE MAP IS A MANDATORY REQUIREMENT BEFORE ANY FURTHER NEGOTIATIONS ON ANY OTHER TYPES OF ISSUES CAN PROCEED.

SO I THINK THAT'S WHAT THE SITUATION IS REGARDING THE MAP, AND CERTAINLY THERE DOESN'T APPEAR TO BE ANY INCREASED WILLINGNESS THAT WE'VE SEEN SO FAR ON THE PART OF THE BOSNIAN SERBS TO ACCEPT THAT PLAN AND THE BOSNIAN GOVERNMENT'S ACCEPTANCE OF THAT PLAN, OF COURSE, STILL REMAINS IN PLACE.

Q WHAT AKASHI SAID OR AT LEAST IS REPORTED AS HAVING SAID IS THAT THERE CONCEIVABLY COULD BE SOME POSITIVE CONSEQUENCES WHICH COULD FLOW FROM THE SUCCESS OF THE BOSNIAN GOVERNMENT'S LATEST OFFENSIVES. SETTING ASIDE WHAT HE SAID, DOES THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT
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THINK THAT THERE COULD BE SOME POSITIVE CONSEQUENCES
WHICH COULD FLOW FROM THE SUCCESS OF THIS NEW OFFENSIVE?

MS. SHELLY: THE U.S. GOVERNMENT'S VIEW, OF COURSE,
IS STILL THAT REAL GAINS ARE NOT LIKELY TO BE THOSE
RECORDED ON THE BATTLEFIELD; THAT THOSE ARE GOING TO
HAVE TO BE ONES THAT ARE MADE AT THE NEGOTIATING TABLE.
IF THE FIGHTING IN SOME WAY DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY LEADS
THE PARTIES TO A SITUATION WHERE THEY COME BACK TO THE
TABLE AND SPECIFICALLY WHERE THE BOSNIAN SERBS DECIDE
THAT THEY ARE READY TO ACCEPT THE CONTACT GROUP PLAN, I
THINK IN THAT SENSE IT WOULD BE POSITIVE. BUT I'M NOT
SURE THAT WE'VE SEEN ANY SPECIFIC EVIDENCE WHICH WOULD
SUGGEST THAT THE BOSNIAN SERBS ARE RESPONDING IN THAT
WAY ON THE DIPLOMATIC FRONT TO THE LATEST MILITARY GAINS
BY THE BOSNIAN GOVERNMENT FORCES.

Q ONE OF THE THINGS I SEE, THOUGH -- I UNDERSTAND
WHAT THE UNITED STATES IS SAYING -- BUT APPARENTLY WHEN
REPORTERS GO VISIT PEOPLE AT UNPROFOR, THEY SEEM TO BE
ADVISING MLADIC AND THE SERBS NOT TO ACCEPT THIS MAP,
BECAUSE IT'S TERRIBLY UNFAIR. I MEAN, I'VE SEEN THEM
QUOTED AS SAYING THE MAP IS UNFAIR TO THE SERBS, AND
THEREFORE THEY UNDERSTAND WHY THE SERBS ARE NOT
ACCEPTING IT, AND THAT SEEMS TO ME TO BE ENCOURAGEMENT
TO THE SERBS NOT TO ACCEPT IT. I WONDER WHETHER THE
UNITED STATES HAS TAKEN ANY POSITION IN THE UNITED
NATIONS OR WITH THE UNITED NATIONS TO TELL THE UNPROFOR
PEOPLE THAT IT'S NONE OF THEIR BUSINESS?

MS. SHELLY: I CAN'T, CERTAINLY, ADDRESS EVERY
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SINGLE REMARK, OFFHAND OR OTHER, THAT MIGHT BE MADE BY
SOMEONE OUT IN THE AREA. BUT IT CERTAINLY IS OUR VIEW
THAT THE MAP IS FAIR, AND IT REPRESENTED A VERY STRONG
CONSENSUS WITHIN THE CONTACT GROUP WHEN IT WAS
PRESENTED. IT'S ALSO BEEN ENDORSED AT THE MINISTERIAL
LEVEL ON SEVERAL OCCASIONS.

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WE STILL BELIEVE THAT THAT REPRESENTS THE BEST WAY
AHEAD IN TERMS OF A PEACEFUL SOLUTION TO THE CONFLICT.
AGAIN, NOTWITHSTANDING THE POSSIBILITY OF THERE BEING
SOME MINOR ADJUSTMENTS TO IT -- ASSUMING THAT ALL OF THE
PARTIES TO THE AGREEMENT WERE WILLING TO MAKE THOSE

ADJUSTMENTS -- WE BELIEVE THAT THE MAP AND THE PLAN

REPRESENT THE BEST OF ALL OF THE POSSIBLE ALTERNATIVES,
AND WE STILL STRONGLY CALL UPON THE BOSNIAN SERBS TO
ACCEPT THAT PLAN.

Q CHANGING SUBJECTS?

Q NO, I HAVE ANOTHER ONE. IT WOULD SEEM, GIVEN
THE SUCCESS OF THE BOSNIAN GOVERNMENT, THAT SOMEHOW THEY
ARE HAVING SOME ACCESS TO ADDITIONAL WEAPONS WHICH THEY
DIDN'T HAVE BEFORE. DOES THE UNITED STATES KNOW IF
INDEED THEY ARE GETTING HEAVY WEAPONS IN SPITE OF THE
EMBARGO? ARE WE CONTRIBUTING TO THAT IN ANY SENSE OR
TURNING A BLIND EYE TO THE WEAPONS COMING IN?

now. 7

MS. SHELLY: BARRIE WE'RE CERTAINLY NOT
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CONTRIBUTING TO IT, AND WE CERTAINLY ARE NOT TURNING A
BLIND EYE. WE HAVE BEEN A MAJOR PARTICIPANT, AS YOU
KNOW, IN THE ENFORCEMENT OF ALL OF THE DIFFERENT U.N.
SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTIONS WHICH HAVE BEEN PASSED IN
THE PAST.

CERTAINLY, I THINK THERE ARE INDICATIONS THAT THE
BOSNIAN GOVERNMENT FORCES ARE BETTER SUPPLIED. BUT I
KNOW WE HAVE ALSO SEEN A LOT OF REPORTS TO THE EFFECT
THAT THEY ARE ALSO A LOT BETTER TRAINED THAN THEY WERE
AT THE BEGINNING OF THE WAR. SO WE'RE STILL CERTAINLY
COMMITTED AT THIS POINT TO THE ENFORCEMENT OF THE ARMS
EMBARGO, BUT, AS YOU KNOW, WITH OUR DRAFT RESOLUTION ON
THE TABLE AT THIS POINT IN THE SECURITY COUNCIL, THAT
MAY CHANGE.

BUT WE WILL HAVE TO SEE WHAT HAPPENS ON THIS SCORE.
WHEREAS THERE IS INDICATION, I THINK, OF SOME INCREASED
ARMS FLOW -- WHICH IT MEANS THAT THERE ARE SOME
VIOLATIONS OF THE ARMS EMBARGO -- NONETHELESS, WE ARE
ALWAYS CONSTRAINED FROM TALKING ABOUT WHAT WE KNOW IN
SPECIFICITY BECAUSE MOST OF OUR INFORMATION ON THAT DOES
COME FROM INTELLIGENCE SOURCES.

Q ARE YOU MONITORING CROATIA TOO, AS YOU'RE
TRYING TO MAKE SURE THAT THE EMBARGO IS MAINTAINED OR
DO YOU JUST MONITOR BOSNIA?

MS. SHELLY: I THINK THAT THE RESOLUTION RELATES TO
ALL OF THE FORMER REPUBLICS, OR REPUBLICS OF THE FORMER
YUGOSLAVIA. SO I'M NOT AWARE THAT THERE'S ANY SEPARATE
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REGIME IN PLACE REGARDING CROATIA.

Q BECAUSE ONE OF THE STRONG REPORTS IS THAT
IRANIAN ARMS ARE COMING INTO THE MUSLIMS THROUGH CROATIA
-- CROATIA, BEING THIS YEAR, I GUESS -- THE MUSLIMS
FRIEND.

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GOD KNOWS WHAT THE LINEUP WILL BE NEXT YEAR. BUT RIGHT
NOW THEY'RE FIGHTING SIDE BY SIDE.

THERE'S A VERY STRONG REPORT THAT IRAN IS SHIPPING A
LOT OF WEAPONS IN TO CROATIA, AND FROM CROATIA THEY'RE
GETTING TO THE MUSLIMS. DO YOU KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT THAT?

MS. SHELLY: BARRY, WE'VE CERTAINLY ALSO SEEN THOSE
REPORTS. BUT, AGAIN, I CAN'T COMMENT ON THEM IN
SPECIFICITY.

Q WHY WOULD THAT BE?

MS. SHELLY: BECAUSE INFORMATION THAT WE WOULD HAVE
ON THAT WOULD, IN ALL PROBABLY, COME FROM INTELLIGENCE
SOURCES.

Q IF THE IRANIANS ARE SENDING THEM ARMS, THEY
KNOW IT; IF THE MUSLIMS ARE RECEIVING IT, THEY KNOW IT.
SO WHO IS THE SECRECY PROTECTING?

YOU DONT HAVE TO LAY OUT HOW YOU KNOW THESE
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THINGS. BUT HAS IRAN PROVIDED WEAPONS -- I MEAN, YOU'RE
SUPPOSED TO HAVE A CAMPAIGN AGAINST IRAN. YOU'RE TRYING
TO ISOLATE IRAN -- THE U.S. IS. CAN YOU SAY WHETHER
IRAN IS PROVIDING ARMS TO THE MUSLIMS IN BOSNIA?

MS. SHELLY: NO, I CANNOT COMMENT ON THAT IN
SPECIFICITY.

Q THAT'S BECAUSE WHY? BECAUSE THAT WOULD REVEAL
HOW YOU GOT THE INFORMATION?

MS. SHELLY: BECAUSE, BARRY, INFORMATION -- MOST OF
IT, IF NOT ALL OF THE INFORMATION THAT WE HAVE ON
VIOLATIONS OF THE ARMS EMBARGO, DO COME FROM
INTELLIGENCE SOURCES.

Q I READ IN A REPORT LATELY IN THE PRESS ABOUT
THE EXPANSION OF NATO AND ABOUT THE U.S. ROLE IN IT --
NAMELY, ABOUT PRECEPTS OF THE UNITED STATES FOR NEW
MEMBERSHIP. I WONDER IF YOU COULD BE MORE SPECIFIC
ABOUT THIS PROCESS OF THE TALKS THE ALLIES ARE NOW IN
FOR PROSPECTIVE NEW POTENTIAL MEMBERS?

MS. SHELLY: I DON'T HAVE ANYTHING WITH ME ON THAT TODAY. I'LL SEE IF WE CAN WORK UP SOMETHING ON THAT FOR A LITTLE BIT LATER IN THE WEEK. I KNOW WE HAVE HAD SOME INTERNAL U.S. GOVERNMENT DELIBERATIONS ON THIS, AND WE HAVE HAD SOME PRELIMINARY CONTACTS WITH OUR ALLIES IN NATO IN THE CONTEXT OF BOTH EMBARKING UPON THE PARTNERSHIP FOR PEACE AND ALSO THE GENERAL PATH, AS WE'VE SAID MANY TIMES, IN CONNECTION WITH P-FOR-P, THAT

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IT MIGHT LEAD TO A NATO MEMBERSHIP. SO HOW THAT WOULD BE DONE, THE PROCESS BY WHICH THAT MIGHT HAPPEN OVER THE LONGER TERM IS SOMETHING,

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OF COURSE, WE WOULD HAVE TO DISCUSS AND WORK OUT OUR THINKING AND THE PROCEDURES ON THAT WITH NATO ALLIES.

I DON'T HAVE ANYTHING MORE SPECIFIC THAN THAT TODAY, BUT WE'LL SEE IF WE CAN WORK UP SOMETHING FOR THE NEXT FEW DAYS TO GIVE YOU A LITTLE BIT MORE INSIGHT INTO OUR THINKING ON THAT.

Q AND WHEN WILL THESE TALKS WITH THE ALLIES BEGIN?

MS. SHELLY: I THINK THAT WE HAVE HAD TALKS ABOUT THAT IN A GENERAL WAY, REALLY FOR SOME TIME. IT'S A SUBJECT WHICH COMES UP PERIODICALLY, AND IT CERTAINLY CAME UP IN THE CONTEXT OF SOME OF THE LAST MINISTERIAL MEETINGS AND ALSO, OF COURSE, THE LAST NATO SUMMIT ABOUT THE WHOLE MEMBERSHIP QUESTION AND HOW THE WAY AHEAD WOULD BE AGREED AMONG THE ALLIES.

I'M NOT SURE THAT IT'S A SUBJECT THAT HAS EVER BEEN TOTALLY OFF THE AGENDA. IT'S IN THE CONTEXT OF MEETINGS WHICH COME UP. AS YOU KNOW, IN DECEMBER, THERE WILL BE THE NATO MINISTERIALS AGAIN. SO I WOULD EXPECT THAT THERE WOULD BE A CERTAIN AMOUNT OF REFINEMENT AND THINKING BOTH WITHIN OUR OWN GOVERNMENT AND ALSO IN THE CONTEXT OF NATO DISCUSSIONS LEADING UP TO THE

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MINISTERIAL. SO THERE MIGHT BE FURTHER DECISIONS AT THAT POINT.

Q A DIFFERENT SUBJECT?

MS. SHELLY: SURE

Q CAN YOU PLEASE UPDATE THE NUMBER OF HAITIANS AND CUBANS IN GUANTANAMO AND PANAMA? AND WHAT IS THE SITUATION IN THE CAMPS GUANTANAMO?

MS. SHELLY: SURE. DO YOU WANT TO DO CUBA FIRST OR DO YOU WANT TO DO HAITI FIRST? I HAVE THEM DONE SEPARATELY.

Q CUBA.

MS. SHELLY: CUBA? OKAY. I'LL GIVE YOU THE INFORMATION THAT I HAVE ON THIS. AS YOU KNOW, ON THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 3, THE U.S. COURT OF APPEALS IN ATLANTA LIFTED THE INJUNCTION ON VOLUNTARY RETURN OF CUBANS FROM GUANTANAMO. THAT PERMITTED THE RETURN ON SATURDAY OF 22 CUBANS WHO HAD ASKED TO GO HOME AND WHO HAD RECEIVED AUTHORIZATION TO DO SO FROM THE GOVERNMENT OF CUBA.

SIXTY-FOUR CUBANS HAVE NOW RETURNED VOLUNTARILY THROUGH OFFICIAL CHANNELS. THOSE DATES WERE OCTOBER 7, OCTOBER 17, AND THEN THIS PAST SATURDAY.

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THIS DOES NOT INCLUDE NUMBERS OF THOSE WHO HAVE LEFT THE CAMPS SPONTANEOUSLY.

APPROXIMATELY 1,000 OTHERS AT GUANTANAMO HAVE ASKED ABOUT VOLUNTARY RETURN. NOW THAT THE INJUNCTION OF OCTOBER 25 HAS BEEN LIFTED, WE HOPE WE WILL RECEIVE AUTHORIZATION FROM CUBAN AUTHORITIES TO RETURN CUBANS AT A FASTER PACE.

AS YOU KNOW, OUR INTERESTS SECTION IN HAVANA IS WORKING WITH THE GOVERNMENT OF CUBA ON THIS. IT REMAINS OUR POLICY NOT TO FORCE OR ENCOURAGE CUBANS TO RETURN TO CUBA. THOSE WHO DO NOT WISH TO RETURN MAY REMAIN IN SAFEHAVEN STATUS IN GUANTANAMO OR ELSEWHERE.

THE NUMBERS THAT YOU'VE ASKED FOR, AS TO THOSE WHO ARE IN SAFEHAVEN STATUS IN PANAMA, IT'S 8,665. THOSE WHO ARE STILL AT GUANTANAMO IS 23,094. SO THOSE ARE THE NUMBERS FOR GUANTANAMO FOR CUBANS.

Q (INAUDIBLE) SPONTANEOUSLY LEFT OVER THE WEEKEND?

MS. SHELLY: FIFTY-SEVEN CUBAN MIGRANTS, ALL RESIDENTS OF THE CAMP HOUSING THOSE WHO HAVE STATED THEIR DESIRE TO RETURN, VOLUNTARILY REPATRIATED THEMSELVES BY LEAVING THE CAMP AND SWIMMING TO TERRITORY UNDER THE JURISDICTION OF THE GOVERNMENT OF CUBA. A NUMBER OF OTHERS FROM THAT SAME CAMP WERE INTERCEPTED AND PREVENTED FROM UNDERTAKING THE RISKY SWIM.

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Q THERE WAS A REPORT THAT THEY HAD STOMPED DOWN A FENCE AS WELL. HAVE YOU PUT THE FENCE BACK UP, OR ARE YOU JUST GOING TO LEAVE IT DOWN?

MS. SHELLY: I DON'T HAVE THAT DETAIL, BARRIE. I ASSUME THAT FENCE HAS PROBABLY BEEN RESURRECTED OR PUT BACK TOGETHER IN SOME WAY.

Q THE HAITIANS?

MS. SHELLY: THE HAITIANS. THE TOTAL POPULATION OF HAITIANS AT GUANTANAMO IS 5,987. OF TOTAL REPATRIATIONS, THAT WAS 15,224. I HAVE JUST A LITTLE BIT OF ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON THAT HERE.

A GROUP OF 38 HAITIANS WITH MEDICAL CONDITIONS, WHO ASKED TO RETURN VOLUNTARILY TO HAITI, LEFT GUANTANAMO ON THURSDAY BY COAST GUARD CUTTER AND ARRIVED IN HAITI ON FRIDAY. THERE WERE SOME OTHER HAITIANS WHO WERE SCHEDULED TO RETURN AT THE SAME TIME BUT THEY WERE BARRED FROM RETURNING HOME BY JUDGE ATKINS FOLLOWING HIS PROVISIONAL GRANTING OF THE HAITIAN REFUGEE CENTER REQUEST TO INTERVENE IN THE LAWSUIT CONCERNING THE CUBANS AT GUANTANAMO.

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WE ARE ASKING JUDGE ATKINS TO REVISE HIS INJUNCTION ON THE RETURN OF HAITIANS FROM GUANTANAMO GIVEN THE COURT OF APPEALS RULING ON FRIDAY WHICH LIFTED THE BAN ON THE RETURN OF CUBANS.

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AS YOU KNOW, THE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT HAS THE LEAD IN THIS ON OUR SIDE.

WE ACKNOWLEDGED LAST WEEK THAT THE NUMBER OF HAITIANS REQUESTING VOLUNTARY RETURN HAS SLOWED AS A RESULT OF THE LAWSUIT. SO OTHER THAN THE ONES THAT I MENTIONED WHERE THERE WERE MEDICAL CASES INVOLVED, WE'RE STILL WAITING FOR THE LAWSUIT TO BE SETTLED IN ONE WAY OR ANOTHER SO THAT THE VOLUNTARY REPATRIATIONS CAN RESUME.

Q I HAVE A FOLLOW-UP. AMONG THESE 5,900

(INAUDIBLE) IN GUANTANAMO, WHAT WILL HAPPEN TO THOSE WHO REFUSE TO BE REPATRIATED -- WHO DON'T WANT TO RETURN?

MS. SHELLY: I'M NOT AWARE THAT THERE HAVE BEEN ANY SPECIFIC REFUSALS. BECAUSE WHAT'S HAPPENED IS, WE'VE CONTINUED TO CANVAS THE CAMPS ASKING FOR VOLUNTEERS AND UP UNTIL THE TIME WHEN THE INJUNCTION WENT INTO EFFECT, THERE WAS NO SHORTAGE OF VOLUNTEERS. SO, AS I SAID, THAT HAD SLOWED WHEN THE NEWS SPREAD AND SOME OF THOSE AT THE CAMP FELT THAT MAYBE THERE WOULD BE AN OPENING FOR THEM TO COME TO THE UNITED STATES IF THE LAWSUIT WERE SETTLED IN THEIR FAVOR.

BUT AT THIS POINT, WE HAVE NOT BEEN FACED WITH THE REFUSAL BY SOME. THE NUMBER, I THINK, WILL CONTINUE TO DIMINISH. WHAT HAPPENS ULTIMATELY, IF THERE'S A GROUP LEFT THAT'S A HYPOTHETICAL AT THIS POINT. SO I DON'T HAVE AN ANSWER FOR THAT.

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Q WHEN PRESIDENT YELTSIN WAS HERE, HE AGREED TO NOT PERMIT ANY NEW CONTRACTS WITH IRAN FOR WEAPONS. WE ASKED -- AND HE WAS GOING TO FULFILL EXISTING CONTRACTS. WE ASKED, WHAT IS THIS DELIVERY? WHAT'S IN THE PIPELINE? THE ANSWER WAS, "WE DON'T KNOW AT THIS POINT BUT WE'LL FIND OUT AND LET YOU KNOW."

I TRY TO ASK EVERY NOW AND THEN. DO WE KNOW? BECAUSE WE'RE TALKING ABOUT SUBMARINES. WE'RE NOT TALKING ABOUT LITTLE INCIDENTAL THINGS. IT'S BAFFLING THAT THE U.S. GOVERNMENT WOULDN'T KNOW WHAT RUSSIA IS PROVIDING IRAN WITH. IS THERE A SCORECARD YET, A SCORE SHEET AS TO WHAT IRAN WILL RECEIVE FROM RUSSIA WITH U.S. APPROVAL?

MS. SHELLY: BARRY, I DON'T KNOW. I'LL HAVE TO CHECK ON THAT AND SEE IF WE'VE HAD ANY RECENT COMMUNICATION FROM THEM WITH SOME MORE DETAILS.

Q THE IDEA WAS TO GET IT FROM RUSSIA.

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MS. SHELLY: RIGHT.

Q IS ZHIRINOVSKY COMING WASHINGTON, BY THE WAY?

MS. SHELLY: I KNOW HE'S OUT IN SAN FRANCISCO FOR THE FIRST LEG OF HIS TRIP. HE'S EXPECTED TO BE IN THE STATES FOR ABOUT A WEEK. BUT I DON'T HAVE ANY SPECIFIC

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INFORMATION ON HIS ITINERARY.

Q HAS HE REQUESTED TO SEE ANY PART OF OFFICIAL
U.S. GOVERNMENT --

MS. SHELLY: NOT THAT I'M AWARE OF' BUT I'LL BE
HAPPY TO CHECK ON THAT.

Q (INAUDIBLE) OF KOREAN BROADCASTING SYSTEM. CAN
YOU CONFIRM THE SCHEDULE ON THE U.S.-NORTH KOREAN EXPERT
TALKS WHICH WILL BE OPENED THIS WEEK?

MS. SHELLY: I SAW THAT PRESS REPORT RIGHT BEFORE
COMING IN TO DO THE BRIEFING. I DON'T HAVE ANY
INFORMATION TO CONFIRM THAT FROM OUR SIDE AT THIS POINT.

I'LL CHECK ON THAT LATER TODAY. BUT IT'S ALSO
POSSIBLE THAT IF WE HAVE A SIMILAR ANNOUNCEMENT TO MAKE,
IT COULD WELL COME FROM THE SECRETARY'S PARTY SINCE HE'S
IN THE REGION, ALTHOUGH I WOULD ASSUME THAT WE WOULD BE
IN A POSITION TO PUT OUT THE SAME INFORMATION HERE AT
MORE OR LESS THE SAME TIME. SO LET ME CHECK AND SEE
WHAT THE STATUS OF THAT IS, AND I'LL GIVE YOU AN ANSWER
AS SOON AS WE CAN.

Q THANK YOU.

MS. SHELLY: THANKS.

END TEXT. TALBOTT

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*** Current Classification *** UNCLASSIFIED

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E.O. 12356: N/A

TAGS: OPRC

SUBJECT: EUR DAILY PRESS GUIDANCE - APRIL 14, 1995

PARIS ALSO FOR USOECD, ROME ALSO FOR VATICAN, USVIENNA FOR USDEL
CSCE

1. THE FOLLOWING PRESS GUIDANCE WAS PREPARED AND
APPROVED BY THE BUREAU OF EUROPEAN AND CANADIAN AFFAIRS
FOR THE DEPARTMENT BRIEFING. QUESTIONS SHOULD BE
REFERRED TO ARIC SCHWAN OR BILL WEISSMAN, EUR PUBLIC
AFFAIRS.

2. IRANIAN ARMS TO BOSNIA

Q: IS IRAN DELIVERING ARMS TO THE BOSNIANS? DOES THE U.S. TACITLY APPROVE OF THIS ACTIVITY? WHAT ARE WE DOING ABOUT IT? HOW DO WE RECONCILE THIS POLICY WITH OUR MORE GENERAL CONCERN ABOUT IRANIAN ARMS SALES?

A: -- CONTRARY TO THE IMPRESSION LEFT BY THIS MORNING'S WASHINGTON POST STORY, THE U.S. NEITHER "ALLOWS" NOR "TACITLY ACCEPTS" THE PROVISION OF IRANIAN ARMS TO BOSNIA OR TO ANY
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OTHER COUNTRY.

- IT IS THE POLICY OF THE UNITED STATES TO RESPECT THE UN ARMS EMBARGO ON THE NATIONS THAT FORMERLY COMPRISED YUGOSLAVIA.
- IN OCTOBER, THE US INTRODUCED A UNSC RESOLUTION TO LIFT THE ARMS EMBARGO, A MEASURE THAT FAILED TO GARNER THE SUPPORT NECESSARY TO PASS.
- BECAUSE OF THE FAILURE OF THE LIFT RESOLUTION TO PASS, WE ANNOUNCED, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE TERMS OF THE NUNN-MITCHELL AMENDMENT TO THE DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION BILL, THAT THE U.S. WOULD CEASE TO ENFORCE THE ARMS EMBARGO AGAINST THE BOSNIAN GOVERNMENT.
- THE UNITED STATES HAS ON MANY OCCASIONS MADE KNOWN ITS STRONG OBJECTION TO THE BEHAVIOR OF THE GOVERNMENT OF IRAN. WE ARE ACTIVELY INVOLVED IN INTERNATIONAL EFFORTS TO ISOLATE IRAN AND PREVENT IT FROM ENGAGING IN ILLEGAL AND DANGEROUS WEAPONS TRANSFERS.

(IF ASKED)

- THE U.S. HAS DEEP OBJECTIONS TO ASPECTS OF IRAN'S BEHAVIOR, INCLUDING TEHRAN'S SUPPORT FOR VIOLENT OPPONENTS OF MIDEAST PEACE, AND IRAN'S WMD PROGRAMS. THIS ADMINISTRATION IS WORKING -- AT THE HIGHEST LEVELS -- TO FOCUS
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INTERNATIONAL PRESSURE ON IRAN TO CHANGE ITS UNACCEPTABLE BEHAVIOR.

3. BOSNIA/CROATIA: SITUATION UPDATE

Q: WHAT IS THE SITUATION IN BOSNIA? IN CROATIA?

- A: -- THE UN REPORTS THAT A FRENCH PEACEKEEPER WAS KILLED THIS MORNING BY SNIPER FIRE IN THE SARAJEVO SUBURB OF DOBRINJA (DOUGH-BREEN-YAH).
- FIGHTING IS REPORTED IN BIHAC (BEE-HAHCH) SOUTH OF VELIKA Kladusha (VEH-LEE-KAH KLAH-DOO-SHAH).
- MORTAR SHELLING OF GORAZDE (GOH-RAZH-DUH) HAS CONTINUED FOR A THIRD CONSECUTIVE DAY ON WEDNESDAY.
- ON THURSDAY, SERB FORCES SHELLED AREAS NEAR THE AIRPORT IN DUBROVNIK, ON THE CROATIAN COAST. NO INJURIES WERE REPORTED.

4. AUSTRIA: AMBASSADOR HUNT'S COLUMN

Q: DOES AMBASSADOR HUNT WRITE A WEEKLY COLUMN FOR THE UNCLASSIFIED

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NEUE KRONENZEITUNG? (NEYA KRONENSITUNG)

- A: -- THE AMBASSADOR HAS BEEN WRITING A REGULAR COLUMN FOR THE POPULAR MASS CIRCULATION NEUE KRONENZEITUNG NEWSPAPER SINCE MARCH 1995.

(IF ASKED: AMBASSADOR HUNT CONSULTED WITH THE DEPARTMENT REGARDING THE COLUMN.)

Q: DO WE CONSIDER THE NEWSPAPER "ULTRA-RIGHT-WING?"

- A: -- NO. THE NEUE KRONENZEITUNG IS A POPULAR AUSTRIAN MASS CIRCULATION NEWSPAPER WITH THE HIGHEST READERSHIP IN THE COUNTRY. WHILE WE DO NOT ALWAYS AGREE WITH ITS EDITORIAL POSITION, WE WOULD NOT CHARACTERIZE THE NEUE KRONENZEITUNG AS A NEWSPAPER WITH EXTREMIST VIEWS.

Q: DOES HUNT REGARD AUSTRIA AS A VICTIM OF NAZISM IN WWII?

- A: -- AMBASSADOR HUNT WAS TRYING TO MAKE THE POINT THAT MANY AUSTRIANS SUFFERED AS A RESULT OF WARTIME DESTRUCTION THAT FOLLOWED THE NAZI TAKEOVER OF AUSTRIA IN 1938. AMBASSADOR HUNT RECOGNIZES THAT THIS IN NO WAY DIMINISHES THE CRIMES THAT WERE COMMITTED BY AUSTRIAN NAZIS

AND THEIR SUPPORTERS DURING THE WAR.

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5. TURKEY: INCURSION UPDATE

Q: WHAT IS THE STATUS OF THE INCURSION?

A: -- THE INCURSION CONTINUES. ACCORDING TO THE
LATEST CASUALTY FIGURES, SOME 427 PKK HAVE
BEEN KILLED WITH THE LOSS OF 43 TURKISH
SOLDIERS.

-- THE GOVERNMENT OF TURKEY CONTINUES TO ASSURE
US THAT ITS FORCES WILL LEAVE NORTHERN IRAQ AS
SOON AS POSSIBLE, BUT HAS NOT GIVEN A DATE FOR
ANY FURTHER WITHDRAWALS.

-- TURKISH AUTHORITIES HAVE ALSO ASSURED US THAT
THEY ARE MAKING EVERY EFFORT TO AVOID HUMAN
RIGHTS VIOLATIONS AND MINIMIZE CIVILIAN LOSSES
IN NORTHERN IRAQ.

6. IRAQ: U.S. EFFORTS TO END INTRA-KURDISH FEUDING

Q: WHAT EFFORTS ARE WE MAKING TO END THE VIOLENCE
BETWEEN KURDISH FACTIONS IN NORTHERN IRAQ?

A: -- WE CONTINUE TO URGE THE KURDISH PARTIES TO
MAINTAIN A CEASEFIRE AND TO ACCEPT THE
MEDIATION OF THE IRAQI NATIONAL CONGRESS
(INC), THE UMBRELLA IRAQI OPPOSITION GROUP
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BASED IN NORTHERN IRAQ. WE HAVE STRESSED THAT
THE USG FULLY SUPPORTS THE INC AND ITS
MEDIATION ROLE, AND WOULD STAND BEHIND ITS
EFFORTS.

-- AT THE SAME TIME, WE HAVE REMINDED THE IRAQI
KURDS THAT A CORNERSTONE OF U.S. POLICY IS TO
SUPPORT THE UNITY AND TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY OF
IRAQ

-- AN ADMINISTRATION ENVOY AND A REPRESENTATIVE

OF THE GOVERNMENT OF TURKEY EARLIER THIS YEAR
TRAVELED TO NORTHERN IRAQ (JANUARY 24-27) AND
CONVEYED THESE CONCERNS DIRECTLY TO THE
LEADERSHIP OF THE WARRING KURDISH PARTIES, THE
PATRIOTIC UNION OF KURDISTAN (PUK) AND THE
KURDISTAN DEMOCRATIC PARTY (KDP).

- WE WILL CONTINUE TO CONSULT CLOSELY WITH
APPROPRIATE PARTIES REGARDING EFFORTS TO BRING
ABOUT A LASTING PEACE IN NORTHERN IRAQ.

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*** Current Classification *** UNCLASSIFIED

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E.O. 12356: N/A

TAGS: OPRC, XF

SUBJECT: NEA PRESS GUIDANCE - 04/14/95

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D. SATTERFIELD,

LONDON FOR M. TUELLER, PARIS FOR K. ALLEGRONE,

WARSAW PASS PPP BAGHDAD

THE FOLLOWING GUIDANCE IS PROVIDED FOR POST'S INFORMATION:

IRAQ: HUMANITARIAN RESOLUTION ON OIL SALES; U.S.
EFFORTS TO END INTRA-KURDISH FEUDING; CA UPDATE
ON DETAINED AMERICANS; SANCTIONS-FOOD FOR OIL
MIDDLE EAST PEACE PROCESS; DOG DEATHS IN HEBRON;
PLO ISSUANCE OF PASSPORTS TO PILGRIMS

IRANIAN ARMS TO BOSNIA
TURKEY/IRAQ: INCURSION UPDATE
IRAN'S GLOBAL SEARCH FOR WEAPONS

IRANIAN ARMS TO BOSNIA

Q: IS IRAN DELIVERING ARMS TO THE BOSNIANS? DOES THE
U.S. TACITLY APPROVE OF THIS ACTIVITY? WHAT ARE WE DOING
ABOUT IT? HOW DO WE RECONCILE THIS POLICY WITH OUR MORE
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GENERAL CONCERN ABOUT IRANIAN ARMS SALES?

A: WE WILL NOT COMMENT ON INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION
REGARDING THE ARMS EMBARGO.

THE U.S. IS NOT IN VIOLATION OF THE ARMS EMBARGO. WE ARE
UNDER LEGAL OBLIGATIONS THAT PROHIBIT US FROM EXPENDING
FUNDS OR USING PERSONNEL TO ENFORCE THE EMBARGO.

WE LOOK NEGATIVELY ON ANYTHING THAT CONTINUES TO FUEL THE
CONFLICT.

Q: DO YOU CONDONE THE VIOLATION OF THE EMBARGO BY OTHER
COUNTRIES?

A: I SAID WE HAVE LEGAL OBLIGATIONS WHICH PROHIBIT US
FROM EXPENDING FUNDS OR USING PERSONNEL TO ENFORCE THE
EMBARGO.

WE DO NOT VIOLATE THE EMBARGO; NOR DO WE ENFORCE IT.

IF PRESSED:

WE DO NOT ENDORSE THE VIOLATION OF UN RESOLUTIONS.

TURKEY/IRAQ: INCURSION UPDATE

Q: WHAT IS THE STATUS OF THE INCURSION?

A: THE INCURSION CONTINUES. ACCORDING TO THE LATEST
CASUALTY FIGURES, SOME 427 PKK HAVE BEEN KILLED WITH THE
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LOSS OF 43 TURKISH SOLDIERS.

THE GOVERNMENT OF TURKEY CONTINUES TO ASSURE US THAT ITS
FORCES WILL LEAVE NORTHERN IRAQ AS SOON AS POSSIBLE, BUT
HAS NOT GIVEN A DATE FOR ANY FURTHER WITHDRAWALS.

TURKISH AUTHORITIES HAVE ALSO ASSURED US THAT THEY ARE MAKING EVERY EFFORT TO AVOID HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS AND MINIMIZE CIVILIAN LOSSES IN NORTHERN IRAQ.

MIDDLE EAST PEACE PROCESS: DOG DEATHS IN HEBRON

Q: ANY REACTION TO THE REPORTED SLAUGHTER OF BETWEEN 90 AND 150 PALESTINIAN DOGS BY ISRAELI AUTHORITIES IN HEBRON?

A: WE'RE LOOKING INTO THOSE REPORTS.

IRAQ: U.S. EFFORTS TO END INTRA-KURDISH FEUDING

Q: WHAT EFFORTS ARE WE MAKING TO END THE VIOLENCE BETWEEN KURDISH FACTIONS IN NORTHERN IRAQ?

A: WE CONTINUE TO URGE THE KURDISH PARTIES TO MAINTAIN A CEASEFIRE AND TO ACCEPT THE MEDIATION OF THE IRAQI NATIONAL CONGRESS (INC), THE UMBRELLA IRAQI OPPOSITION GROUP BASED IN NORTHERN IRAQ. WE HAVE STRESSED THAT THE USG FULLY SUPPORTS THE INC AND ITS MEDIATION ROLE, AND WOULD STAND BEHIND ITS EFFORTS.

AT THE SAME TIME, WE HAVE REMINDED THE IRAQI KURDS THAT A CORNERSTONE OF U.S. POLICY IS TO SUPPORT THE UNITY AND
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TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY OF IRAQ.

AN ADMINISTRATION ENVOY AND A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE GOVERNMENT OF TURKEY EARLIER THIS YEAR TRAVELED TO NORTHERN IRAQ (JANUARY 24-27) AND CONVEYED THESE CONCERNS DIRECTLY TO THE LEADERSHIP OF THE WARRING KURDISH PARTIES, THE PATRIOTIC UNION OF KURDISTAN (PUK) AND THE KURDISTAN DEMOCRATIC PARTY (KDP).

WE WILL CONTINUE TO CONSULT CLOSELY WITH APPROPRIATE PARTIES REGARDING EFFORTS TO BRING ABOUT A LASTING PEACE IN NORTHERN IRAQ.

MIDDLE EAST PEACE PROCESS:
PLO ISSUANCE OF PASSPORTS TO PILGRIMS

Q: ANY COMMENT ON REPORTS ISRAEL HAS CONFISCATED OVER 4,000 PASSPORTS UNLAWFULLY ISSUED BY THE PLO TO EAST JERUSALEM AND WEST BANK PALESTINIAN PILGRIMS HEADED FOR MECCA?

A: WE'RE AWARE OF THOSE REPORTS; WE'RE LOOKING INTO THEM.

IRAQ: HUMANITARIAN RESOLUTION ON OIL SALES

Q: HAS THE HUMANITARIAN RESOLUTION ON IRAQ PASSED? WHY THIS RESOLUTION NOW? WILL IRAQ ACCEPT THE RESOLUTION?

A: THIS MORNING, BY UNANIMOUS VOTE, THE SECURITY COUNCIL

PASSED RESOLUTION 986.

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I AM SURE THE IRAQI PEOPLE WOULD WANT IT IMPLEMENTED, IF SADDAM WERE TO GIVE THEM A CHOICE, BUT WE CANNOT PREDICT WHAT THE IRAQI GOVERNMENT WILL DO.

THE SANCTIONS REGIME NEVER BANNED FOOD OR MEDICINE IMPORTS, BUT SADDAM, WHILE SQUANDERING RESOURCES ON HIS REPRESSIVE SECURITY APPARATUS AND PERSONAL PALACES, CYNICALLY PREFERRED TO USE THE SUFFERING OF ORDINARY IRAQIS AS A PROPAGANDA TOOL TO PRESS FOR THE LIFTING OF SANCTIONS. THIS RESOLUTION REMOVES ALL HIS EXCUSES FOR THIS REPRESSION. HE CAN PROVE US WRONG BY IMPLEMENTING THIS RESOLUTION. WE HOPE HE DOES SO.

SADDAM HISSEIN IS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE SUFFERING OF HIS PEOPLE, NOT THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY.

Q: WHAT ARE THE DETAILS OF THE NEW HUMANITARIAN RESOLUTION FOR IRAQ?

A: THE RESOLUTION WAS A COLLABORATIVE EFFORT OF A NUMBER OF SECURITY COUNCIL MEMBERS, INCLUDING COSPONSORS ARGENTINA, OMAN, GREAT BRITAIN AND THE U.S., ALL OF WHOM SHARE A DEEP CONCERN FOR THE HUMANITARIAN SITUATION IN IRAQ.

UNDER THE TERMS OF THE RESOLUTION, IRAQ WILL BE PERMITTED A HUMANITARIAN EXCEPTION TO THE EXPORT EMBARGO TO SELL UP TO ONE BILLION DOLLARS WORTH OF OIL EVERY 90 DAYS. THIRTY PERCENT OF THE PROCEEDS OF THE SALES WILL BE DEPOSITED IN THE U.N. FUND SET UP TO COMPENSATE VICTIMS OF IRAQI AGGRESSION FROM MANY COUNTRIES. ALSO DEDUCTED FROM THE

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PROCEEDS WILL BE SMALLER AMOUNTS TO PAY THE COST OF IMPLEMENTING THIS RESOLUTION, AS WELL AS THE COSTS OF OTHER U.N. ACTIVITIES IN IRAQ.

AFTER THESE DEDUCTIONS, AT LEAST 650 MILLION DOLLARS WILL REMAIN AVAILABLE EVERY 90 DAYS ONLY FOR USE BY THE IRAQI GOVERNMENT TO PURCHASE FOOD, MEDICINE AND OTHER

HUMANITARIAN ITEMS FOR ALL OF IRAQ. SPENT PROPERLY, THIS PROVIDES MORE THAN ADEQUATE FUNDS TO RELIEVE THE HUMANITARIAN SITUATION. THIS EXCEEDS THE AMOUNT IRAQ SPENT ON IMPORTS OF FOOD AND MEDICINE PRIOR TO THE

IMPOSITION OF SANCTIONS.

Q: IF YOU'VE ADDRESSED THE IRAQI OBJECTIONS TO 706/712, DOES THAT MEAN YOU'VE CAVED IN TO THE IRAQIS ON MONITORING HOW THE PROCEEDS OF THE OIL SALES ARE SPENT AND HOW HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE IS DISTRIBUTED?

A: IN COOPERATION WITH OTHER COUNCIL MEMBERS, WE HAVE CAREFULLY WRITTEN THIS RESOLUTION TO ENSURE THAT ALL THE PROCEEDS FROM OIL SALES ARE ACCOUNTED FOR AND DISBURSED ACCORDING TO CLEAR, VERIFIABLE TERMS. THE PROCEEDS OF THE OIL SALES WILL BE DEPOSITED IN AN ESCROW ACCOUNT AND CAN ONLY BE SPENT WITH UN APPROVAL. THE RESOLUTION ALSO CONTAINS PROVISIONS TO ENSURE THAT THE HUMANITARIAN ITEMS PURCHASED ARE DISTRIBUTED EQUITABLY AMONG THE ENTIRE POPULATION.

THE RESOLUTION INITIALLY REMAINS IN FORCE FOR 180 DAYS. IF IT IS DETERMINED THE AID IS NOT BEING DISTRIBUTED

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PROPERLY, OR THAT THE IRAQI GOVERNMENT IS TRYING TO DIVERT PROCEEDS FROM THE OIL SALE TO PROHIBITED USES, THE COUNCIL WILL NOT RENEW THE TERMS OF THE RESOLUTION.

Q: HOW WILL DISTRIBUTION OF HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE BE HANDLED IN NORTHERN IRAQ WHERE THE GOVERNMENT HAS NO CONTROL?

A: THE RESOLUTION SETS ASIDE A PORTION OF THE PROCEEDS FOR THE U.N. HUMANITARIAN PROGRAM IN NORTHERN IRAQ.

Q: WILL THE ENTRY OF IRAQI OIL INTO THE WORLD MARKET BE DISRUPTIVE?

A: THAT IS NOT OUR ASSESSMENT. THIS PLAN HAS BEEN UNDER DISCUSSION FOR SOME TIME AND WE BELIEVE THE OIL MARKETS HAVE ALREADY BEGUN TO TAKE INTO ACCOUNT THE POSSIBILITY THAT LIMITED AMOUNTS OF IRAQI OIL MAY REAPPEAR ON THE MARKET. WE ESTIMATE THAT, SHOULD IRAQ IMPLEMENT THE PLAN AND SELL THE FULL ONE BILLION DOLLARS WORTH PER QUARTER, THAT MEANS ROUGHLY ONE PER CENT OF TOTAL DAILY GLOBAL CONSUMPTION.

Q: DOES THE FACT THAT THE RESOLUTION WILL ONLY REMAIN IN EFFECT FOR 180 DAYS MEAN THAT YOU EXPECT THE OIL EMBARGO TO BE LIFTED BY THE END OF THAT PERIOD?

A: NO. THE 180-DAY PERIOD ALLOWS THE COUNCIL TO "PULL THE PLUG" ON THE OPERATION SHOULD IT DETERMINE THAT THE TERMS OF THE RESOLUTION WERE NOT BEING MET.

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THIS IS A HUMANITARIAN EXCEPTION TO THE EXPORT EMBARGO, NOT A LIFTING OF IT OR A PRELUDE TO LIFTING IT. THE PURPOSE OF THIS RESOLUTION IS TO ADDRESS THE HUMANITARIAN SITUATION SADDAM HUSSEIN HAS CREATED IN IRAQ.

OUR POLICY ON THE IRAQ SANCTIONS ISSUE HAS NOT CHANGED. IRAQ MUST PROVE ITS PEACEFUL INTENTIONS BY FULL COMPLIANCE WITH ALL RELEVANT COUNCIL RESOLUTIONS. WHEN, AND ONLY WHEN, IRAQ IS IN OVERALL COMPLIANCE WITH THE RESOLUTIONS, WE WILL BE PREPARED TO DISCUSS MODIFYING THE SANCTIONS REGIME.

IRAQ SANCTIONS: FOOD FOR OIL

Q: WHAT IS THE STATUS OF THE RESOLUTION? DOES IRAQ HAVE TO AGREE TO THE RESOLUTION?

A: WE EXPECT THAT THE COUNCIL WILL ADOPT THE RESOLUTION THIS MORNING.

IN DISCUSSIONS YESTERDAY, MEMBERS PUT THE FINISHING TOUCHES TO THE RESOLUTION; IRAQ SHOULD HAVE NO REASONABLE OBJECTION TO IT.

THE SECURITY COUNCIL HAS DONE ITS PART. WE HOPE THAT THE GOVERNMENT OF IRAQ WILL TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THIS OPPORTUNITY TO SHOW THE WORLD IT CARES FOR THE WELFARE OF ITS PEOPLE.

IRAQ: UPDATE ON DETAINED AMERICANS

Q: IS THERE ANY INDICATION OF CONTINUED ACCESS TO THE TWO
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DETAINED AMERICANS IN IRAQ?

A: AS YOU KNOW, MR. BARLOON AND MR. DALIBERTI WERE LAST VISITED ON TUESDAY OF THIS WEEK BY POLISH DIPLOMATS. IRAQI OFFICIALS INDICATE THAT A WEEKLY VISIT BY THE POLISH PROTECTING POWER WILL BE POSSIBLE.

WE CONTINUE TO BE CONCERNED FOR THEIR WELFARE AND CALL FOR THE IRAQIS TO RELEASE THEM IMMEDIATELY ON HUMANITARIAN GROUNDS.

Q: HAVE THE WIVES OF THE TWO MEN BEEN GRANTED VISAS TO VISIT IRAQ?

A: THE U.S. EMBASSY IN AMMAN, JORDAN IS ASSISTING THE TWO WOMEN WITH THEIR APPLICATIONS FOR IRAQI VISAS. AT THIS TIME, THEY ARE GATHERING THE NECESSARY DATA FOR THE APPLICATION FORMS AND WE EXPECT THAT THEY WILL BE SUBMITTED SHORTLY.

WE HAVE NO GUARANTEE THAT THE IRAQIS WILL AUTHORIZE THESE VISAS.

Q: WHAT OTHER HELP IS THE U.S. PROVIDING TO THE TWO WOMEN?

A: WE ARE READY TO FACILITATE THEIR TRAVEL IN ANY WAY WE CAN.

THE TWO WOMEN WILL BE ACCOMPANIED EITHER BY U S GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS OR BY OFFICIALS FROM THE U S INTERESTS SECTION IN BAGHDAD WHEN THEY TRAVEL FROM AMMAN
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TO THE JORDANIAN - IRAQI BORDER.

ONCE THEY ARRIVE AT THE BORDER THE POLES WILL ACCOMPANY THEM AND ASSIST THEM THROUGHOUT THEIR STAY IN IRAQ.

IRAN'S GLOBAL SEARCH FOR WEAPONS

Q. WHAT DO WE KNOW AND WHAT ARE U.S. VIEWS ON IRAN'S GLOBAL SEARCH FOR WEAPONS?

A. THE U.S. VIGOROUSLY OPPOSES IRAN'S EFFORT TO ACQUIRE WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION. WE PROHIBIT ALL ARMS AND WEAPONS-RELATED EXPORTS FROM THE U.S. TO IRAN AND HAVE ADOPTED WHAT WE BELIEVE ARE THE WORLD'S MOST STRINGENT CONTROLS ON THE EXPORT OF DUAL-USE ITEMS AND TECHNOLOGY.

IN ADDITION TO THESE UNILATERAL MEASURES, WE ARE ACTIVELY ENGAGED WITH OUR ALLIES AND FRIENDS AT THE HIGHEST LEVELS OF GOVERNMENT AND THROUGH MULTILATERAL REGIMES IN AN EFFORT TO FOCUS INTERNATIONAL PRESSURE ON IRAN IN AN EFFORT TO PREVENT IRAN FROM ACQUIRING ARMS.

SPECIFICALLY, WE STRESS OUR OBJECTIONS TO ARMS TRANSFERS AND SENSITIVE DUAL-USE TECHNOLOGY SALES.

Q. HOW EXTENSIVE IS IRAN'S SEARCH? WHAT COUNTRIES HAVE THEY CONTACTED? SOUTH AFRICA? HAS THE U.S. WEIGHED IN AND PRESSURED THESE COUNTRIES AT HIGH LEVELS?

A. WE ARE AWARE OF OF REPORTS OF APPROACHES MADE TO SEVERAL COUNTRIES INCLUDING SOUTH AFRICA. WHEN WE RECEIVE
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THESE REPORTS, WE FOLLOW UP WITH THE COUNTRIES CONCERNED. WE ALSO WORK THROUGH A VARIETY OF MULTILATERAL REGIMES TO

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TAGS: OPRC

SUBJECT: EUR DAILY PRESS GUIDANCE - MAY 18, 1995

PARIS ALSO FOR USOECD, ROME ALSO FOR VATICAN, USVIENNA FOR USDEL
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1. THE FOLLOWING PRESS GUIDANCE WAS PREPARED AND
APPROVED BY THE BUREAU OF EUROPEAN AND CANADIAN AFFAIRS
FOR THE DEPARTMENT BRIEFING. QUESTIONS SHOULD BE
REFERRED TO ARIC SCHWAN, EUR PUBLIC AFFAIRS.

2. IRANIAN ARMS TO BOSNIA

Q: IS IRAN DELIVERING ARMS TO THE BOSNIANS? DOES THE

U.S. TACITLY APPROVE OF THIS ACTIVITY? WHAT ARE WE DOING ABOUT IT? HOW DO WE RECONCILE THIS POLICY WITH OUR MORE GENERAL CONCERN ABOUT IRANIAN ARMS SALES?

- A. -- CONTRARY TO THE IMPRESSION LEFT BY THIS MORNING'S WASHINGTON TIMES STORY, THE U.S. NEITHER "ALLOWS" NOR "TACITLY ACCEPTS" THE PROVISION OF IRANIAN ARMS TO BOSNIA OR TO ANY OTHER COUNTRY.
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- SINCE THE QUESTION OF ARMS DELIVERIES IS AN INTELLIGENCE MATTER, I CANNOT CONFIRM THESE REPORTS.
- IT IS THE POLICY OF THE UNITED STATES TO RESPECT THE UN ARMS EMBARGO ON THE NATIONS THAT FORMERLY COMPRISED YUGOSLAVIA. ALTHOUGH WE FAVOR MULTILATERAL LIFT OF THE EMBARGO AGAINST BOSNIA, WE CONTINUE TO BELIEVE SERIOUS RISKS ARE INVOLVED IN LIFTING IT UNILATERALLY. IN FACT, ONE IMPORTANT REASON FOR OUR OPPOSITION ON UNILATERAL LIFT IS OUR STRONG BELIEF THAT UN SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTIONS SHOULD BE FULLY RESPECTED.
- IN OCTOBER, THE US INTRODUCED A UNSC RESOLUTION TO LIFT THE ARMS EMBARGO, A MEASURE THAT FAILED TO GARNER THE SUPPORT NECESSARY TO PASS.
- BECAUSE OF THE FAILURE OF THE LIFT RESOLUTION TO PASS, WE ANNOUNCED, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE TERMS OF THE NUNN-MITCHELL AMENDMENT TO THE DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION BILL, THAT THE U.S. WOULD CEASE TO ENFORCE THE ARMS EMBARGO AGAINST THE BOSNIAN GOVERNMENT.

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Q: GENERAL POLICY? WHAT IS THE SITUATION ON THE GROUND?

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SUBJECT: NEA PRESS GUIDANCE - 05/18/95

WHITE HOUSE SITUATION ROOM PLEASE PASS TO E. LAIPSON AND
D. SATTERFIELD.
LONDON FOR M. TUELLER, PARIS FOR K. ALLEGRONE,
WARSAW PASS PPP BAGHDAD

THE FOLLOWING GUIDANCE IS PROVIDED FOR POST'S INFORMATION:

CHINA-IRAN NUCLEAR COOPERATION
IRANIAN ARMS TO BOSNIA
STATEMENT BY R. NICHOLAS BURNS SPOKESMAN,
MIDDLE EAST PEACE PROCESS STEERING GROUP MEETING
PEACE PROCESS: SECRETARY'S TRAVEL
PEACE PROCESS: UNSC VETO
PEACE PROCESS: STEERING GROUP MEETING
TAKEN QUESTION SYRIA: SUPPORT FOR TERRORISM

(MAY 17, 1995)

CHINA-IRAN NUCLEAR COOPERATION

Q: WHAT IS THE U.S. POSITION ON CHINA'S COOPERATION WITH IRAN'S NUCLEAR POWER PROGRAM?

A: CHINA HAS ANNOUNCED ITS INTENTION TO SELL TWO 300 MEGAWATT LIGHT WATER NUCLEAR POWER REACTORS TO IRAN, BUT IS STILL NEGOTIATING THE TERMS OF THE SALE.

SUCH NUCLEAR COOPERATION WOULD NOT VIOLATE THE NPT AND THE REACTORS WOULD BE SUBJECT TO IAEA SAFEGUARDS.

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NEVERTHELESS, WE REMAIN OPPOSED TO NUCLEAR COOPERATION WITH IRAN BY ANY STATE.

AS SECRETARY CHRISTOPHER HAS SAID, WE KNOW IRAN IS PURSUING A NUCLEAR WEAPONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM. IF THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY DOES NOT TAKE STRONG ACTION TO COUNTER IRAN'S EFFORTS, THEY WILL EVENTUALLY SUCCEED.

WHEN THE SECRETARY MET WITH FOREIGN MINISTER QIAN IN NEW YORK LAST MONTH, HE RAISED OUR CONCERNS ABOUT CHINA'S INTENTION TO EXPORT NUCLEAR POWER REACTORS TO IRAN AS WELL AS EXISTING CHINESE COOPERATION WITH IRAN'S CIVILIAN NUCLEAR PROGRAM.

WE WILL CONTINUE TO PURSUE THIS MATTER WITH CHINA.

IRANIAN ARMS TO BOSNIA

Q: IS IRAN DELIVERING ARMS TO THE BOSNIANS? DOES THE U.S. TACITLY APPROVE OF THIS ACTIVITY? WHAT ARE WE DOING ABOUT IT? HOW DO WE RECONCILE THIS POLICY WITH OUR MORE GENERAL CONCERN ABOUT IRANIAN ARMS SALES?

A: CONTRARY TO THE IMPRESSION LEFT BY THIS MORNING'S WASHINGTON TIMES STORY, THE U.S. NEITHER "ALLOWS" NOR "TACITLY ACCEPTS" THE PROVISION OF IRANIAN ARMS TO BOSNIA OR TO ANY OTHER COUNTRY.

SINCE THE QUESTION OF ARMS DELIVERIES IS AN INTELLIGENCE MATTER, I CANNOT CONFIRM THESE REPORTS.

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ONE IMPORTANT REASON FOR OUR OPPOSITION ON UNILATERAL LIFT IS OUR STRONG BELIEF THAT UN SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTIONS SHOULD BE FULLY RESPECTED.

IN OCTOBER, THE US INTRODUCED A UNSC RESOLUTION TO LIFT THE ARMS EMBARGO, A MEASURE THAT FAILED TO GARNER THE SUPPORT NECESSARY TO PASS.

BECAUSE OF THE FAILURE OF THE LIFT RESOLUTION TO PASS, WE ANNOUNCED, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE TERMS OF THE NUNN-MITCHELL AMENDMENT TO THE DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION BILL, THAT THE U.S. WOULD CEASE TO ENFORCE THE ARMS EMBARGO AGAINST THE BOSNIAN GOVERNMENT.

IF ASKED:

THE U.S. HAS DEEP OBJECTIONS TO ASPECTS OF IRAN'S BEHAVIOR, INCLUDING TEHRAN'S SUPPORT FOR VIOLENT OPPONENTS OF MIDEAST PEACE, AND IRAN'S WMD PROGRAMS. THIS ADMINISTRATION IS WORKING -- AT THE HIGHEST LEVELS -- TO FOCUS INTERNATIONAL PRESSURE ON IRAN TO CHANGE ITS UNACCEPTABLE BEHAVIOR.

STATEMENT BY R. NICHOLAS BURNS, SPOKESMAN,
MIDDLE EAST PEACE PROCESS STEERING GROUP MEETING
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE, MAY 18, 1995

THE UNITED STATES AND THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION CO-CHAIRLED THE SEVENTH MEETING OF THE STEERING GROUP FOR THE MIDDLE EAST PEACE PROCESS MULTILATERAL NEGOTIATIONS, WHICH WAS HOSTED BY SWITZERLAND IN MONTREUX MAY 17-18. THE MEETING REVIEWED PROGRESS IN THIS TRACK OF THE PEACE PROCESS AND CHARTED OUT A VARIETY OF FUTURE ACTIVITIES. ASSISTANT SECRETARY PELLETREAU LED THE U.S. DELEGATION.

THE MEETING WAS DEVOTED TO A REVIEW OF THE DEVELOPMENTS IN EACH OF THE FIVE WORKING GROUPS, A DISCUSSION OF THE VARIOUS ACTIVITIES CONDUCTED BY THE STEERING GROUP ITSELF AND A DISCUSSION OF SOME PROPOSALS FOR INTEGRATING NEW TOPICS INTO THE MULTILATERAL PROCESS.

EXAMPLES OF THE TYPES OF ACTIVITIES THAT TOOK PLACE RECENTLY IN THE VARIOUS WORKING GROUPS INCLUDE:

THE ENVIRONMENT GROUP ENDORSED AN ENVIRONMENTAL CODE OF CONDUCT. IT ALSO SPONSORED SOME VERY USEFUL WORK ON DEALING WITH OIL SPILL CONTINGENCIES IN THE GULF OF AQABA.

THE ARMS CONTROL AND REGIONAL SECURITY GROUP IS INSTALLING A COMMUNICATIONS NETWORK IN THE REGION, BASED ON THE

SYSTEM USED BY THE OSCE. IT IS ALSO WORKING TOWARD ESTABLISHMENT OF REGIONAL SECURITY CENTERS IN THE MIDDLE EAST.

THE WATER GROUP IS DEVELOPING DATA BASES IN THE REGION ON
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WATER, AND IT IS PURSUING A PROPOSAL BY OMAN TO ESTABLISH A REGIONAL DESALINATION RESEARCH CENTER IN MUSCAT.

THE REGIONAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT GROUP IS SPONSORING FEASIBILITY STUDIES FOR SOME MAJOR JOINT PROJECTS IN THE MIDDLE EAST AND IT HAS SET UP A MONITORING COMMITTEE WHICH BRINGS TOGETHER THE REGIONAL PARTIES TO ESTABLISH PRIORITIES.

THE REFUGEE GROUP IS ADDRESSING JOB CREATION AND HUMAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT, FAMILY REUNIFICATION, AND PUBLIC HEALTH. IT HAS SPONSORED OVER DOLLARS 100 MILLION IN PROJECTS FOR PALESTINIAN REFUGEES.

IN ADDITION TO REPORTS FROM THE GAVEL-HOLDERS OF EACH OF THESE GROUPS, THE STEERING GROUP ALSO HEARD REPORTS ON THE BILATERAL NEGOTIATIONS, THE AD HOC LIAISON COMMITTEE AND REPORTS BY MOROCCO AND JORDAN RESPECTIVELY ON THE MIDDLE EAST-NORTH AFRICA ECONOMIC SUMMIT IN CASABLANCA AND THE UPCOMING AMMAN ECONOMIC SUMMIT.

THE SWISS DELEGATION PRESENTED A PROPOSAL FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A MULTILATERAL WORKING GROUP IN THE FIELDS OF CIVIL, POLITICAL, SOCIAL, ECONOMIC AND CULTURAL RIGHTS AND OF INTERCULTURAL UNDERSTANDING. AT THE REQUEST OF THE STEERING GROUP, THE SWISS WILL WORK WITH THE GAVEL-HOLDERS IN THE FIVE WORKING GROUPS TO IDENTIFY AND UNDERTAKE ACTIVITIES IN THIS FIELD. THE SWISS WILL ALSO ACT AS ADVISER TO THE CO-SPONSORS ON THE HUMAN DIMENSION OF THE MULTILATERAL PROCESS.

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THE STEERING GROUP APPROVED A REQUEST BY THE GOVERNMENT OF CYPRUS TO JOIN THE REGIONAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT WORKING GROUP.

DURING THE MEETING, THE PALESTINIAN DELEGATION PROPOSED THAT A WORKING GROUP ON JERUSALEM BE ADDED TO THE FIVE EXISTING GROUPS. THIS PROPOSAL HAS BEEN RAISED SINCE THE BEGINNING OF THE MULTILATERAL NEGOTIATIONS IN 1992 AND HAS NEVER RECEIVED CONSENSUS. NOR DID IT ACHIEVE CONSENSUS

THIS TIME. THE U.S. DID NOT SUPPORT THIS PROPOSAL.

THE STEERING GROUP SET OUT THE SCHEDULE FOR THE NEXT ROUND OF WORKING GROUP MEETINGS OVER THE COMING MONTHS. THOSE WILL BEGIN WITH "CLUSTERED" MEETINGS OF THE WATER AND ENVIRONMENT GROUPS TO BE HELD IN AMMAN, JORDAN JUNE 18-22.

PEACE PROCESS: SECRETARY'S TRAVEL

Q: DO YOU HAVE ANYTHING TO REPORT ON PLANS FOR THE SECRETARY TO TRAVEL TO THE MIDDLE EAST?

A: AS THE SECRETARY INDICATED YESTERDAY, HE IS ALWAYS READY TO TRAVEL TO THE REGION IF HIS PRESENCE CAN HELP MOVE THE PARTIES FORWARD. THERE ARE NO PLANS AT THIS TIME FOR A TRIP TO THE REGION.

PEACE PROCESS: UNSC VETO

Q: WHY DID THE U.S. VETO THE UNSC RESOLUTION ON ISRAELI EXPROPRIATIONS?

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A: THE SECURITY COUNCIL IS NOT THE RIGHT FORUM FOR RAISING PEACE PROCESS ISSUES THAT ONLY CAN BE DEALT WITH BY THE PARTIES.

WE CAST THIS VETO RELUCTANTLY BECAUSE LAND EXPROPRIATION IS NOT HELPFUL AND DOES NOT MOVE THE PEACE PROCESS IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION.

THE COUNCIL IS NOT ABLE -- AND SHOULD NOT SEEK -- TO TRY TO RESOLVE SENSITIVE ISSUES IN THE ARAB-ISRAELI PEACE PROCESS.

JERUSALEM IS SUCH A SENSITIVE ISSUE. IT CAN ONLY BE DEALT WITH BY THE PARTIES. PRECISELY FOR THIS REASON THE ISRAELIS AND PALESTINIAN AGREED IN THEIR DECLARATION OF PRINCIPLES TO COVER JERUSALEM IN PERMANENT STATUS NEGOTIATIONS.

THE PARTIES ARE NOW IN DIRECT NEGOTIATIONS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE DOP; THEY HAVE AN AGREED MECHANISM FOR PROCEEDING AND A STRONG COMMITMENT TO MOVE FORWARD.

ACTION IN THE SECURITY COUNCIL WOULD ONLY COMPOUND THE PROBLEM AND COMPLICATE THE ABILITY OF THE PARTIES TO MOVE FORWARD.

PEACE PROCESS: STEERING GROUP MEETING

Q: ISRAELI PRESS REPORTS ARE SAYING THAT THE U.S. SUPPORTED AN ARAB DEMAND THAT A WORKING GROUP ON JERUSALEM BE ESTABLISHED. IS THAT TRUE? DID THE U.S. PERMIT THE

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ARAB PARTIES TO PUT JERUSALEM ON THE AGENDA FOR THE TALKS
IN SWITZERLAND?

A: THE UNITED STATES DOES NOT SUPPORT CREATION OF A
WORKING GROUP ON JERUSALEM IN THE MULTILATERAL TALKS. THE
ISRAELIS AND PALESTINIANS HAVE AGREED IN THEIR DECLARATION
OF PRINCIPLES THAT THE ISSUE OF JERUSALEM WILL BE DEALT
WITH IN PERMANENT STATUS NEGOTIATIONS. THE UNITED STATES
SUPPORTS THAT APPROACH AND DOES NOT BELIEVE IT IS USEFUL
TO ATTEMPT TO BRING THIS SENSITIVE ISSUE INTO OTHER FORA.

OVER THE PAST TWO DAYS, THE STEERING GROUP FOR THE
MULTILATERAL PEACE PROCESS NEGOTIATIONS HAS BEEN MEETING
IN SWITZERLAND. THAT MEETING ENDED THIS MORNING. IT WAS
BASICALLY A REVIEW OF PROGRESS IN THE MULTILATERALS WHERE
FIVE WORKING GROUPS ARE ACTIVE IN A VARIETY OF FUNCTIONAL
AREAS. WE HAVE A SHORT STATEMENT WHICH WE WILL POST ON
THE RESULTS OF THE MEETING.

DURING THE MEETING, THE PALESTINIAN DELEGATION PROPOSED
THAT A WORKING GROUP ON JERUSALEM BE ADDED TO THE FIVE
EXISTING WORKING GROUPS. THIS PROPOSAL HAS BEEN RAISED
SINCE THE BEGINNING OF THE MULTILATERALS IN 1992 AND HAS
NEVER RECEIVED CONSENSUS APPROVAL. IT DID NOT ACHIEVE
CONSENSUS THIS TIME.

IF PRESSED:

Q: WHAT ABOUT REPORTS THE PALESTINIANS HAVE PROPOSED TO
START PERMANENT STATUS NEGOTIATIONS NOW?

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A: THE PARTIES HAVE AGREED TO THE DECLARATION OF
PRINCIPLES, WHICH CALLS FOR A CERTAIN SEQUENCE. THE
PARTIES ARE INVOLVED IN NEGOTIATIONS TO THAT END.

TAKEN QUESTION: SYRIA: SUPPORT FOR TERRORISM
(MAY 17, 1995)

Q: WAS THE SUBJECT OF SYRIAN SUPPORT FOR TERRORISM RAISED
DURING THE MEETINGS WITH THE SYRIAN FOREIGN MINISTER?

A: THE ISSUE OF TERRORISM HAS LONG BEEN AN IMPORTANT ITEM
ON OUR BILATERAL AGENDA.

WE RAISE THIS ISSUE AT THE HIGHEST LEVELS OF THE SYRIAN
GOVERNMENT. IT WAS THE SUBJECT OF DISCUSSION DURING THE
VISIT OF THE SYRIAN FOREIGN MINISTER.



CHRISTOPHER

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XMT AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST
AMEMBASSY MALABO
AMCONSUL SHANGHAI

UNCLAS STATE 124796

INFORM CONSULS ALSO FOR USEC/USOECD

E.O. 12356: N/A
TAGS: OPRC
SUBJECT: DAILY PRESS BRIEFING - MONDAY, MAY 22, 1995

THE FOLLOWING TOPICS WERE COVERED IN TODAY'S PRESS
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ASPIN
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BEGIN TEXT:

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MR. BURNS: GOOD AFTERNOON, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN. I
HAVE A COUPLE OF ANNOUNCEMENTS TO MAKE, AND THEN I'LL BE
GLAD TO GO TO YOUR QUESTIONS.

FIRST, I'D LIKE TO READ A STATEMENT FROM SECRETARY
OF STATE WARREN CHRISTOPHER.

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I AM DEEPLY SADDEN BY THE UNTIMELY DEATH OF FORMER
SECRETARY OF DEFENSE LES ASPIN. I WANT TO EXPRESS MY

GREAT ADMIRATION FOR HIS MANY YEARS OF DISTINGUISHED SERVICE TO THE UNITED STATES. AS A LONG-TIME MEMBER OF THE HOUSE ARMED SERVICES COMMITTEE AND ULTIMATELY AS ITS CHAIRMAN, LES ASPIN MADE AN EXTRAORDINARY CONTRIBUTION TO AMERICA'S NATIONAL SECURITY. AS SECRETARY OF DEFENSE, HE ACCOMPLISHED IMPORTANT REFORMS AND WAS RESPONSIBLE FOR MAJOR STEPS TO STRENGTHEN U.S. MILITARY CAPABILITIES. LES AND I HAD A CLOSE WORKING RELATIONSHIP IN THE TIME THAT WE SERVED TOGETHER IN THE PRESIDENT'S CABINET. HIS DEATH DEPRIVES OUR NATION OF ONE OF ITS MOST DEDICATED PUBLIC SERVANTS.

THAT WAS A PERSONAL STATEMENT BY SECRETARY OF STATE CHRISTOPHER ON THE DEATH OF LES ASPIN

IN ADDITION, I HAVE A COUPLE OF STATEMENTS ABOUT THE SECRETARY'S PERSPECTIVE TRAVEL.

SECRETARY OF STATE CHRISTOPHER PLANS TO TRAVEL TO NOORDWIJK, THE NETHERLANDS, FOR NATO'S SPRING FOREIGN MINISTERS' MEETINGS. ON TUESDAY, MAY 30, THE SECRETARY WILL PARTICIPATE IN THE SEMI-ANNUAL MEETING OF THE NORTH ATLANTIC COUNCIL IN MINISTERIAL SESSION. MINISTERS WILL DISCUSS A RANGE OF ISSUES FACING THE ALLIANCE INCLUDING THE STATUS OF THE PARTNERSHIP FOR PEACE, THE NATO-RUSSIA RELATIONSHIP, AND THE STATUS OF NATO'S INTERNAL STUDY ON ITS ENLARGEMENT.

FOREIGN MINISTERS OF THE NORTH ATLANTIC COOPERATION
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COUNCIL - THE NACC - WILL MEET ON MAY 31 TO DISCUSS THE PARTNERSHIP FOR PEACE, DEVELOPMENTS IN SECURITY, AND PROGRAMS OF COOPERATION FOR THE COMING MONTHS.

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THE NACC INCLUDES ALL NATO MEMBERS AS WELL AS A VERY LARGE NUMBER OF CENTRAL AND EAST EUROPEAN STATES.

ON THURSDAY, JUNE 1, THE SECRETARY WILL TRAVEL TO LISBON, PORTUGAL TO SIGN JOINTLY WITH PORTUGUESE FOREIGN MINISTER JOSE MANUEL DURAO BARROSO THE AGREEMENT ON COOPERATION AND DEFENSE. THIS BILATERAL ACCORD BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND PORTUGAL PROVIDES FOR CONTINUED U.S. ACCESS TO THE LAJES AIR BASE IN THE AZORES AND THE FORMATION OF A BILATERAL COMMISSION TO FOSTER COOPERATION IN DEFENSE, COMMERCE, SCIENCE, THE ENVIRONMENT, AND EDUCATION.

SECRETARY CHRISTOPHER WILL THEN PROCEED TO MADRID, SPAIN, LATER THE SAME DAY. DURING THE COURSE OF HIS VISIT ON JUNE 1-2, HE WILL MEET WITH FOREIGN MINISTER JAVIER SOLANA AND CALL ON KING JUAN CARLOS TO DISCUSS EUROPEAN SECURITY, THE MIDDLE EAST PEACE PROCESS, AND OTHER ISSUES OF MUTUAL CONCERN. THE SECRETARY WILL ALSO BE GIVING A MAJOR POLICY ADDRESS IN MADRID.

I ALSO WOULD LIKE TO ANNOUNCE THAT SECRETARY

CHRISTOPHER WILL TRAVEL TO PORT-AU-PRINCE, HAITI, JUNE
4-5 TO ATTEND THE OPENING SESSIONS OF THE 25TH GENERAL
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ASSEMBLY OF THE ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES. WHILE
THERE, HE WILL ALSO CHAIR A FOLLOW-UP REVIEW MEETING OF
THE HEMISPHERE'S FOREIGN MINISTERS TO ASSESS
IMPLEMENTATION OF THE MANDATES FROM LAST DECEMBER'S
SUMMIT OF THE AMERICAS, WHICH PRESIDENT CLINTON, OF
COURSE, HOSTED IN MIAMI.

THE SECRETARY WILL ALSO PARTICIPATE IN AN OAS
MEETING OF FOREIGN MINISTERS ON HAITI AND OTHER EVENTS
WHILE IN THAT COUNTRY.

SIGN-UP SHEETS WILL BE POSTED IN THE PRESS OFFICE
AFTER TODAY'S BRIEFING FOR THOSE JOURNALISTS WHO WISH TO
APPLY FOR A SEAT TO TRAVEL WITH THE SECRETARY. THERE
WILL BE SEPARATE SIGN-UP SHEETS FOR BOTH OF THESE TRIPS.

Q (INAUDIBLE).

MR. BURNS: THE QUESTION WAS, "HOW ABOUT THE MIDDLE
EAST?" I HAVE NOTHING TODAY ABOUT A MIDDLE EAST TRIP.
THE SECRETARY HAS SAID SEVERAL TIMES THAT IF IT'S
HELPFUL FOR HIM TO TRAVEL TO THE MIDDLE EAST, HE WILL DO
SO; BUT I HAVE NOTHING TO GIVE YOU ON A MIDDLE EAST TRIP.

I DO HAVE A FINAL ANNOUNCEMENT. I'VE BEEN ASKED TO
INFORM YOU OF THE FOLLOWING.

PRESIDENT CLINTON HAS DECIDED TO PERMIT LEE TENG-HUI
TO MAKE A PRIVATE VISIT TO THE UNITED STATES IN JUNE FOR
THE EXPRESS PURPOSE OF PARTICIPATING IN AN ALUMNI
REUNION

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EVENT AT CORNELL UNIVERSITY, AS A DISTINGUISHED
ALUMNUS. THIS ACTION FOLLOWS A REVISION OF
ADMINISTRATION GUIDELINES TO PERMIT OCCASIONAL PRIVATE
VISITS BY SENIOR LEADERS OF TAIWAN, INCLUDING PRESIDENT
LEE.

PRESIDENT LEE WILL VISIT THE U.S. IN A STRICTLY PRIVATE CAPACITY AND WILL NOT UNDERTAKE ANY OFFICIAL ACTIVITIES.

IT IS IMPORTANT REITERATE THAT THIS IS NOT AN OFFICIAL VISIT. THE GRANTING OF A VISA IN THIS CASE IS

CONSISTENT WITH U.S. POLICY OF MAINTAINING ONLY UNOFFICIAL RELATIONS WITH TAIWAN. IT DOES NOT CONVEY ANY CHANGE IN OUR RELATIONS WITH OR POLICIES TOWARDS THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA, WITH WHICH WE MAINTAIN OFFICIAL RELATIONS AND RECOGNIZE AS THE SOLE LEGAL GOVERNMENT OF CHINA.

WE WILL CONTINUE TO ABIDE BY THE THREE COMMUNIQUEES THAT FORM THE BASIS OF OUR RELATIONS WITH CHINA. THE UNITED STATES ALSO ACKNOWLEDGES THE CHINESE POSITION THAT THERE IS BUT ONE CHINA, AND TAIWAN IS A PART OF CHINA.

AMERICANS TREASURE THE RIGHTS OF FREEDOM OF SPEECH AND FREEDOM OF TRAVEL AND BELIEVE OTHERS SHOULD ENJOY
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THESE PRIVILEGES AS WELL. THIS SENTIMENT CLEARLY MOTIVATED THE CONGRESS, IN ITS RECENT ACTIONS, TO SUPPORT OVERWHELMINGLY PERMITTING MR. LEE TO RETURN TO CORNELL, HIS ALMA MATER.

SECRETARY OF STATE CHRISTOPHER HAS INDICATED THAT OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH CHINA AND TAIWAN WILL CONTINUE TO BE GOVERNED BY THE THREE JOINT COMMUNIQUEES WITH THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA AND THE TAIWAN RELATIONS ACT.

IT IS ALSO SECRETARY CHRISTOPHER'S VIEW THAT THIS DECISION TO PERMIT A PRIVATE VISIT DOES NOT IN ANY WAY REFLECT A CHANGE IN THE FUNDAMENTAL NATURE OF U.S. RELATIONS WITH TAIWAN. WE CONTINUE TO MAINTAIN UNOFFICIAL ECONOMIC AND CULTURAL RELATIONS WITH TAIWAN.

THAT CONCLUDES THE ANNOUNCEMENTS. I'LL BE GLAD TO GO TO WHATEVER QUESTIONS YOU HAVE.

Q CAN WE GET A COPY OF THE LAST ANNOUNCEMENT, MR. BURNS, AFTER THE BRIEFING?

MR. BURNS: I THINK THE LAST ANNOUNCEMENT IS GOING TO STAND ON ITS OWN. YOU'VE GOT MY REMARKS ON-THE-RECORD, AND THAT FORMS THE BASIS OF OUR ANNOUNCEMENT TODAY.

Q YOU WON'T PUT OUT -- FILING BREAK.

Q WHAT KIND OF VISA DOES THE STATE DEPARTMENT PLAN TO GRANT TO PRESIDENT LEE? AND WHAT KIND OF
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COURTESY

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DOES STATE PLAN TO GRANT HIM WHEN HE IS IN THE PORT OF
NEW YORK?

MR. BURNS: EXCUSE ME. I COULDN'T CATCH THE LAST
HALF OF YOUR QUESTION.

Q THE COURTESY AND THE VISA -- THE TYPE OF VISA?
WHAT KIND OF VISA -- THE TRANSIT VISA OR THE PRIVATE
VISIT VISA?

MR. BURNS: I CAN CERTAINLY GET YOU SPECIFIC
INFORMATION ON THE SPECIFIC TYPE OF VISA THAT'S GOING TO
BE ISSUED. BUT AS YOU KNOW, OUR POLICY HAS BEEN THAT
THIS IS A TRANSIT. IN THIS CASE, IT IS A VISA THAT WILL
PERMIT HIM TO COME TO THE UNITED STATES IN A PRIVATE
CAPACITY FOR HIS EXPRESS PURPOSE OF VISITING CORNELL
UNIVERSITY TO PARTICIPATE IN ALUMNI ACTIVITIES THERE.

AS OF NOW, I DON'T HAVE A DETAILED SENSE OF
PRESIDENT LEE'S ITINERARY AS HE TRAVELS FROM TAIPEI TO
CORNELL. THAT IS SOMETHING THAT WILL BE WORKED OUT IN
THE COMING DAYS. AS THAT BECOMES AVAILABLE, WE'LL BE
GLAD TO SHARE IT WITH YOU.

Q HAVE YOU INFORMED THE CHINESE OF THIS YET?

MR. BURNS: YES, WE HAVE INFORMED THE CHINESE
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GOVERNMENT OF THIS DECISION. THERE WERE TALKS OVER THE
WEEKEND HERE IN WASHINGTON BETWEEN SENIOR OFFICIALS OF
OUR GOVERNMENT AND THE CHINESE AMBASSADOR. I BELIEVE
WE'VE ALSO HAD SOME CONVERSATIONS IN BEIJING WITH THE
CHINESE GOVERNMENT.

Q UP TO THIS POINT, YOU HAVE BEEN TALKING ABOUT A
TRANSIT VISA. ARE WE STILL TALKING ABOUT A TRANSIT VISA
OR A PRIVATE VISIT? DOES PRESIDENT LEE TENG-HUI HAVE TO
HAVE A VISA TO COME TO THIS COUNTRY OR WHAT KIND OF
ARRANGEMENT ARE WE TALKING ABOUT?

MR. BURNS: YOU'RE RIGHT TO SAY THIS IS A PRIVATE
VISIT. THERE ARE MANY DIFFERENT TYPES OF VISAS. SO I'M
HESITATING JUST A BIT TO PRONOUNCE MYSELF ON THAT, BUT
WE CAN CERTAINLY GET YOU AN ANSWER TO THAT SPECIFIC

QUESTION

Q SECRETARY CHRISTOPHER HAS SAID MANY TIMES, INCLUDING IN HIS TESTIMONY ON CAPITOL HILL THAT A VISIT

BY PRESIDENT LEE TENG-HUI WOULD REMOVE AN IMPORTANT ELEMENT OF UNOFFICIALITY FROM THE UNOFFICIAL RELATIONS WITH TAIWAN. BY ALLOWING PRESIDENT LEE TENG-HUI TO COME TO THIS COUNTRY, ARE YOU, IN FACT, REMOVING THE IMPORTANT ELEMENT OF UNOFFICIALITY FROM YOUR UNOFFICIAL RELATIONS WITH TAIWAN?

MR. BURNS: NO, WE'RE NOT. IN FACT, AS MY STATEMENT INDICATED, OUR POLICY TOWARDS TAIWAN IS BASED ON THE

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UNOFFICIAL NATURE OF OUR RELATIONS WITH TAIWAN. NOTHING IN THIS PARTICULAR DECISION CHANGES THAT.

OBTAINING, THERE ARE A NUMBER OF FACTORS IN THIS DECISION. FIRST AND FOREMOST AMONG THEM WAS THE FACT THAT THIS IS A PRIVATE VISIT. IT DOES NOT INVOLVE ANY EVENTS OR ACTIVITIES OF AN OFFICIAL NATURE.

THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS HAS INDICATED ITS VIEW THAT A PRIVATE VISIT BY PRESIDENT LEE IS CONSISTENT WITH OUR UNOFFICIAL RELATIONS WITH TAIWAN. THE PRESIDENT AND THE SECRETARY OF STATE BELIEVE THAT MR. LEE'S VISIT IS CLEARLY PRIVATE AND THEREFORE IS APPROPRIATE. THOSE ARE THE FACTORS THAT WENT INTO THIS DECISION.

Q IN YOUR COMMUNICATION WITH BEIJING, HAVE YOU RECEIVED ANY RESPONSE FROM THE CHINESE?

MR. BURNS: I'M NOT GOING TO CHARACTERIZE THE DETAILS OF OUR PRIVATE CONVERSATIONS WITH THE CHINESE GOVERNMENT. WE NORMALLY DON'T DO THAT IN DIPLOMATIC PRACTICE, NOT, AT LEAST, IN PUBLIC.

I KNOW THAT THERE WERE A SERIES OF CONVERSATIONS OVER THE WEEKEND, BEGINNING ON SATURDAY -- A NUMBER OF THEM. WE'LL JUST HAVE TO WAIT AND SEE WHAT THE GOVERNMENT OF CHINA'S PUBLIC REACTION IS TO THIS.

Q WAS THERE A NEGATIVE REACTION BY THE CHINESE
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AMBASSADOR?

MR. BURNS: I THINK I WOULD DESCRIBE IT, YES, AS A
NEGATIVE REACTION. (LAUGHTER)

Q TWO QUESTIONS: AFTER ALL, HE'S THE PRESIDENT
OF TAIWAN -- THE REPUBLIC OF CHINA. HE'S NOT AN

ORDINARY TYPE OF PERSON. WHEN HE TRAVELS THROUGH THIS
COUNTRY, WILL THE U.S. GOVERNMENT PROVIDE ANY PROTECTIVE
SERVICE? AND ALSO WILL THERE BE ANY LIMIT ON THE
LENGTH OF HIS STAY? MY UNDERSTANDING, HE'S ALLOWED TO
STAY UP TO SIX DAYS.

MR. BURNS: AS I SAID A COUPLE OF MINUTES AGO, I'M
NOT IN A POSITION NOW TO GIVE YOU OUR UNDERSTANDING OF
THE DETAILS OF PRESIDENT LEE'S ITINERARY IN THE UNITED
STATES. THAT REMAINS TO BE WORKED OUT. WHEN IT IS
WORKED OUT, AND WE HAVE SOMETHING TO SAY ON IT, I'LL BE
GLAD TO GET INTO THE ISSUES THAT YOU RAISED AND GIVE YOU
A SENSE OF WHAT WE THINK HIS ITINERARY IS.

STILL ON CHINA?

Q YES, STILL.

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Q HOW LONG WILL THE VISA BE FOR?

MR. BURNS: THAT'S SOMETHING THAT NEEDS TO BE WORKED
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OUT. THAT IS YET TO BE WORKED OUT, AS I UNDERSTAND IT.
ONCE IT IS, WE'LL LET YOU KNOW WHAT THE TERMS ARE.

THE VISA, AS I UNDERSTAND IT, HAS NOT YET BEEN
ISSUED. IT WILL BE ISSUED ONCE THE DISCUSSIONS ARE
COMPLETE ON THE ITINERARY.

Q AND TO FOLLOW UP, WERE THE TAIWANESE INFORMED
OF THIS DECISION ON FRIDAY AS THE TAIWANESE PRESS
INDICATES?

MR. BURNS: I KNOW THAT THIS DECISION WAS MADE JUST
A COUPLE OF DAYS AGO, AND THE NEGOTIATIONS AND
DISCUSSIONS SURROUNDING IT WERE CARRIED OUT OVER THE
WEEKEND. I THINK THAT'S THE MOST ACCURATE THING I CAN
SAY, MARK, ON THAT.

Q AS RECENTLY AS SEVERAL MONTHS BACK, ASSISTANT
SECRETARY LORD WENT TO BEIJING, AMONG OTHER THINGS TO
EXPLAIN -- TO REITERATE, RATHER -- TO THE CHINESE THAT
THIS POSITION WAS NOT UNDER REVIEW. CAN YOU TELL US
WHAT THE STATE DEPARTMENT HAS DONE TO TRY TO EXPLAIN TO
THE CHINESE GOVERNMENT WHY THIS POSITION IS BEING

CHANGED, AND TELL US WHETHER THERE'S BEEN ANY SORT OF A DIPLOMATIC NOD OR A DANCE OF SOME SORT THAT WOULD INDICATE THAT THIS IS NOT GOING TO FRACTURE RELATIONS RIGHT NOW BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND CHINA?

MR. BURNS: AS I INDICATED TO YOU, THERE ARE A NUMBER OF FACTORS THAT WENT INTO THIS DECISION. AMONG
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THEM WERE THE FACT THAT WE UNDERSTOOD THIS WOULD BE A PRIVATE VISIT. IT WOULD NOT HAVE ANY OFFICIAL ACTIVITIES OR EVENTS ASSOCIATED WITH IT.

CERTAINLY, THE ADMINISTRATION LISTENED TO THE VIEWS OF CONGRESS -- MANY MEMBERS OF CONGRESS WHO WERE INTERESTED IN THIS QUESTION AND HAD QUITE SPECIFIC VIEWS ON IT. AND, AS THE PRESIDENT AND THE SECRETARY AND OTHER OFFICIALS LOOKED AT THIS, IT SEEMED THAT IT WAS ENTIRELY CONSISTENT WITH OUR POLICY OF UNOFFICIAL RELATIONS WITH TAIWAN.

SO I CAN'T REALLY POINT TO ONE FACTOR, BUT I WOULD JUST SAY THERE ARE SEVERAL FACTORS THAT LED THE ADMINISTRATION TO TAKE THIS ACTION AND TO MAKE THIS DECISION. WE HAVE HAD DISCUSSIONS WITH THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA ON THIS FOR SOME TIME, AND I KNOW THE DISCUSSIONS OVER THE WEEKEND WERE QUITE DETAILED.

I WOULD NOT WANT TO ANTICIPATE WHAT THE REACTION FROM BEIJING WILL BE. WE'LL JUST HAVE TO WAIT AND SEE WHAT IT IS.

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Q NICK, I GUESS IN CONTRAST TO SOME OF YOUR REMARKS UP THERE TODAY, WINSTON LORD SAID IN MULTIPLE TESTIMONIES ON THE HILL IN RECENT MONTHS THAT THIS WOULD NOT BE BE A GOOD POLICY -- WAS NOT A POLICY SHIFT THE ADMINISTRATION INTENDED TO MAKE AND IN FACT WOULD NOT BE A WISE POLICY. WHAT HAS HAPPENED TO CHANGE THAT
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EVALUATION, ASIDE FROM CONGRESS VOTING ON A NON-BINDING RESOLUTION?

MR. BURNS: AS I SAID, I THINK THIS IS PROBABLY THE THIRD TIME I'VE BEEN AROUND THIS ONE. SO HOPEFULLY THIS CAN BE THE LAST TIME. THE ADMINISTRATION OVER THE LAST

COUPLE OF WEEKS DEBATED THIS ISSUE, DELIBERATED INTERNALLY, REVIEWED ALL THE FACTORS SURROUNDING THE

VISIT, I THINK HAD A CHANCE TO LOOK IN A MORE DETAILED WAY AT THE PROPOSED ITINERARY. WE WERE ABLE TO ASSURE OURSELVES THAT THIS WOULD BE A PURELY PRIVATE VISIT.

PRESIDENT LEE IS A DISTINGUISHED ALUMNUS OF CORNELL AND I THINK BY ALL ACCOUNTS EVERYONE IN OUR GOVERNMENT WOULD CREDIT HIM WITH HAVING PURSUED ECONOMIC REFORM POLICIES AND POLITICAL REFORM POLICIES THAT HAVE CERTAINLY BENEFITED THE PEOPLE OF TAIWAN.

WHEN YOU PUT THAT TOGETHER WITH THE INTERESTS OF THE CONGRESS AND THE OPPORTUNITY FOR THE PRESIDENT AND THE SECRETARY PERSONALLY TO REVIEW THIS DECISION, THE DECISION WAS MADE BY THE PRESIDENT AND SECRETARY, CONSIDERING ALL THESE FACTORS, TO ISSUE THE VISA.

Q WAS A DECISION MADE ALONG THE HIGH-LEVEL ROUTE LIKE -- AND IN SECRET -- THE WAY THAT THE CUBA DECISION WAS MADE, OR WAS IT FULLY VETTED IN THIS BUILDING AND ELSEWHERE?

MR. BURNS: I CAN TELL YOU THERE WAS A GOOD DEAL OF UNCLASSIFIED

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CONVERSATION AND DISCUSSION THROUGHOUT THIS BUILDING AND AT ALL LEVELS OF THIS BUILDING ABOUT THIS DECISION. SECRETARY CHRISTOPHER HAD A MEETING LAST WEEK WITH SEVERAL MEMBERS OF THE BUREAU OF EAST ASIAN AND PACIFIC AFFAIRS. HE HEARD VIEWS FROM MID-LEVEL AND SENIOR-LEVEL PEOPLE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE, AND I KNOW HE AND THE PRESIDENT WERE ABLE TO HAVE THE VIEWS OF OTHERS AROUND THE GOVERNMENT.

THIS WAS NOT A DECISION THAT WAS MADE IN SOME KIND OF PROTECTIVE COCOON. IT WAS A DECISION THAT WAS ANIMATED BY THE VIEWS OF ALL THE PEOPLE WHO ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR CHINA IN THIS GOVERNMENT. SO, THEREFORE, AT THE END OF THE DAY LAST WEEK, PUTTING ALL OF THESE FACTORS TOGETHER AND UNDERSTANDING IN SOME DETAIL THE NATURE OF THE VISIT ITSELF -- WHICH IS PRIVATE AND UNOFFICIAL -- I THINK THEY FELT THAT THE MOST PRUDENT COURSE TO TAKE WAS TO ISSUE THE VISA.

Q ONE MORE FOLLOW-UP ON THAT IF I CAN. YOU INDICATED THE DECISION WAS MADE ESSENTIALLY LATE LAST WEEK.

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THE WHITE HOUSE SPOKESMAN, MR. MCCURRY, SUGGESTED ON --

IT WAS WELL KNOWN AROUND HERE -- ON FRIDAY THAT NO IMMEDIATE -- "A FINAL DECISION HADN'T BEEN TAKEN, NOR AM I AWARE THAT ONE WILL BE TAKEN AT ANY TIME IN THE

IMMEDIATE FUTURE." HOW DO YOU RECONCILE THAT STATEMENT
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ON FRIDAY WITH YOUR STATEMENT HERE?

MR. BURNS: HE AND I SAID THE SAME THING AT ABOUT
ONE O'CLOCK ON FRIDAY, SO WHY DON'T YOU GROUP ME WITH
MIKE MCCURRY ON THAT.

Q ALL RIGHT. WHY WERE YOU SAYING THAT ON FRIDAY
AS TO THE DECISION?

MR. BURNS: THERE ARE 24 HOURS IN A DAY.
(LAUGHTER) AS YOU REMEMBER, WE WERE SPEAKING AT MID-DAY
ON FRIDAY. THERE WERE A NUMBER OF MEETINGS THAT TOOK
PLACE AND DISCUSSIONS THAT TOOK PLACE, I'M SURE. AFTER
WE WERE BOTH BRIEFING, AND WE HAD NOT YET HAD THE
OPPORTUNITY TO ENGAGE IN DETAILED DISCUSSIONS WITH THE
PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA -- THE GOVERNMENT OF THE
PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA -- WHICH WE WANTED TO DO, AND
THERE WERE ALSO DISCUSSIONS, OF COURSE, WITH TAIWANESE
OFFICIALS.

SO I DON'T APOLOGIZE IN ANY WAY FOR THE LANGUAGE
THAT EITHER OF USED. WE SAID WHAT WE KNEW TO BE
ACCURATE AT MID-DAY ON FRIDAY, BUT POLICIES EVOLVE AND
DECISIONS ARE MADE, AND WHEN DECISIONS ARE MADE. YOU GO
ON FROM THERE.

Q FOLLOW-UP. DOES PRESIDENT LEE NEED A VISA TO
COME TO THIS COUNTRY?

MR. BURNS: THE WHOLE ISSUE HAS BEEN ABOUT A VISA.
YES. EVERYONE COMING TO THIS COUNTRY REQUIRES A VISA.
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HE CANNOT ENTER THE UNITED STATES WITHOUT A VISA.

Q BUT YOU DON'T KNOW WHAT TYPE OF VISA.

MR. BURNS: I'M GOING TO GET BACK TO YOU ON THAT.

Q NICK, ALSO ON CHINA, HAVE YOU SEEN A REPORT
THAT JAPAN HAS STOPPED ITS AID TO CHINA AS A RESULT OF
ITS DISPLEASURE WITH THE NUCLEAR TEST?

MR. BURNS: I CERTAINLY HEARD THAT REPORT THIS
MORNING AND SAW THE ANNOUNCEMENT FROM TOKYO, YES.

Q DOES THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT HAVE ANY
REACTION TO IT?

MR. BURNS: I DONT BELIEVE WE HAVE ANY REACTION TO
THAT, NO. THAT ANNOUNCEMENT WAS JUST MADE FOUR OR FIVE
HOURS AGO, AND SOMETIMES WE'RE VERY, VERY QUICK IN THIS

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GOVERNMENT. WE CAN RESPOND IMMEDIATELY TO EVENTS.
SOMETIMES WE LIKE TO THINK ABOUT THINGS OR AT LEAST LOOK
INTO THE SPECIFIC ANNOUNCEMENTS, AND I BELIEVE THIS IS
IN THE LATTER CASE.

Q CAN WE GO BACK TO THE PREVIOUS SUBJECT FOR JUST
A SECOND?

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MR. BURNS: YES.

Q I KNOW YOU DONT PROBABLY WISH TO, BUT --

MR. BURNS: I'M GLAD TO TALK ABOUT THIS ALL DAY, IF
YOU'D LIKE.

Q AS IN THE CASE OF ANOTHER RECENT CONTROVERSIAL
DECISION AND POLICY CHANGE, SEVERAL PEOPLE IN THE
DEPARTMENT ASKED FOR A CHANGE OF JOBS IN DISAGREEMENT.
HAS ANYTHING LIKE THAT HAPPENED IN THIS CASE?

MR. BURNS: I THINK I CAN GLEAN THE INCIDENT TO
WHICH YOU REFER, CHARLIE, AND I CAN TELL YOU I DONT
BELIEVE THIS SITUATION IS SIMILAR AT ALL. AS I SAID
SECRETARY CHRISTOPHER ENCOURAGED PEOPLE FROM ALL LEVELS
OF THE DEPARTMENT TO DISCUSS THIS ISSUE. AND, AS I
SAID, I THINK IT WAS A WEEK AGO TODAY HE HAD A MEETING
LAST MONDAY AFTERNOON IN HIS OFFICE TO DISCUSS THIS
ISSUE, AS HE DOES WHEN MAJOR ISSUES COME UP. THERE WERE
MID- AND AS WELL AS SENIOR-LEVEL PEOPLE INVOLVED IN THAT
MEETING.

ON ANY ISSUE YOU'RE GOING TO HAVE PEOPLE WHO AGREE
OR DISAGREE, BUT I HAVE NOT HEARD OF ANYTHING SIMILAR TO
THE INCIDENT THAT TOOK PLACE ABOUT A MONTH AGO HERE. I
CAN TELL YOU THAT THIS DECISION BY THE PRESIDENT AND HIS
SECRETARY IS SUPPORTED BY THE LEADERSHIP OF THE
DEPARTMENT AS WELL AS OTHER AGENCIES OF THE GOVERNMENT
THAT ARE INVOLVED.

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Q NICK, DIFFERENT AREA BUT UNDER THE --

MR. BURNS: DO YOU WANT TO STAY ON CHINA? MARK

Q YES, A COUPLE. NOT TO BE FLIPPANT, BUT
PRESIDENT LEE HAS BEEN A DISTINGUISHED ALUMNUS OF
CORNELL FOR SOME TIME. HAS THIS OPPORTUNITY TO VISIT
COME UP BEFORE? HAS IT BEEN DISCUSSED AND REJECTED HERE
IN THE DEPARTMENT?

AND, SECONDLY, DOES THE SECRETARY STILL HAVE FULL
CONFIDENCE IN WINSTON LORD?

MR. BURNS: LET ME GO TO THE SECOND QUESTION. THE
SECRETARY ABSOLUTELY HAS FULL CONFIDENCE IN WIN LORD.
HE IS

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ONE OF THE MOST DISTINGUISHED DIPLOMATS THAT THIS
COUNTRY HAS PRODUCED IN THE LAST SEVERAL DECADES. HE IS
ONE OF THE MOST DISTINGUISHED MEMBERS OF THE
DEPARTMENT. HE'S A LEADER WITH GREAT VISION, AND HE'S A
FINE DIPLOMAT, AND THERE SHOULD BE NO INDICATION THAT
THERE IS ANY KIND OF PROBLEM ON THAT SCORE.

AND YOUR FIRST QUESTION, MARK, SINCE I WAS SO
FOCUSED ON THE SECOND QUESTION? (LAUGHTER)

Q HAS THE ISSUE OF A VISIT TO CORNELL BY THE
PRESIDENT OF TAIWAN COME UP PREVIOUSLY, BEEN DISCUSSED
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AND BEEN REJECTED IN THIS DEPARTMENT?

MR. BURNS: THIS ISSUE HAS BEEN DISCUSSED FOR A
NUMBER OF MONTHS, AT LEAST SINCE I TOOK UP MY DUTIES
HERE -- THE REQUEST FOR A VISA FOR PRESIDENT LEE TO
ENABLE HIM TO COME TO THIS COUNTRY TO SPEAK AT CORNELL.
WE HAVE BEEN DISCUSSING FOR THEN MANY MONTHS THE TERMS
OF THAT VISA, WHETHER OR NOT IT MADE SENSE, WHETHER OR
NOT IT WAS IN CONFORMITY TO OUR POLICY OF UNOFFICIAL
RELATIONS WITH TAIWAN.

SO I WOULDN'T SAY, AT LEAST ON THIS CURRENT ROUND,
THAT IT'S A QUESTION OF HAVING REJECTED IT AND THEN
CHANGED OUR POSITION. I THINK IT'S MORE A CASE OF
HAVING TAKEN SEVERAL MONTHS TO WORK THROUGH THE
COMPLEXITIES OF THIS ISSUE WITH TAIWAN, WITH THE
PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA, AND ALSO HERE IN THE UNITED
STATES. I MEAN, IT'S NO SECRET THERE'S BEEN A VERY

ACTIVE CONGRESSIONAL DEBATE. MANY MEMBERS OF CONGRESS

HAVE MADE THEIR VIEWS KNOWN TO OFFICIALS IN THIS GOVERNMENT, AND THERE HAS BEEN A LOT OF DISCUSSION WITHIN OUR OWN GOVERNMENT ON THIS ISSUE, AND I TALKED ABOUT THAT -- ABOUT THE TYPES OF DISCUSSION THAT THE SECRETARY HAS HAD ON THIS ISSUE. SO I WOULD PREFER TO PUT IT IN THAT LIGHT.

Q BUT THERE WERE PREVIOUS ROUNDS?

MR. BURNS. EXCUSE ME.

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Q YOU SAID IN THIS CURRENT ROUND, THERE WERE PREVIOUS ROUNDS.

MR. BURNS: THERE HAVE BEEN ROUNDS OF DISCUSSION, THAT'S RIGHT. THERE HAVE BEEN ROUNDS OF DISCUSSION ON THIS.

Q DOES THIS CHANGE IN POLICY MEAN THAT PRESIDENT LEE WILL BE ADMITTED TO THE UNITED STATES ANY TIME THAT HE REQUESTS A VISA AS LONG AS IT'S IN A CAPACITY AS A PRIVATE OFFICIAL, OR IS THERE GOING TO BE A CAP? ARE THERE GOING TO BE THREE VISITS A YEAR? HAS A DECISION BEEN MADE ON THAT, OR IS IT GOING TO BE A CASE-BY-CASE BASIS?

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MR. BURNS: I THINK IT'S MOST ACCURATE TO SAY THIS WILL BE DONE, ANY FUTURE REQUESTS, WILL BE CONSIDERED ON A CASE-BY-CASE BASIS. WE WILL BE OPEN TO REQUESTS THAT PERTAIN COMPLETELY TO THE UNOFFICIAL NATURE OF OUR RELATIONS WITH TAIWAN. WE WILL, HOWEVER NOT APPROVE VISITS WHICH WE FEEL ARE INCONSISTENT WITH THE UNOFFICIAL NATURE OF OUR RELATIONS WITH TAIWAN.

IN DISCUSSING THIS, I'M NOT JUST TALKING ABOUT PRESIDENT LEE BUT ABOUT VISITS -- POTENTIAL, POSSIBLE VISITS -- BY OTHER MEMBERS OF THE TAIWANESE LEADERSHIP.

Q IS THIS THE CASE WHERE STATE DEPARTMENT POLICY HAS JUST BEEN REVERSED BY CONGRESS?

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MR. BURNS: I WOULDN'T CHARACTERIZE IT LIKE THAT. I TRIED TO GIVE YOU A SENSE OF THE FABRIC OF THE

DISCUSSION INSIDE THE ADMINISTRATION, AND CERTAINLY THE VIEWS OF CONGRESS ARE IMPORTANT. THEY'RE ALWAYS IMPORTANT WHEN THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH DEBATES POLICY AND CONSIDERS POLICY ACTIONS.

IN VIEW OF THE VERY STRONG FEELING IN CONGRESS, WE LISTENED VERY HARD TO MEMBERS OF CONGRESS WHO FELT STRONGLY ABOUT THIS. BUT IN ADDITION TO THAT, AS PEOPLE BEGAN -- ESPECIALLY PEOPLE AT SENIOR LEVELS OF THIS GOVERNMENT -- BEGAN TO LOOK INTO THIS OVER THE LAST COUPLE OF WEEKS AND WERE ASSURED AND REASSURED THAT THERE WAS NOTHING IN THE PROPOSED ITINERARY THAT WOULD BE CONTRARY TO THE COMMITMENTS WE HAD MADE ABOUT THE UNOFFICIAL NATURE OF OUR RELATIONS WITH TAIWAN, I THINK THAT PEOPLE ACHIEVED A COMFORT LEVEL AND DECIDED ON THE BASIS OF THOSE FACTORS -- NOT JUST THE SENTIMENTS OF CONGRESS -- BUT HAVING LOOKED INTO IT THEMSELVES THAT THIS MADE SENSE, AND IT WAS THE RIGHT THING TO DO.

THAT'S WHY AND HOW THIS DECISION WAS MADE. SO IT WAS NOT A CASE OF THE ADMINISTRATION SIMPLY REACTING. IT WAS A CASE OF SENIOR PEOPLE PUTTING A SPOTLIGHT ON THE ISSUE LOOKING AT IT, CONSIDERING IT CAREFULLY AND MAKING THE BEST DECISION FOR THE UNITED STATES.

MARK.

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Q ON A RELATED SUBJECT, THE SENATE FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE TOOK ACTIONS LAST WEEK RECOGNIZING THE SOVEREIGNTY OF TIBET. WHAT'S THE ADMINISTRATION'S RESPONSE TO THAT?

MR. BURNS: I THINK YOU KNOW OUR POSITION ON THAT, THAT TIBET IS PART OF CHINA.

Q (INAUDIBLE) POSITION ON TAIWAN.

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MR. BURNS: EXCUSE ME?

Q I SAY WE THOUGHT WE KNEW YOUR POSITION ON TAIWAN. (LAUGHTER)

MR. BURNS: BUT EVERYTHING THAT WE'VE DONE TODAY IS CONSISTENT WITH THE TAIWAN RELATIONS ACT, WITH THE THREE

COMMUNIQUEES, AND WITH OUR UNOFFICIAL RELATIONS WITH TAIWAN. AS YOU KNOW, LAST YEAR THE ADMINISTRATION MADE SOME ADJUSTMENTS IN OUR POLICY TO ALLOW THE POSSIBILITY -- OUR POLICY TOWARDS TAIWAN -- TO ALLOW THE POSSIBILITY OF SENIOR-LEVEL TRANSIT VISITS, AND THIS DECISION SHOULD BE SEEN AS A CONTINUATION OF THAT PROCESS.

POLICIES ARE RARELY GROUNDED IN CEMENT FOR DECADES
ON END. POLICIES, OF COURSE, MUST EVOLVE WITH THE
TIMES. WE ARE CONFIDENT THAT, IN TAKING THIS DECISION
TODAY, WE HAVE DONE NOTHING TO CONTRADICT THE ESSENTIAL
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IMPORTANCE OF OUR RELATIONS WITH THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC
OF CHINA OR THE DOCUMENTS ON WHICH THAT POLICY IS BASED.

RON, YOU'VE BEEN TRYING FOR A WHILE.

Q WHEN THE SECRETARY MET FOREIGN MINISTER QIAN IN
NEW YORK, DID HE PREPARE HIM FOR THIS TYPE OF DECISION,
AND DID THEY DISCUSS THE CONGRESSIONAL PUSH TO REVERSE
THIS POLICY?

MR. BURNS: THERE WAS A BRIEF DISCUSSION, I THINK,
AT LUNCH ON APRIL 17 WHEN THE SECRETARY MET FOREIGN
MINISTER QIAN ABOUT THIS ISSUE. THIS GETS BACK INTO THE
NATURE OF HOW WE CHARACTERIZE THIS. THIS WAS IN ANOTHER
EARLIER ROUND OF DISCUSSION, AND, AS I REMEMBER, A VERY
BRIEF DISCUSSION. THERE WAS SOME REFERENCE, I THINK, TO
VIEWS BOTH WITHIN OUR GOVERNMENT AND VIEWS IN THE
CONGRESS ON THIS MATTER. AND I THINK WE HEARD BACK FROM
THE CHINESE FOREIGN MINISTER, HIS VIEWS ON THE MATTER.

STILL ON CHINA?

Q YES, STILL ON TAIWAN. HAS THE STATE DEPARTMENT
OR ANY AGENCY WITHIN THE ADMINISTRATION REVIEWED
PRESIDENT LEE'S SPEECHES OR SPEECH THAT HE PLANS TO MAKE
AT CORNELL. IF HE PLANS TO MAKE ONE TO MAKE SURE THAT
IT'S CONSISTENT WITH YOUR UNDERSTANDING THAT HE WON'T BE
MAKING ANY COMMENTS AS THE PRESIDENT OF TAIWAN?

MR. BURNS: AS I UNDERSTAND IT, WE'VE JUST BEGUN
DISCUSSIONS ON HIS ITINERARY, SO I DON'T EVEN KNOW IF
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THE SPEECH IS WRITTEN. I'M NOT SURE WE'D BE IN A
POSITION TO DO THAT. HE OBVIOUSLY UNDERSTANDS THE
NATURE OF THE TERMS OF THIS VISIT TO THE UNITED STATES,
THAT IT IS PRIVATE, THAT IT IS NOT OFFICIAL AND CANNOT
BE CONTRARY TO THE UNOFFICIALITY

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-- THE UNOFFICIAL NATURE -- OF OUR RELATIONS. SO I JUST
DON'T THINK WE'RE IN A POSITION TO TAKE THAT KIND OF

ACTION.

Q ARE THEY GOING TO INTRODUCE HIM AS LEE TENG-HUI OR PRESIDENT LEE OR --

MR. BURNS: THAT'S ENTIRELY UP TO CORNELL UNIVERSITY. IT'S NOT UP TO THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT TO MAKE THAT DETERMINATION. HIS VISIT IS A PRIVATE ONE. HE'S AN ALUMNUS. HE'S BEING HONORED THERE. HE IS GOING TO MAKE A PUBLIC ADDRESS THERE. THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT IS IN NO POSITION TO TRY TO CHANGE THAT EVENT OR TO TRY TO AFFECT THAT EVENT OR TO SET GROUND RULES FOR THE EVENT, BESIDES THE FACT THAT WE UNDERSTAND THIS IS A PRIVATE VISIT, AND THAT, THEREFORE, HE WILL ACQUIT HIMSELF IN A PRIVATE CAPACITY.

Q DO YOU HAVE ANY PLANS TO SEND ANY SENIOR ENVOY TO BEIJING TO DISCUSS THE ISSUE FURTHER DIRECTLY THERE, OR IT WILL BE HANDLED BY THE AMBASSADOR?

MR. BURNS: NOT THAT I'M AWARE OF. SEVERAL SENIOR
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MEMBERS OF THE ADMINISTRATION HERE IN WASHINGTON HAD DISCUSSIONS WITH THE CHINESE AMBASSADOR OVER THE WEEKEND. WE ALSO HAVE A VERY DISTINGUISHED AND SENIOR AMBASSADOR IN BEIJING, STAPLETON ROY, WHO I'M SURE HAS BEEN IN TOUCH WITH THE CHINESE GOVERNMENT.

Q SPEAKING OF AMBASSADORS, I UNDERSTAND THE U.S. AMBASSADOR HAS BEEN SUMMONED IN BEIJING. DO YOU HAVE ANY INFORMATION ON THAT?

MR. BURNS: I DON'T.

Q IS HE ALLOWED TO MEET WITH MEMBERS OF CONGRESS?

MR. BURNS: THAT IS A DECISION THAT MEMBERS OF CONGRESS ARE GOING TO HAVE TO MAKE, NOT THE ADMINISTRATION.

Q BUT SENATOR MURKOWSKI WANTS ALSO A VISA FOR PRESIDENT LEE TO VISIT ALASKA, THE US-ROC ECONOMIC CONFERENCE IN SEPTEMBER. IS THIS RULING GOING TO HAVE ANY BEARING ON A POTENTIAL VISA FOR THAT VISIT, WHICH WILL BE MUCH MORE OFFICIAL THAN THIS ONE?

MR. BURNS: AS I SAID AT THE BEGINNING, WE CONTINUE TO DISCUSS THE EXACT ITINERARY OF PRESIDENT LEE, AND THAT COULD VERY WELL BE PART OF IT OR MAYBE IT'S NOT PART OF IT. WE'LL JUST HAVE TO SEE. WE DON'T HAVE A DETAILED SENSE NOW. WE'RE JUST GETTING, I SHOULD SAY, A DETAILED SENSE OF A PROPOSED ITINERARY. THAT REMAINS TO BE DISCUSSED. ONCE WE'VE AGREED UPON A FINAL ITINERARY,
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WE'LL BE IN A POSITION TO TALK ABOUT THAT, BUT WE'RE NOT
RIGHT NOW.

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Q ARE YOU NEGOTIATING THE ITINERARY WITH THE
TAIWANESE?

MR. BURNS: WE'RE DISCUSSING IT. WE'RE DISCUSSING
IT BECAUSE WE WANT TO MAKE SURE THAT PRESIDENT LEE'S
ACTIVITIES HERE, WITH ALL DUE RESPECT, ARE CONSISTENT
WITH THE UNDERSTANDING WE HAVE WHICH IS THIS WILL BE A
PRIVATE VISIT. SO IT'S ENTIRELY APPROPRIATE FOR US TO
HAVE THOSE DISCUSSIONS, AND WE'LL HAVE THEM. AND WHEN
WE'VE COMPLETED THEM, WE'LL LET YOU KNOW.

Q YOU WON'T ISSUE THE VISA THEN UNTIL AFTER THOSE
DISCUSSIONS ARE SATISFACTORILY COMPLETED?

MR. BURNS: AS I UNDERSTAND IT, WE CERTAINLY WANT TO
BE ASSURED THAT HIS ITINERARY CONFORMS TO THE ASSURANCES
WE'VE BEEN GIVEN, AND, ONCE WE HAVE ACHIEVED THAT LEVEL
OF SATISFACTION, WE'LL BE GLAD TO ISSUE THE VISA.

Q (INAUDIBLE)

MR. BURNS: WE DON'T EXPECT ANY PROBLEMS ALONG THOSE
LINES AT ALL.

Q WHAT IS THE AMERICAN POSITION IN THESE
DISCUSSIONS? WHAT CAN YOU TELL US ABOUT THE
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RESTRICTIONS THAT THE UNITED STATES WANTS TO PLACE ON
PRESIDENT LEE'S ACTIVITIES WHILE HE IS IN THIS COUNTRY?

MR. BURNS: I'M NOT GOING TO GET INTO THE DETAILS OF
OUR DISCUSSIONS. BUT MAYBE FOR THE FOURTH OR FIFTH TIME
-- THEN WE CAN WRAP THIS PART OF IT UP -- I WILL SAY WE
UNDERSTAND THIS IS A PRIVATE VISIT. WE WILL ISSUE A
VISA BASED ON THAT VERY CLEAR UNDERSTANDING.

Q WHEN THE SENIOR ADMINISTRATION OFFICIAL SPOKE
WITH THE CHINESE AMBASSADOR, DID HE INDICATE ANY ACTIONS
THAT CHINA MIGHT TAKE TO --

MR. BURNS: I'M NOT GOING TO GET INTO THE DETAILS OF
DIPLOMATIC CONVERSATION, EXCEPT TO SAY THAT I DON'T
THINK THERE WAS OVERWHELMING APPLAUSE. I THINK THEY'RE
OBVIOUSLY DISAPPOINTED, AND I'M SURE WE'LL HAVE FURTHER

DISCUSSIONS.

Q CAN I STAY ON THE SUBJECT OF EVOLVING POLICY GUIDELINES BUT IN A DIFFERENT PART OF THE WORLD?

MR. BURNS: ANYBODY? I THINK WE'VE TAKEN CARE OF THIS, HAVEN'T WE?

Q ISRAEL HAS APPARENTLY REVERSED OR AT LEAST SUSPENDED ITS LAND CONFISCATION DECISION. I'M CURIOUS WHETHER YOU HAVE A REACTION TO THAT.

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MR. BURNS: I DON'T BECAUSE WHEN I WAS COMING INTO THE BRIEFING ROOM, WE WERE READING THE SAME PRESS REPORTS THAT YOU HAVE, BUT WE HAVE NOT HAD YET, AS I UNDERSTAND IT, ANY KIND OF DETAILED ACCOUNT OF EXACTLY WHAT ACTION MAY HAVE BEEN TAKEN BY THE ISRAELI CABINET AND WHAT IT MEANS.

OBVIOUSLY, WE HAVE GREAT INTEREST IN THIS BECAUSE THE UNITED STATES IS DEEPLY INVOLVED, HEAVILY, SERIOUSLY INVOLVED IN THE PEACE PROCESS. WE WANT TO BE HELPFUL, SO RATHER THAN GET AHEAD OF OUR UNDERSTANDING OF THE EVENTS, I THINK I'M GOING TO LET THIS ONE SLIDE UNTIL WE HAVE A BETTER UNDERSTANDING.

Q DO YOU THINK IT WOULD BE GOOD FOR THE PEACE PROCESS?

MR. BURNS: EXCUSE ME, LEE?

Q IF THE FREEZE INDEED TURNS OUT TO BE CORRECT AND HOLDS, DO YOU THINK IT WOULD BE HELPFUL TO THE MIDDLE EAST PEACE PROCESS?

MR. BURNS: WE DIDN'T BELIEVE THAT THE ORIGINAL DECISION TO CONFISCATE THE LAND WAS HELPFUL. WE THOUGHT IT POSED DIFFICULTIES. SO OBVIOUSLY IF THERE IS NOW A DECISION TO FREEZE THAT ACTION, IT WOULD BE HELPFUL.

Q DID THE SECRETARY TALK TO PRIME MINISTER RABIN ABOUT THIS OVER THE LAST THREE OR FOUR DAYS -- SOME REPORTS HAVE SAID -- ASKING HIM TO RECONSIDER THAT
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DECISION?

MR. BURNS: AT THIS POINT, SID, I JUST DON'T WANT TO GO INTO THE DETAILS OF OUR NEGOTIATIONS, OUR DISCUSSIONS WITH THE ISRAELIS OR OTHERS.

Q HAITI? ARE WE FINISHED WITH THE MIDEAST? CAN I ASK A QUESTION ON HAITI?

MR. BURNS: SURE.

Q DO YOU HAVE ANY GUIDANCE ON THE HAITIAN CHILDREN IN GUANTANAMO ON THEIR DISPOSITION? WILL MOST OR ALL BE ADMITTED TO THE UNITED STATES?

MR. BURNS: YES, I DO. AS YOU KNOW, THE DISPOSITION OF THE UNACCOMPANIED HAITIAN CHILDREN AT GUANTANAMO PRESENTS SENSITIVE ISSUES THAT WE'RE SEEKING TO RESOLVE IN A HUMANE MANNER CONSISTENT WITH ESTABLISHED INTERNATIONAL PRACTICE. WE SOUGHT THE ASSISTANCE OF THE U.N. HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR REFUGEES AND OTHER ORGANIZATIONS. WE ARE MAKING CASE-BY-CASE EVALUATIONS OF EACH OF THESE YOUNG CHILDREN.

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IN SOME CASES, ESPECIALLY WHERE THE CHILD'S PARENTS OR CLOSE RELATIVES ARE IN HAITI, THIS IS LIKELY TO MEAN THAT THE CHILD WILL BE REPATRIATED TO HAITI. IN OTHER CASES, IT MAY BE THAT U.S. RESETTLEMENT BETTER MEETS THE CHILD'S NEEDS, AND WE WILL AUTHORIZE U.S. ENTRY FOR SUCH
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CHILDREN.

NO CHILD WILL BE RETURNED TO HAITI UNLESS THE JUDGMENT IS MADE THAT IT IS IN HIS OR HER BEST INTERESTS. WE THINK THIS PROCEDURE, WHICH HAS BEEN ENDORSED BY THE U.N. HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR REFUGEES, IS MOST RESPONSIVE TO THE NEEDS AND INTERESTS OF THE

CHILDREN.

IT'S A VERY COMPLEX PROCEDURE, OF COURSE, TO TRACK THE FAMILIES OR RELATIVES INVOLVED, AND WE ARE TRYING AS BEST AS WE CAN, AND AS QUICKLY AS WE CAN, TO DO THAT.

WE ARE COMMITTED TO ENSURING THE COMPLETION OF THE PROCESS FOR UNACCOMPANIED MINORS AT GUANTANAMO IS ACHIEVED NO LATER THAN JUNE 30. AFTER THAT DATE, NO UNACCOMPANIED MINORS WILL REMAIN AT GUANTANAMO.

SINCE FEBRUARY, I UNDERSTAND, 22 MINORS WERE FOUND TO HAVE PARENTS IN THE UNITED STATES AND HAD BEEN PAROLLED INTO THE U.S. TO JOIN THEM; 103 OF THESE CHILDREN HAVE RETURNED TO HAITI WHERE THEY'VE BEEN REUNITED WITH THEIR FAMILIES. THIS MORNING, 20, IN THIS

GROUP, WERE RETURNED TO HAITI BECAUSE THEY'VE BEEN ABLE TO REUNITED WITH HEIR FAMILIES. ALL WERE ESCORTED TO THEIR HOMES.

"SAVE THE CHILDREN," THE NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION, IS DOING FOLLOW-UP VISITS TO EVERY CHILD RETURNED TO HAITI. I BELIEVE NOW. WITH THE DEPARTURES
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THIS MORNING, THERE ARE 183 HAITIAN CHILDREN LEFT AT GUANTANAMO.

Q DO YOU KNOW IF THERE ARE ANY PLANS FOR AMBASSADOR ROSS TO GO TO THE MIDDLE EAST?

MR. BURNS: I DONT. I SPOKE WITH HIM THIS MORNING. HE'S A VERY ACTIVE DIPLOMAT. HE'S HEAVILY ENGAGED IN ALL THESE ISSUES, BUT I'M NOT AWARE OF ANY PLANS HE HAS TO GO TO THE REGION.

Q ANYTHING NEW ON FRED CUNY?

MR. BURNS: UNFORTUNATELY, THERE'S VERY LITTLE NEW. THE RUSSIAN DOCTOR WHO WAS TO PERFORM THE FORENSIC EXAMINATION OF THE CORPSE IN QUESTION HAS STILL NOT BEEN ABLE TO REACH THE TOWN SHATOY BECAUSE OF FIGHTING.

I WOULD SAY, HOWEVER, THAT EARLIER INDICATIONS AND THE EARLIER EXAMINATION THAT WAS DONE STRONGLY SUGGESTS THAT THE BODY IN QUESTION IS NOT THAT OF MR. CUNY. WE CONTINUE

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OUR EFFORTS TO SEARCH FOR FRED CUNY WHO HAS BEEN MISSING FOR OVER TWO MONTHS.

WE HAVE AN EMBASSY MOSCOW OFFICER IN THE AREA. I THINK, AS I MENTIONED THE OTHER DAY, DEPUTY SECRETARY STROBE TALBOTT MET WITH FRED CUNY'S BROTHER, CHRIS. ON
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FRIDAY AS DID TONY LAKE, THE NATIONAL SECURITY ADVISOR. WE ARE WORKING CLOSELY WITH THE CUNY FAMILY, THE SOROS FOUNDATION, AND THE CARNEGIE ENDOWMENT FOR INTERNATIONAL PEACE ON THIS EFFORT, AND WE'LL CONTINUE OUR EFFORTS.

Q ON KOREA. ARE THE KOREAN TALKS IN TROUBLE?

MR. BURNS: I WOULDN'T SAY THAT THE KOREA TALKS ARE IN TROUBLE. THE KOREA TALKS ARE ON-GOING. THEY BEGAN, AS YOU KNOW SATURDAY. THE FULL DELEGATIONS MET THIS MORNING, MONDAY, MAY 22. THE DISCUSSIONS WERE FOCUSED ON THE LIGHT-WATER REACTOR ISSUE. I WOULD DESCRIBE THEM AS FRANK AND BUSINESSLIKE.

TOMORROW, TUESDAY, MAY 23, THERE WILL BE TECHNICAL-LEVEL MEETINGS. THE U.S. SIDE WILL BE LED IN THIS MEETINGS BY DR. GARY SAMORE. THE FULL DELEGATION MEETINGS WILL RESUME ON WEDNESDAY, MAY 24. OUR SIDE WILL BE LED BY DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY TOM HUBBARD.

Q CAN I ASK A FOLLOW-UP ON THAT?

MR. BURNS: YES.

Q THERE WAS A REPORT LAST WEEK IN THE WALL STREET JOURNAL OUT OF ASIA SUGGESTING THAT NORTH KOREA, BECAUSE OF THIS CURRENT IMPASSE, MAY GIVE UP THE IDEA OF LIGHT-WATER REACTORS ALL TOGETHER AND SEEK AN ALTERNATIVE SOURCE OF ENERGY. WHAT CAN YOU TELL US ABOUT THAT?

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MR. BURNS: I SAW THOSE SAME REPORTS. I THINK I SPOKE TO THIS LATE LAST WEEK. I DON'T HAVE ALL THE DETAILS OF TODAY'S DISCUSSION. I'M UNAWARE OF ANY PROPOSAL LIKE THAT FROM NORTH KOREA.

YES, LAURA.

Q THIS MORNING, THE SECRETARY HAD SOME PRETTY STRONG CRITICISM FOR CONGRESSMAN GILMAN'S LEGISLATION. HAS THE STATE DEPARTMENT COMMUNICATED THEIR FEELINGS ABOUT THIS LEGISLATION SINCE IT'S UP FOR A VOTE THIS

WEEK?

MR. BURNS: WE ARE IN THE PROCESS OF COMMUNICATING OUR VIEWS ABOUT THIS LEGISLATION. THE SECRETARY CERTAINLY DID SO LAST WEEK WHEN HE TESTIFIED BEFORE THE SENATE FOREIGN OPERATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE. THE SECRETARY SPOKE PUBLICLY THIS

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MORNING. I KNOW HE'S IN THE PROCESS OF DRAFTING A LETTER TO THE CONGRESSIONAL LEADERSHIP ON THIS ISSUE.

LET ME JUST TAKE YOU THROUGH A COUPLE OF OUR CONCERNS. THE GILMAN BILL, WE BELIEVE, IS DEEPLY-FLAWED LEGISLATION THAT COULD UNDERMINE THIS AND EVERY FUTURE PRESIDENT'S ABILITY TO SAFEGUARD AMERICAN'S SECURITY TO ADVANCE OUR INTERESTS AND TO PROVIDE AMERICAN LEADERSHIP

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE
DAILY PRESS BRIEFING
I N D E X
Monday, May 22, 1995

Briefer: Nicholas Burns

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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE
DAILY PRESS BRIEFING

DPB #72

MONDAY, MAY 22, 1995, 12:59 P.M.
(ON THE RECORD UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED)

MR. BURNS: Good afternoon, ladies and gentlemen. I have a couple of announcements to make, and then I'll be glad to go to your questions.

First, I'd like to read a statement from Secretary of State Warren Christopher.

I am deeply saddened by the untimely death of former Secretary of Defense Les Aspin. I want to express my great admiration for his many years of distinguished service to the United States. As a long-time member of the House Armed Services Committee and ultimately as its Chairman, Les Aspin made an extraordinary contribution to America's national security. As Secretary of Defense, he accomplished important reforms and was responsible for major steps to strengthen U.S. military capabilities. Les and I had a close working relationship in the time that we served together in the President's cabinet. His death deprives our nation of one of its most dedicated public servants.

That was a personal statement by Secretary of State Christopher on the death of Les Aspin.

In addition, I have a couple of statements about the Secretary's perspective travel.

Secretary of State Christopher plans to travel to Noordwijk, the Netherlands, for NATO's Spring Foreign Ministers' Meetings. On Tuesday, May 30, the Secretary will participate in the semi-annual meeting of the North Atlantic Council in ministerial session. Ministers will discuss a range of issues facing the alliance, including the status of the Partnership for Peace, the NATO-Russia relationship, and the status of NATO's internal study on its enlargement.

Foreign Ministers of the North Atlantic Cooperation Council -- the NACC -- will meet on May 31 to discuss the Partnership for Peace, developments in security, and programs of cooperation for the coming months.

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The NACC includes all NATO members as well as a very large number of Central and East European states.

On Thursday, June 1, the Secretary will travel to Lisbon, Portugal to sign jointly with Portuguese Foreign Minister Jose Manuel Durao Barroso the Agreement on Cooperation and Defense. This bilateral accord between the United States and Portugal provides for continued U.S. access to the Lajes Air Base in the Azores and the formation of a bilateral commission to foster cooperation in defense, commerce, science, the environment, and education.

Secretary Christopher will then proceed to Madrid, Spain, later the same day. During the course of his visit on June 1-2, he will meet with Foreign Minister Javier Solana and call on King Juan Carlos to discuss European security, the Middle East peace process, and other issues of mutual concern. The Secretary will also be giving a major policy address in Madrid.

I also would like to announce that Secretary Christopher will travel to Port-au-Prince, Haiti, June 4-5 to attend the opening sessions of the 25th General Assembly of the Organization of American States. While there, he will also chair a follow-up review meeting of the hemisphere's foreign ministers to assess implementation of the mandates from last December's Summit of the Americas, which President Clinton, of course, hosted in Miami.

The Secretary will also participate in an OAS meeting of foreign ministers on Haiti and other events while in that country.

Sign-up sheets will be posted in the Press Office after today's briefing for those journalists who wish to apply for a seat to travel with the Secretary. There will be separate sign-up sheets for both of these trips.

Q (Inaudible).

MR. BURNS: The question was, "How about the Middle East?" I have nothing today about a Middle East trip. The Secretary has said several times that if it's helpful for him to travel to the Middle East, he will do so; but I have nothing to give you on a Middle East trip.

I do have a final announcement. I've been asked to inform you of the following.

President Clinton has decided to permit Lee Teng-hui to make a private visit to the United States in June for the express purpose of participating in an alumni reunion

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event at Cornell University, as a distinguished alumnus. This action follows a revision of Administration guidelines to permit occasional private visits by senior leaders of Taiwan, including President Lee.

President Lee will visit the U.S. in a strictly private capacity and will not undertake any official activities.

It is important reiterate that this is not an official visit. The granting of a visa in this case is consistent with U.S. policy of maintaining only unofficial relations with Taiwan. It does not convey any change in our relations with or policies towards the People's Republic of China, with which we maintain official relations and recognize as the sole legal government of China.

We will continue to abide by the three communiques that form the basis of our relations with China. The United States also acknowledges the Chinese position that there is but one China, and Taiwan is a part of China.

Americans treasure the rights of freedom of speech and freedom of travel and believe others should enjoy these privileges as well. This sentiment clearly motivated the Congress, in its recent actions, to support overwhelmingly permitting Mr. Lee to return to Cornell, his alma mater.

Secretary of State Christopher has indicated that our relationship with China and Taiwan will continue to be governed by the three joint communiques with the People's Republic of China and the Taiwan Relations Act.

It is also Secretary Christopher's view that this decision to permit a private visit does not in any way reflect a change in the fundamental nature of U.S. relations with Taiwan. We continue to maintain unofficial economic and cultural relations with Taiwan.

That concludes the announcements. I'll be glad to go to whatever questions you have.

Q Can we get a copy of the last announcement, Mr. Burns, after the briefing?

MR. BURNS: I think the last announcement is going to stand on its own. You've got my remarks on-the-record, and that forms the basis of our announcement today.

Q You won't put out -- filing break.

Q What kind of visa does the State Department plan to grant to President Lee? And what kind of courtesy

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does State plan to grant him when he is in the Port of New York?

MR. BURNS: Excuse me. I couldn't catch the last half of your question.

Q The courtesy and the visa -- the type of visa? What kind of visa -- the transit visa or the private visit visa?

MR. BURNS: I can certainly get you specific information on the specific type of visa that's going to be issued. But as you know, our policy has been that this is a transit. In this case, it is a visa that will permit him to come to the United States in a private capacity for his express purpose of visiting Cornell University to participate in alumni activities there.

As of now, I don't have a detailed sense of President Lee's itinerary as he travels from Taipei to Cornell. That is something that will be worked out in the coming days. As that becomes available, we'll be glad to share it with you.

Q Have you informed the Chinese of this yet?

MR. BURNS: Yes, we have informed the Chinese Government of this decision. There were talks over the weekend here in Washington between senior officials of our government and the Chinese Ambassador. I believe we've also had some conversations in Beijing with the Chinese Government.

Q Up to this point, you have been talking about a transit visa. Are we still talking about a transit visa or a private visit? Does President Lee Teng-hui have to have a visa to come to this country, or what kind of arrangement are we talking about?

MR. BURNS: You're right to say this is a private visit. There are many different types of visas. So I'm hesitating just a bit to pronounce myself on that, but we can certainly get you an answer to that specific question.

Q Secretary Christopher has said many times, including in his testimony on Capitol Hill, that a visit by President Lee Teng-hui would remove an important element of unofficiality from the unofficial relations with Taiwan. By allowing President Lee Teng-hui to come to this country, are you, in fact, removing the important element of unofficiality from your unofficial relations with Taiwan?

MR. BURNS: No, we're not. In fact, as my statement indicated, our policy towards Taiwan is based on the

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unofficial nature of our relations with Taiwan. Nothing in this particular decision changes that.

Obviously, there are a number of factors in this decision. First and foremost among them was the fact that this is a private visit. It does not involve any events or activities of an official nature.

The United States Congress has indicated its view that a private visit by President Lee is consistent with our unofficial relations with Taiwan. The President and the Secretary of State believe that Mr. Lee's visit is clearly private and therefore is appropriate. Those are the factors that went into this decision.

Q In your communication with Beijing, have you received any response from the Chinese?

MR. BURNS: I'm not going to characterize the details of our private conversations with the Chinese Government. We normally don't do that in diplomatic practice, not, at least, in public.

I know that there were a series of conversations over the weekend, beginning on Saturday -- a number of them. We'll just have to wait and see what the Government of China's public reaction is to this.

Q Was there a negative reaction by the Chinese Ambassador?

MR. BURNS: I think I would describe it, yes, as a negative reaction. (Laughter)

Q Two questions: After all, he's the President of Taiwan -- the Republic of China. He's not an ordinary type of person. When he travels through this country, will the U.S. Government provide any protective service? And also, will there be any limit on the length of his stay? My understanding, he's allowed to stay up to six days.

MR. BURNS: As I said a couple of minutes ago, I'm not in a position now to give you our understanding of the details of President Lee's itinerary in the United States. That remains to be worked out. When it is worked out, and we have something to say on it, I'll be glad to get into the issues that you raised and give you a sense of what we think his itinerary is.

Still on China?

Q Yes, still.

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Q How long will the visa be for?

MR. BURNS: That's something that needs to be worked out. That is yet to be worked out, as I understand it. Once it is, we'll let you know what the terms are.

The visa, as I understand it, has not yet been issued. It will be issued once the discussions are complete on the itinerary.

Q And to follow up, were the Taiwanese informed of this decision on Friday as the Taiwanese press indicates?

MR. BURNS: I know that this decision was made just a couple of days ago, and the negotiations and discussions surrounding it were carried out over the weekend. I think that's the most accurate thing I can say, Mark, on that.

Q As recently as several months back, Assistant Secretary Lord went to Beijing, among other things, to explain -- to reiterate, rather -- to the Chinese that this position was not under review. Can you tell us what the State Department has done to try to explain to the Chinese Government why this position is being changed, and tell us whether there's been any sort of a diplomatic nod or a dance of some sort that would indicate that this is not going to fracture relations right now between the United States and China?

MR. BURNS: As I indicated to you, there are a number of factors that went into this decision. Among them were the fact that we understood this would be a private visit. It would not have any official activities or events associated with it.

Certainly, the Administration listened to the views of Congress -- many members of Congress who were interested in this question and had quite specific views on it. And, as the President and the Secretary and other officials looked at this, it seemed that it was entirely consistent with our policy of unofficial relations with Taiwan.

So I can't really point to one factor, but I would just say there are several factors that led the Administration to take this action and to make this decision. We have had discussions with the People's Republic of China on this for some time, and I know the discussions over the weekend were quite detailed.

I would not want to anticipate what the reaction from Beijing will be. We'll just have to wait and see what it is.

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Q Nick, I guess in contrast to some of your remarks up there today, Winston Lord said in multiple testimonies on the Hill in recent months that this would not be a good policy -- was not a policy shift the Administration intended to make and in fact would not be a wise policy. What has happened to change that evaluation, aside from Congress voting on a non-binding resolution?

MR. BURNS: As I said, I think this is probably the third time I've been around this one, so hopefully this can be the last time. The Administration over the last couple of weeks debated this issue, deliberated internally, reviewed all the factors surrounding the visit, I think had a chance to look in a more detailed way at the proposed itinerary. We were able to assure ourselves that this would be a purely private visit.

President Lee is a distinguished alumnus of Cornell, and I think by all accounts everyone in our government would credit him with having pursued economic reform policies and political reform policies that have certainly benefited the people of Taiwan.

When you put that together with the interests of the Congress and the opportunity for the President and the Secretary personally to review this decision, the decision was made by the President and Secretary, considering all these factors, to issue the visa.

Q Was a decision made along the high-level route like -- and in secret -- the way that the Cuba decision was made, or was it fully vetted in this building and elsewhere?

MR. BURNS: I can tell you there was a good deal of conversation and discussion throughout this building and at all levels of this building about this decision. Secretary Christopher had a meeting last week with several members of the Bureau of East Asian and Pacific Affairs. He heard views from mid-level and senior-level people in the Department of State, and I know he and the President were able to have the views of others around the government.

This was not a decision that was made in some kind of protective cocoon. It was a decision that was animated by the views of all the people who are responsible for China in this government. So, therefore, at the end of the day last week, putting all of these factors together and understanding in some detail the nature of the visit itself -- which is private and unofficial -- I think they felt that the most prudent course to take was to issue the visa.

Q One more follow-up on that, if I can. You indicated the decision was made essentially late last week.

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The White House spokesman, Mr. McCurry, suggested on -- it was well known around here -- on Friday that no immediate -- "a final decision hadn't been taken, nor am I aware that one will be taken at any time in the immediate future." How do you reconcile that statement on Friday with your statement here?

MR. BURNS: He and I said the same thing at about one o'clock on Friday, so why don't you group me with Mike McCurry on that.

Q All right. Why were you saying that on Friday as to the decision?

MR. BURNS: There are 24 hours in a day. (Laughter) As you remember, we were speaking at mid-day on Friday. There were a number of meetings that took place and discussions that took place, I'm sure, after we were both briefing, and we had not yet had the opportunity to engage in detailed discussions with the People's Republic of China -- the Government of the People's Republic of China -- which we wanted to do, and there were also discussions, of course, with Taiwanese officials.

So I don't apologize in any way for the language that either of us used. We said what we knew to be accurate at mid-day on Friday, but policies evolve and decisions are made, and when decisions are made, you go on from there.

Q Follow-up. Does President Lee need a visa to come to this country?

MR. BURNS: The whole issue has been about a visa, yes. Everyone coming to this country requires a visa. He cannot enter the United States without a visa.

Q But you don't know what type of visa.

MR. BURNS: I'm going to get back to you on that.

Q Nick, also on China, have you seen a report that Japan has stopped its aid to China as a result of its displeasure with the nuclear test?

MR. BURNS: I certainly heard that report this morning and saw the announcement from Tokyo, yes.

Q Does the United States Government have any reaction to it?

MR. BURNS: I don't believe we have any reaction to that, no. That announcement was just made four or five hours ago, and sometimes we're very, very quick in this

government. We can respond immediately to events. Sometimes we like to think about things or at least look into the specific announcements, and I believe this is in the latter case.

Q Can we go back to the previous subject for just a second?

MR. BURNS: Yes.

Q I know you don't probably wish to, but --

MR. BURNS: I'm glad to talk about this all day, if you'd like.

Q As in the case of another recent controversial decision and policy change, several people in the Department asked for a change of jobs in disagreement. Has anything like that happened in this case?

MR. BURNS: I think I can glean the incident to which you refer, Charlie, and I can tell you I don't believe this situation is similar at all. As I said, Secretary Christopher encouraged people from all levels of the Department to discuss this issue. And, as I said, I think it was a week ago today he had a meeting last Monday afternoon in his office to discuss this issue, as he does when major issues come up. There were mid- and as well as senior-level people involved in that meeting.

On any issue you're going to have people who agree or disagree, but I have not heard of anything similar to the incident that took place about a month ago here. I can tell you that this decision by the President and his Secretary is supported by the leadership of the Department as well as other agencies of the Government that are involved.

Q Nick, different area but under the --

MR. BURNS: Do you want to stay on China? Mark.

Q Yes, a couple. Not to be flippant, but President Lee has been a distinguished alumnus of Cornell for some time. Has this opportunity to visit come up before? Has it been discussed and rejected here in the Department?

And, secondly, does the Secretary still have full confidence in Winston Lord?

MR. BURNS: Let me go to the second question. The Secretary absolutely has full confidence in Win Lord. He is

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one of the most distinguished diplomats that this country has produced in the last several decades. He is one of the most distinguished members of the Department. He's a leader with great vision, and he's a fine diplomat, and there should be no indication that there is any kind of problem on that score.

And your first question, Mark, since I was so focused on the second question? (Laughter)

Q Has the issue of a visit to Cornell by the President of Taiwan come up previously, been discussed and been rejected in this Department?

MR. BURNS: This issue has been discussed for a number of months, at least since I took up my duties here -- the request for a visa for President Lee to enable him to come to this country to speak at Cornell. We have been discussing for then many months the terms of that visa, whether or not it made sense, whether or not it was in conformity to our policy of unofficial relations with Taiwan.

So I wouldn't say, at least on this current round, that it's a question of having rejected it and then changed our position. I think it's more a case of having taken several months to work through the complexities of this issue with Taiwan, with the People's Republic of China, and also here in the United States. I mean, it's no secret there's been a very active congressional debate. Many members of Congress have made their views known to officials in this government, and there has been a lot of discussion within our own government on this issue, and I talked about that -- about the types of discussion that the Secretary has had on this issue. So I would prefer to put it in that light.

Q But there were previous rounds?

MR. BURNS: Excuse me.

Q You said in this current round. There were previous rounds.

MR. BURNS: There have been rounds of discussion, that's right. There have been rounds of discussion on this.

Q Does this change in policy mean that President Lee will be admitted to the United States any time that he requests a visa as long as it's in a capacity as a private official, or is there going to be a cap? Are there going to be three visits a year? Has a decision been made on that, or is it going to be a case-by-case basis?

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MR. BURNS: I think it's most accurate to say this will be done, any future requests, will be considered on a case-by-case basis. We will be open to requests that pertain completely to the unofficial nature of our relations with Taiwan. We will, however, not approve visits which we feel are inconsistent with the unofficial nature of our relations with Taiwan.

In discussing this, I'm not just talking about President Lee but about visits -- potential, possible visits -- by other members of the Taiwanese leadership.

Q Is this the case where State Department policy has just been reversed by Congress?

MR. BURNS: I wouldn't characterize it like that. I tried to give you a sense of the fabric of the discussion inside the Administration, and certainly the views of Congress are important. They're always important when the Executive Branch debates policy and considers policy actions.

In view of the very strong feeling in Congress, we listened very hard to members of Congress who felt strongly about this. But in addition to that, as people began -- especially people at senior levels of this government -- began to look into this over the last couple of weeks and were assured and reassured that there was nothing in the proposed itinerary that would be contrary to the commitments we had made about the unofficial nature of our relations with Taiwan, I think that people achieved a comfort level and decided on the basis of those factors -- not just the sentiments of Congress -- but having looked into it themselves that this made sense, and it was the right thing to do.

That's why and how this decision was made. So it was not a case of the Administration simply reacting. It was a case of senior people putting a spotlight on the issue, looking at it, considering it carefully and making the best decision for the United States.

Mark.

Q On a related subject, the Senate Foreign Relations Committee took actions last week recognizing the sovereignty of Tibet. What's the Administration's response to that?

MR. BURNS: I think you know our position on that, that Tibet is part of China.

Q (Inaudible) position on Taiwan.

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MR. BURNS: Excuse me?

Q I say we thought we knew your position on Taiwan. (Laughter)

MR. BURNS: But everything that we've done today is consistent with the Taiwan Relations Act, with the Three Communiques, and with our unofficial relations with Taiwan. As you know, last year the Administration made some adjustments in our policy to allow the possibility -- our policy towards Taiwan -- to allow the possibility of senior-level transit visits, and this decision should be seen as a continuation of that process.

Policies are rarely grounded in cement for decades on end. Policies, of course, must evolve with the times. We are confident that, in taking this decision today, we have done nothing to contradict the essential importance of our relations with the People's Republic of China or the documents on which that policy is based.

Ron, you've been trying for a while.

Q When the Secretary met Foreign Minister Qian in New York, did he prepare him for this type of decision, and did they discuss the congressional push to reverse this policy?

MR. BURNS: There was a brief discussion, I think, at lunch on April 17 when the Secretary met Foreign Minister Qian about this issue. This gets back into the nature of how we characterize this. This was in another earlier round of discussion, and, as I remember, a very brief discussion. There was some reference, I think, to views both within our government and views in the Congress on this matter. And I think we heard back from the Chinese Foreign Minister, his views on the matter.

Still on China?

Q Yes, still on Taiwan. Has the State Department or any agency within the Administration reviewed President Lee's speeches or speech that he plans to make at Cornell, if he plans to make one, to make sure that it's consistent with your understanding that he won't be making any comments as the President of Taiwan?

MR. BURNS: As I understand it, we've just begun discussions on his itinerary, so I don't even know if the speech is written. I'm not sure we'd be in a position to do that. He obviously understands the nature of the terms of this visit to the United States, that it is private, that it is not official, and cannot be contrary to the unofficiality

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-- the unofficial nature -- of our relations. So I just don't think we're in a position to take that kind of action.

Q Are they going to introduce him as Lee Teng-hui or President Lee or --

MR. BURNS: That's entirely up to Cornell University. It's not up to the United States Government to make that determination. His visit is a private one. He's an alumnus. He's being honored there. He is going to make a public address there. The United States Government is in no position to try to change that event or to try to affect that event or to set ground rules for the event, besides the fact that we understand this is a private visit, and that, therefore, he will acquit himself in a private capacity.

Q Do you have any plans to send any senior envoy to Beijing to discuss the issue further directly there, or it will be handled by the Ambassador?

MR. BURNS: Not that I'm aware of. Several senior members of the Administration here in Washington had discussions with the Chinese Ambassador over the weekend. We also have a very distinguished and senior Ambassador in Beijing, Stapleton Roy, who I'm sure has been in touch with the Chinese Government.

Q Speaking of Ambassadors, I understand the U.S. Ambassador has been summoned in Beijing. Do you have any information on that?

MR. BURNS: I don't.

Q Is he allowed to meet with members of Congress?

MR. BURNS: That is a decision that members of Congress are going to have to make, not the Administration.

Q But Senator Murkowski wants also a visa for President Lee to visit Alaska, the US-ROC Economic Conference in September. Is this ruling going to have any bearing on a potential visa for that visit, which will be much more official than this one?

MR. BURNS: As I said at the beginning, we continue to discuss the exact itinerary of President Lee, and that could very well be part of it or maybe it's not part of it. We'll just have to see. We don't have a detailed sense now. We're just getting, I should say, a detailed sense of a proposed itinerary. That remains to be discussed. Once we've agreed upon a final itinerary, we'll be in a position to talk about that, but we're not right now.

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Q Are you negotiating the itinerary with the Taiwanese?

MR. BURNS: We're discussing it. We're discussing it because we want to make sure that President Lee's activities here, with all due respect, are consistent with the understanding we have, which is this will be a private visit. So it's entirely appropriate for us to have those discussions, and we'll have them. And when we've completed them, we'll let you know.

Q You won't issue the visa then until after those discussions are satisfactorily completed?

MR. BURNS: As I understand it, we certainly want to be assured that his itinerary conforms to the assurances we've been given, and, once we have achieved that level of satisfaction, we'll be glad to issue the visa.

Q (Inaudible)

MR. BURNS: We don't expect any problems along those lines at all.

Q What is the American position in these discussions? What can you tell us about the restrictions that the United States wants to place on President Lee's activities while he is in this country?

MR. BURNS: I'm not going to get into the details of our discussions. But maybe for the fourth or fifth time -- then we can wrap this part of it up -- I will say we understand this is a private visit. We will issue a visa based on that very clear understanding.

Q When the senior Administration official spoke with the Chinese Ambassador, did he indicate any actions that China might take to --

MR. BURNS: I'm not going to get into the details of diplomatic conversation, except to say that I don't think there was overwhelming applause. I think they're obviously disappointed, and I'm sure we'll have further discussions.

Q Can I stay on the subject of evolving policy guidelines but in a different part of the world?

MR. BURNS: Anybody? I think we've taken care of this, haven't we?

Q Israel has apparently reversed or at least suspended its land confiscation decision. I'm curious whether you have a reaction to that.

MR. BURNS: I don't, because when I was coming into the briefing room, we were reading the same press reports that you have, but we have not had yet, as I understand it, any kind of detailed account of exactly what action may have been taken by the Israeli Cabinet and what it means.

Obviously, we have great interest in this because the United States is deeply involved, heavily, seriously involved in the peace process. We want to be helpful, so rather than get ahead of our understanding of the events, I think I'm going to let this one slide until we have a better understanding.

Q Do you think it would be good for the peace process?

MR. BURNS: Excuse me, Lee?

Q If the freeze indeed turns out to be correct and holds, do you think it would be helpful to the Middle East peace process?

MR. BURNS: We didn't believe that the original decision to confiscate the land was helpful. We thought it posed difficulties. So obviously if there is now a decision to freeze that action, it would be helpful.

Q Did the Secretary talk to Prime Minister Rabin about this over the last three or four days -- some reports have said -- asking him to reconsider that decision?

MR. BURNS: At this point, Sid, I just don't want to go into the details of our negotiations, our discussions with the Israelis or others.

Q Haiti? Are we finished with the Mideast? Can I ask a question on Haiti?

MR. BURNS: Sure.

Q Do you have any guidance on the Haitian children in Guantanamo on their disposition? Will most or all be admitted to the United States?

MR. BURNS: Yes, I do. As you know, the disposition of the unaccompanied Haitian children at Guantanamo presents sensitive issues that we're seeking to resolve in a humane manner consistent with established international practice. We sought the assistance of the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees and other organizations. We are making case-by-case evaluations of each of these young children.

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In some cases, especially where the child's parents or close relatives are in Haiti, this is likely to mean that the child will be repatriated to Haiti. In other cases, it may be that U.S. resettlement better meets the child's needs, and we will authorize U.S. entry for such children.

No child will be returned to Haiti unless the judgment is made that it is in his or her best interests. We think this procedure, which has been endorsed by the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees, is most responsive to the needs and interests of the children.

It's a very complex procedure, of course, to track the families or relatives involved, and we are trying as best as we can, and as quickly as we can, to do that.

We are committed to ensuring the completion of the process for unaccompanied minors at Guantanamo is achieved no later than June 30. After that date, no unaccompanied minors will remain at Guantanamo.

Since February, I understand, 22 minors were found to have parents in the United States and had been parolled into the U.S. to join them; 103 of these children have returned to Haiti where they've been reunited with their families. This morning, 20, in this group, were returned to Haiti because they've been able to reunited with their families.. All were escorted to their homes.

"Save the Children," the non-governmental organization, is doing follow-up visits to every child returned to Haiti. I believe now, with the departures this morning, there are 183 Haitian children left at Guantanamo.

Q Do you know if there are any plans for Ambassador Ross to go to the Middle East?

MR. BURNS: I don't. I spoke with him this morning. He's a very active diplomat. He's heavily engaged in all these issues, but I'm not aware of any plans he has to go to the region.

Q Anything new on Fred Cuny?

MR. BURNS: Unfortunately, there's very little new. The Russian doctor who was to perform the forensic examination of the corpse in question has still not been able to reach the town Shatoy because of fighting.

I would say, however, that earlier indications and the earlier examination that was done strongly suggests that the body in question is not that of Mr. Cuny. We continue

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our efforts to search for Fred Cuny who has been missing for over two months.

We have an Embassy Moscow officer in the area. I think, as I mentioned the other day, Deputy Secretary Strobe Talbott met with Fred Cuny's brother, Chris, on Friday as did Tony Lake, the National Security Advisor. We are working closely with the Cuny family, the Soros Foundation, and the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace on this effort, and we'll continue our efforts.

Q On Korea. Are the Korean talks in trouble?

MR. BURNS: I wouldn't say that the Korea talks are in trouble. The Korea talks are on-going. They began, as you know, Saturday. The full delegations met this morning, Monday, May 22. The discussions were focused on the light-water reactor issue. I would describe them as frank and businesslike.

Tomorrow, Tuesday, May 23, there will be technical-level meetings. The U.S. side will be led in this meetings by Dr. Gary Samore. The full delegation meetings will resume on Wednesday, May 24. Our side will be led by Deputy Assistant Secretary Tom Hubbard.

Q Can I ask a follow-up on that?

MR. BURNS: Yes.

Q There was a report last week in the Wall Street Journal out of Asia suggesting that North Korea, because of this current impasse, may give up the idea of light-water reactors all together and seek an alternative source of energy. What can you tell us about that?

MR. BURNS: I saw those same reports. I think I spoke to this late last week. I don't have all the details of today's discussion. I'm unaware of any proposal like that from North Korea.

Yes, Laura.

Q This morning, the Secretary had some pretty strong criticism for Congressman Gilman's legislation. Has the State Department communicated their feelings about this legislation since it's up for a vote this week?

MR. BURNS: We are in the process of communicating our views about this legislation. The Secretary certainly did so last week when he testified before the Senate Foreign Operations subcommittee. The Secretary spoke publicly this

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morning. I know he's in the process of drafting a letter to the Congressional leadership on this issue.

Let me just take you through a couple of our concerns. The Gilman bill, we believe, is deeply-flawed legislation that could undermine this and every future President's ability to safeguard American's security to advance our interests and to provide American leadership in the world.

It contains numerous restraints and restrictions that would do immense harm to our nation's foreign policy. It drastically reduces our resources. The Secretary made this point very strongly last week. He thought the level of funds being slated in the two budget marks for both the State Department operations and for our foreign assistance levels were simply unsatisfactory. They were simply too low to meet the minimum requirements that this country has a global power to meet its interests.

The legislation also mandates a costly and inefficient reorganization of the Executive Branch that would be very disruptive to American interests worldwide.

As the Secretary said this morning, if the bill reaches the President's desk in its current form, he, the Secretary, will have no choice but to recommend that the President veto it.

On the most fundamental constitutional grounds, the Secretary is deeply opposed to the elaborate and unnecessary restraints that this legislation imposes. If enacted, these restraints would compromise our ability to follow through on the North Korea Framework Agreement. They would undermine our effective participation and weaken our leverage in international organizations.

They would also compel changes in our refugee policy that could pose a serious threat to our borders, limiting the President's ability to respond to boat migration and possibly exacerbating the illegal smuggling of aliens into the United States.

In addition, the bill would seriously impair the President's responsibility to manage our delicate relations with China at a time of its transition in leadership.

Numerous conditions on our assistance to Russia and other New Independent States could derail our steady support for democratic and market reform in a region that remains the site of tens of thousands of nuclear warheads.

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Let's not forget that in the post-Cold War era, the world is in need of strong and clear American leadership. That's certainly in the best interest of the American people. We've seen over the course of the last two and a half years, on a number of occasions, President Clinton take decisive action based on his constitutional prerogatives.

I have in mind, just as one example, the action that we took last year in Haiti that has been so positive and so beneficial in returning that country to a state of stability and to a state where they can hope for a better future. We need Presidential leadership to protect American interests, and we need resources -- and this is the point that the Secretary was making last Thursday -- to protect vital American interests around the world.

We can't have a foreign policy on the cheap. We can't have the rhetoric of strong American action around the world and not give the Executive Branch of the government the resources to back that up. So we obviously feel very strongly about this.

The Secretary has strong personal views. As he said, I think in front of Senator McConnell last week, it has not been his style in the past to use dramatic language. He is using this kind of language to demonstrate a point, that we simply have to have a better level of cooperation as we proceed over the next couple of months.

Q I would like to ask about Bosnia. A couple of questions, briefly.

Nick, last week, when Foreign Secretary Hurd was here for consultations, we mentioned that there might be some news coming from Hurd about what the French are planning to do. They've had a few days now since their government was installed. Have we heard anything from them as to their continued participation in UNPROFOR?

MR. BURNS: I don't believe we've heard anything definitive. As you know, the U.N. Secretary General's review of UNPROFOR continues. He is expected to issue a report this week to the Security Council. We are anxiously awaiting that report because we have very strong views about how UNPROFOR needs to be energized and strengthened in order to meet the U.N. resolutions that are at stake there.

In addition, I would just remind you that Ambassador Bob Frasure has been in the region. He's been having talks on behalf of the Contact Group with the Serbian leadership.

We are trying to do everything we can to promote a cease-fire and promote a course of action by the parties on

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the ground that would lead them away from what we fear may occur this summer -- that is, a wider war -- and towards a commitment to resolve their problems peacefully. This is a very, very hard thing to do, given the tremendous conflict that has raged in that area for a long, long time over the past couple of years.

Q With regard to -- go ahead.

Q With regard to that conflict, in the fueling thereof mentioned on Friday, Nick, an article that has been in the news several times, Mr. Bill Gertz alleging that U.S. intelligence is confirming the flow of arms from Iran into the island -- I think it's Kirk -- that's in Croatia, the Croatians then transshipping arms to the Bosnians. The allegation in this article is that the U.S. Government is looking the other way.

Can you state -- and besides a senior official told us that this was correct, there was Iranian arms input into the Bosnia war. Can you tell us, is this erroneous that the U.S. is looking the other way?

MR. BURNS: What I said last week and what I'll say again, our position hasn't changed; the United States does not encourage the violation of U.N. resolutions.

Q Aren't you required by law to look the other way?

MR. BURNS: I'm just going to say on this one, the United States does not encourage the violation of U.N. resolutions.

Q Thank you.

(Press briefing concluded at 1:42 p.m.)

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Q The U.S. supported the Federation and the Confederation.
Does it include some kind of military -- some kind of support to the
military alliance between the two entities?

→ ASSISTANT SECRETARY HOLBROOKE: First of all, we are not violating
the arms embargo. But without violating it, we have determined that we
can provide a military adviser to the Federation. That was originally
General Galvin. He left the position when he moved from the East Coast
to the Midwest and other business interests and other things made him
unavailable.

Secretary Perry has told the leaders of the Federation -- and they
are having lunch -- Perry is with us upstairs at lunch, and I'm sure
this is going to come up -- that he is in the process of selecting a
retired senior officer of General rank to do that. This will not
violate the arms embargo, but it will be advice.

(K)

Karen.

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Karen.

Q What does this adviser do? Or what is he supposed to do?

ASSISTANT SECRETARY HOLBROOKE: Advises. He advises. You have
here two military forces, the Croats and the Bosnian Muslims, who don't
have an integrated command, who don't have a combined command control
structure. Any of you who have walked down the streets of Mostar or
Gornji Vakuf know that those people are not coordinating well. We want
to encourage that coordination.

This will be done without any prejudice to our other goals and
without getting involved in an active American military participation of
any sort. This does not mean the introduction of American military
personnel into Bosnia or the Federation. It will be somebody like Bob
Owen on the arbitration side who will travel to the region occasionally
and give generic advice. It is not, for those of you with long
memories, MAAG in Vietnam or MAC-V.

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J

Advancing U.S. Interests in Europe

Richard C. Holbrooke, Assistant Secretary
for European and Canadian Affairs

Statement before the House International Relations Committee,
Washington, DC, March 9, 1995

Mr. Chairman, I would like to thank you for the opportunity to outline how this Administration is advancing the President's agenda in a Europe undergoing profound change.

President Clinton's four trips to Europe last year underlined an inescapable fact: The United States has become a European power in a sense that goes beyond traditional assertions of America's "commitment" to Europe. In the 21st century, Europe will still need the active American involvement that has been a necessary component of the continental balance for half a century. Conversely, an unstable Europe could still threaten essential national security interests of the United States. This is as true after as it was during the Cold War.

I have elaborated this view at some length in the current issue of *Foreign Affairs* and have drawn on that article for this statement as well. By stating that America remains a European power—an enduring and essential element in the European balance—I do not intend, of course, to suggest that nothing in Europe has changed even though the Cold War has ended. Local conflicts, internal political and economic instability, and the return of historical grievances have now replaced Soviet expansionism as the greatest threat to peace in Europe. Western Europe and America must jointly ensure that tolerant democracies become rooted throughout all of Europe and that the seething, angry, unresolved legacies of the past are contained and solved.

Maintaining peace in Europe has traditionally depended on a complicated set of structures that balanced competing interests. Europe's diversity and historic rivalries remain a determining aspect of efforts to maintain stability. Disappearance of Cold

War structures has left important parts of Europe without a sense of security provided by a credible framework. If we are to realize our goal of a peaceful, democratic, prosperous, and undivided Europe, we must work with our European partners to reestablish a sense of overall security. Today, the early euphoria that surrounded the fall of the Berlin Wall and the collapse of the Soviet empire has yielded to a more sober appreciation of the problems—new and old. The tragedy of Bosnia does not diminish the responsibility to build a new comprehensive structure of relationships to form a new security architecture. On the contrary, Bosnia, the greatest collective security failure of the West since the 1930s, only underscores the urgency of that task.

Any effort to redesign the new security architecture of Europe must focus first on Central Europe—the seedbed of more turmoil and tragedy in this century than any other area on the continent. The two most destructive wars in human history began from events on its plains, and the Cold War played itself out in its ancient and storied cities, all within the last 80 years.

Other historic watersheds also have not treated this area well. First the treaties of Versailles and Trianon, then the agreements of Yalta and Potsdam, and finally the collapse of the Soviet empire—those three benchmark events left throughout Central Europe a legacy of unresolved and often conflicting historical resentments, ambitions, and, most dangerous, territorial and ethnic disputes. If any of these malignancies spread—as they have already in parts of the Balkans and the Transcaucasus—general European stability is again at risk.

But if there are great problems there are also great possibilities. For the first time in history, the nations of Central Europe have the chance simultaneously to enjoy stability, freedom, and independence based on another first—the adoption of Western democratic ideals as a common foundation for all of Europe. The emotional but also practical lure of the West can be the strongest unifying force Europe has seen in generations, but only if unnecessary delay does not squander the opportunity.

The West owes much of its success to the great institutions created in the 1940s and 1950s. If those institutions were to remain closed to new members, they would become less relevant to the problems of the post-Cold War world. It would be a tragedy if, through delay or indecision, the West helped create conditions that brought about the very problems it fears the most. The West must expand to Central Europe as fast as possible, in fact as well as in spirit, and the United States is ready to lead the way.

NATO

The central security pillar of the new architecture is a venerable organization: NATO. Expansion of NATO is a logical and essential consequence of the disappearance of the Iron Curtain and the need to widen European unity based on shared democratic values. But even before NATO expands, its strength and know-how already are playing an important role in building a new sense of security throughout Europe.

NATO is beginning a historic transformation. Its core purpose of collective defense remains, but new goals and programs have been added: collective crisis management, out-of-area force projection, and the encouragement of stability to the east through the Partnership for Peace (PFP). Static forces formerly concentrated to meet a possible Soviet attack across central Europe have been turned into more lightly armed, mobile, and flexible multinational corps designed to respond to a different, less stable world.

Two new structures—the North Atlantic Cooperation Council and the PFP—are specifically designed to reach out to countries that are not

the return of historic grievances, and the fire that continues to rage in the Balkans.

Democratic institutions have been established, but they remain fragile. Credible and transparent elections have been held, but in some countries the governing coalitions are unstable. Participatory structures for local government are still rudimentary. There is an urgent need for social sector restructuring throughout the region to solidify popular support for continued reform and reduce heavy burdens on weak budgets.

In FY 1996, we are requesting \$480 million through the SEED program to maintain our assistance for democratic and economic reform in Central Europe. These funds will promote small business development to spur job creation. They will restructure the financial sectors of the Central European countries, and they will establish legal, regulatory, and institutional frameworks conducive to private investment. In addition, they will help build accountable, responsive public administration at the central and local levels. They also will help combat organized crime. Finally, they will support social sector reform in areas such as health and housing.

Bosnia and Croatia

The tragic war in Bosnia underscores the importance of building an effective new architecture for conflict prevention and resolution in Europe.

Together with our partners in the Contact Group, we are seeking a negotiated solution. The Contact Group plan with its 51/49 territorial division must be the basis for a settlement, and Bosnia's territorial integrity and independence must be respected.

As you know, the parties entered into a cease-fire and a cessation of hostilities last fall. But we are entering a very precarious stage of this crisis. In the coming months, we face a real risk of renewed and more destructive conflict, not only in Bosnia but in Croatia and, perhaps, elsewhere in the Balkans.

We have used every opportunity during this period to intensify our diplomatic efforts to bring an end to the war. At a meeting on February 14, the Contact Group discussed an initia-

U.S. Employees Attacked In Karachi

Statement by Secretary Christopher, Cairo, Egypt, March 8, 1995.

I learned a few hours ago the shocking news that unknown gunmen opened fire on a van carrying American employees of our consulate general in Karachi, Pakistan. Two of the Americans were killed and one was wounded in the attack.

Gary C. Durrell, a communications technician, was killed immediately in the attack. A consulate secretary, Jackie Van Landingham, died a few hours later. The third victim, Mark McCloy, was the husband of a consulate secretary and worked in the consulate's mailroom. He was wounded, is in stable condition, and is expected to recover.

I am saddened and outraged by this act. Working with the Government of Pakistan, the United States will use every means at our disposal to bring those responsible for this crime to justice.

My deepest sympathies go out to the families and loved ones of those killed. While the details of this brutal attack are unclear, it is yet another reminder of the dangers we confront in the world-wide struggle against terrorism. And it is a reminder, too, of the great courage and commitment of Americans who serve our country around the world with such distinction. □

tive, backed by Bosnian President Izetbegovic, to gain President Milosevic's recognition of Bosnia and other former Yugoslav republics, as well as his agreement to implement tougher sanctions enforcement against the Bosnian Serbs.

Only a negotiated settlement has any chance of lasting. This Administration is committed to pursuing that goal. What we must not do is worsen the situation by unilaterally lifting the arms embargo. We have always believed the embargo is unfair and worked to end it multilaterally. But going it alone would lead to the with-

drawal of UNPROFOR and more violence. Such a course would leave Sarajevo and the enclaves extremely vulnerable to Serb offensives. It would effectively Americanize the conflict, and lead others to abandon the sanctions on Serbia. It would undermine the authority of all UN Security Council resolutions, including those that impose sanctions on Iraq and Libya.

Our efforts to end the bloodshed and promote a just and durable peace are underpinned by our assistance efforts. The United States has provided over \$850 million in humanitarian assistance since 1991—the most by any nation. We have provided the largest quantity of food and have performed over three-quarters of all airdrops.

Parallel to ongoing diplomatic efforts to secure a peaceful solution to the conflict in Bosnia, we are working on a second track to provide practical and political support to the fledgling Bosnia Federation. I would like to bring you up to date on our latest actions aimed at nurturing the Federation's development.

You may recall that, as the result of our leadership, the Federation was launched in March 1994 when the Bosniac and Croat communities within the Republic of Bosnia-Herzegovina agreed to stop fighting each other and join in a federal structure as a first step in recreating a peaceful, multi-ethnic Bosnia-Herzegovina in which all persons, regardless of ethnicity, may live in peace and security.

Over the past year, the cease-fire between the Bosniacs and Croats has held. Nevertheless, significant bottlenecks have impeded the full maturation of the Washington Accords which launched the Federation. Consequently, last month in Munich, Defense Secretary Perry and I met with Bosnian Muslim and Croat leaders, which resulted in a nine-point plan to support the Federation.

Secretary Christopher has already taken action on one of the key points by naming Roberts Owen, a highly respected lawyer from Covington and Burling, as the international arbitrator to render binding decisions on all matters referred to him by either side. On March 7, we sent notification to the Congress of our intent to provide \$500,000 of SEED money to fund

Mr. Owen's important work. This is an effective and low-cost way of working through some of the more contentious issues facing the Federation; Bob Owen is the kind of experienced lawyer who will gain the confidence of both sides.

Next week will mark the one-year anniversary of the Washington Accords which brought the Bosnia Federation into being. It is my pleasure to announce today that, consistent with the Munich plan and following months of consultations with our friends and allies, the United States and the European Union will co-host a meeting here in Washington on March 16 to launch a small group of countries called "Friends of the Federation." Top Federation leaders as well as President Izetbegovic of the Republic of Bosnia-Herzegovina and President Tudjman of the Republic of Croatia will attend.

The Friends of the Federation, which is an informal grouping of donors who have committed substantial resources to the Federation beyond humanitarian relief, will not be another assistance grouping or bureaucratic entity. Rather, the Friends will provide an informal consultative vehicle to periodically focus on the Federation's development and problems. Here in the U.S., we hope to garner additional private sector support for the Federation as well.

Developments in Croatia have also required sustained, high-level attention. In fact, yesterday, I returned from meetings with President Tudjman and the Croatian leadership. I would like to outline the situation briefly.

Croatia has experienced three years of stalemate since early 1992, when UNPROFOR was established to help restore peace and pave the way for talks between the Zagreb Government and breakaway Serbs. As a result, President Tudjman decided in January to end UNPROFOR's mission in Croatia, preparing a possible military assault to retake the 27% of Croatia still in Serb hands, while at the same time pursuing economic and political talks with the Serbs.

In response to these pressure tactics, however, the Serbs became recalcitrant. President Milosevic in Belgrade rejected proposals from the Contact Group and from Zagreb to recognize Croatia. The Croatian Serb leadership in Knin suspended talks

with Zagreb on reopening transport routes and restoring utility supplies. This gave Croatia even less reason to reconsider the decision to expel the UN forces. The result has been an escalating spiral of tension with both sides digging in—literally and figuratively—and likely to start fighting over the buffer zone that the UN would have to vacate.

To break this dangerous spiral, I went to Zagreb with a two-part message: We support the goal of Croatian reintegration, but we think expelling the UN would unavoidably restart the war. I explored with President Tudjman possibilities for maintaining an international presence in Croatia that does not perpetuate an unjust status quo but that helps avoid hostilities. I was encouraged that he clearly preferred to obtain a peaceful settlement if possible. He also emphasized the importance of controlling Croatia's border, to deter Serbian military equipment and personnel from coming into Croatia out of Serbia and Bosnia.

The Croatian situation is a complicated problem, and many pitfalls lie ahead. Still, I have come back from my trip and subsequent consultations with our Contact Group partners relatively optimistic that a resolution to the current crisis can be found. With delicate negotiations continuing at this moment, all I can say now is that it should be possible to reconfigure the UN presence in Croatia to satisfy the most important legitimate concerns of the Croats and Serbs, while keeping faith with the relevant UN Security Council resolutions.

Southeastern Europe

The southern Balkans and Aegean are becoming increasingly important to Western and U.S. interests since the end of the Cold War. Conflict or instability in these regions can impact directly on the stability of central Europe, and tensions between Greece and Turkey can weaken the ability of NATO to provide a foundation for the expansion of European institutions.

Cyprus is key to any long-term reduction in tensions between these two NATO allies. For that reason, as well as our long-standing humanitarian interest in the situation there, this Administration has upgraded our ef-

forts in support of a resolution of the island's division. In January, President Clinton appointed one of this nation's foremost attorneys, Richard Beattie, as the first Presidential Emissary for Cyprus since 1980. Mr. Beattie visited Cyprus and Greece last month and is in Turkey this week where he is meeting with the Turkish leadership.

We believe the EU decision last Monday to begin Cyprus accession talks after the 1996 EU Intergovernmental Conference introduces a new incentive for both communities on the island to work more effectively to resolve their differences.

In addition to these efforts to address the island's division, we have been working actively to carry out Congress' mandate to investigate missing persons on Cyprus. We have sent advance personnel to meet with representatives of both communities and to prepare the way for a full-time team of investigators that we expect to send later this spring.

Greece views the changed world situation as an opportunity to play a leading regional role. We are cooperating with Greece to help it play this role and to support economic and political reform among its neighbors. Greece, as a member of NATO and the EU, is ideally suited to accomplish this goal.

However, Greece's disputes with its neighbors have hindered its ability to exert leadership in the Balkans. Concerns about the treatment of the ethnic Greek population in Albania led to tension between Athens and Tirana. This tension was aggravated last summer by the attack on the Albanian border post at Peshkepi and by the arrest and conviction of five members of the Greek-Albanian community.

I am pleased to report that it appears that relations between Greece and Albania are improving, and both governments are actively seeking to further normalize their bilateral relationship. The Omonia defendants have been released from detention. Foreign Minister Papoulias will visit Albania this month. Greece has invited Albania to participate in a Partnership for Peace-type exercise this spring. The United States Government will continue to play an active role in urging moderation and promoting direct dialogue to resolve outstanding issues. We