

Withdrawal/Redaction Sheet

Clinton Library

DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
001. cable	re: T/ACDA Director Holum's Meeting with CEA Chairman. (3 pages)	03/17/1998	P1/b(1)
002. cable	re: UK Slot Issues. (4 pages)	03/24/1998	P1/b(1)
003. cable	re: Costa Rica: Ambassador Richardson Meets. (3 pages)	03/28/1998	P1/b(1)
004. cable	re: Building an Effective International Criminal Court. (5 pages)	04/02/1998	P1/b(1)

COLLECTION:

Clinton Presidential Records
 NSC Cables
 Jan. 1997-Dec 1998 ([Jesse Helms or Senator Helms])
 OA/Box Number: 520000

FOLDER TITLE:

[03/12/1998-04/03/1998]

2006-1363-F

vz5588

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]
- b(2) Release would disclose internal personnel rules and practices of an agency [(b)(2) of the FOIA]
- b(3) Release would violate a Federal statute [(b)(3) of the FOIA]
- b(4) Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential or financial information [(b)(4) of the FOIA]
- b(6) Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(b)(6) of the FOIA]
- b(7) Release would disclose information compiled for law enforcement purposes [(b)(7) of the FOIA]
- b(8) Release would disclose information concerning the regulation of financial institutions [(b)(8) of the FOIA]
- b(9) Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA]

Cable

PREC: ROUTINE
CLASS: UNCLASSIFIED
LINE1: RAAUZYUW RUESPFA4319 0711617-UUUU--RHEHOND.
LINE2: ZNR UUUUU
LINE3: R 121617Z MAR 98
LINE4: FM FBIS CHIVA CHIVA PM
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ORIG: FBIS CHIVA CHIVA PM
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RHDIAAA/AFOSI REGION 2 RTAC LANGLEY AFB VA
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RHFJFGI/NAVCRIMINVSERVFO MAYPORT FL//05MP//
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RUCOGCG/NAVCRIMINVSERVRA GUANTANAMO BAY CU
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RUCXGRD/COGARD INTELCOORDCEN WASHINGTON DC
RUCXONI/ONI WASHINGTON DC//2140//
RUDHNIS/DIRNAVCRIMINVSERV WASHINGTON DC
RUDHSIC/CDRUSASOIC WASH DC//DIS//
RUDKMKB/FBIS LONDON UK//BBC RUCWAAA//
RUDMQAN/MARCORINTACT QUANTICO VA
RUDPHMS/COLMGTOFC82DABNDIV
RUDPMAX/FAISA FT BRAGG NC
RUDPTUT/COLMGTOFCXVIIIABNCORPS
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INFO: ////

SUBJ: Article Calls Helms' Aid Proposal 'Poisoned Apple'

TEXT:

UNCLAS 6A

WARNING: TOPIC: POLITICAL, ECONOMIC, INTERNATIONAL, AID

SERIAL: PA1203161798

COUNTRY: CUBA

SUBJ: Article Calls Helms' Aid Proposal 'Poisoned Apple'

SOURCE: Havana Prensa Latina in Spanish 2036 GMT 10 Mar 98

TEXT:

[Article by Hector Igarza, of Prensa Latina: "Jesse Helms' Poisoned Apple"]

[FBIS Translated Text] Quickly moving ahead of a genuine gesture by sectors opposed to the US blockade on Cuba, US legislators have responded to an appeal by Senator Jesse Helms, overstated as a "decision of Congress," to propose a poisonous sending of medical and food assistance to Cuba.

It is obvious to analysts and experts that the ultraconservative Republican coauthor of the Helms-Burton law, who wants the Cuban people to surrender out of hunger and death, acted rapidly because he wanted his project to be discussed ahead of one promoted by congressmen, politicians, and businessmen.

A bill known as Torres-Dodd (the last names of its authors from the House and the Senate, respectively) is being sponsored by 120 representatives and senators. This bill seeks the elimination of all barriers that obstruct the free transit of medicine and food between the United States and Cuba.

Three members of the foreign relations committees of the House and the Senate have signed a declaration which, lacking legal or legislative value, advocates maintaining economic and political sanctions against Cuba. This is to oppose the letter and the spirit of the discussions in Congress of the Torres-Dodd amendment.

The declaration calls for "strengthening Cuba's welfare institutions" and for "a campaign to neutralize charges that the hardships being endured by the Cuban people are due to the US embargo (blockade)."

The contents of the pamphlet are based on a report by Caleb McCurry, of the House; and Marc Thiessen and Roger Noriega, of the Senate, based on their experiences during their visit to Cuba when Pope John Paul II visited the island.

The "hurried" [Helms] initiative, which Cuban President Fidel Castro has rejected for being an "alm" and a hoax against the Cuban people, consists of the collection of funds by the US Red Cross.

The load would be taken to Cuba in US ships or vessels and then distributed in the island to the persons most negatively affected by the country's economic situation, "especially to relatives of political dissidents," the media reported.

The recommendations calling for the alleged aid reject the

renewal of commercial flights but approve the use of official US funds for these activities and approve the sending of food and medicine.

Ileana Ros-Lehtinen, Florida State representative and member of the Cuban-American National Foundation, is in favor of maintaining the most severe blockade and is opposed to Helms' initiative. She has confirmed that the declaration by the trio lacks legal or legislative value.

She said: "This declaration does not mirror the opinion of the majority of the elected members of those committees. The advisers who went to Cuba have no vote and do not express our opinion."

Commenting on the text of the declaration by Helms' aides, Canadian Foreign Minister Lloyd Axworthy rejected the comments of the trio and asked that the comptroller's office of Congress analyze the use given to the funds assigned for that visit.

The foreign minister of Canada, a country that does not recognize the Helms-Burton law as having any jurisdiction over its territory, pronounced: "If they went to Cuba on occasion of the Pope's visit, I do not think they attended many masses but spent their time on other matters."

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SECT: SECTION: 01 OF 01

SSN: 4319

TOR: 980312112305 M3193613

DIST:

SIT: NSC

Cable

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INFO: ////
SUBJ: IRAQ PUBLIC DIPLOMACY: MARCH 16 IRAQ PRESS
PACKAGE

HERE FOLLOWS THE MARCH 16 PRESS PACKAGE FROM THE NSC.
WHILE THIS DOCUMENT IS UNCLASSIFIED, IT SHOULD BE HANDLED

TEXT:

UNCLAS STATE 047150

INFORM CONSULS-PASS PAOS-MILITARY ALSO FOR POLAD

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: OPRC, XF, IZ

SUBJECT: IRAQ PUBLIC DIPLOMACY: MARCH 16 IRAQ PRESS
PACKAGE

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SENSITIVELY; I.E., NOT FOR PAPER DISTRIBUTION OUTSIDE OF
EMBASSIES. HOWEVER, POSTS SHOULD DRAW LIBERALLY FROM THIS
PACKAGE IN SHAPING DISCUSSIONS WITH HOST COUNTRIES AND
LOCAL MEDIA.

TODAY'S ISSUES

IS KING HUSSEIN STILL PUSHING HIS IDEA THAT THE US SHOULD
HAVE A DIRECT DIALOGUE WITH THE GOVERNMENT OF IRAQ? WHAT
IS YOUR REACTION TO THE IRAQI PRESS PUSHING THE IDEA OF
DIRECT DIALOGUE WITH THE UNITED STATES?

-- THE KING HAS RAISED THIS IDEA WITH THE PRESIDENT. OUR
LACK OF INTEREST IN THIS IDEA IS CLEAR: A DIRECT US-IRAQ

DIALOGUE AT THIS TIME WOULD NOT SERVE THE PURPOSE OF GAINING IRAQ'S UNCONDITIONAL COMPLIANCE WITH ITS OBLIGATIONS. THE RECENT CRISES HAVE BEEN CAUSED BY IRAQ'S

DEFIANCE OF THE UNITED NATIONS, AND ARE NOT A BILATERAL MATTER BETWEEN THE US AND IRAQ.

-- THE PRESIDENT HAS MADE CLEAR OUR VIEW THAT THE SUFFERING OF THE IRAQI PEOPLE, AND MUCH OF THE INSTABILITY IN THE REGION, IS THE DIRECT CREATION OF THE SADDAM HUSSEIN REGIME. IRAQ WOULD BE BETTER SERVED BY A DIFFERENT GOVERNMENT, AND WE WOULD BE PREPARED TO WORK WITH A SUCCESSOR REGIME THAT HONORED ITS INTERNATIONAL OBLIGATIONS.

BUT ARE YOU RULING OUT DIRECT DIALOGUE WITH THE CURRENT REGIME?

-- DIALOGUE WOULD BE USEFUL IF THERE WERE ANY AMBIGUITY ABOUT WHAT THE US REQUIRES. THERE IS NO SUCH AMBIGUITY; WE REQUIRE FULL COMPLIANCE WITH ALL THE UN RESOLUTIONS. THERE IS NO NEED FOR A DIALOGUE TO CLARIFY THIS.

WHAT'S YOUR REACTION TO THE IRANIAN GOVERNMENT'S REPORTED DECISION TO STOP IRAQI OIL SMUGGLING THROUGH IRANIAN TERRITORIAL WATERS - IS THIS A GESTURE TO THE U.S.?

-- WE HAVE NOTED A RECENT DIMINUTION IN THE AMOUNT OF GAS/OIL SMUGGLING BY IRAQ. IF THE TREND CONTINUES, THIS IS A GOOD SIGN.

-- WE WELCOME ALL EFFORTS BY THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY TO ENFORCE U.N. SANCTION AGAINST IRAQ.

SUCH EFFORTS ARE SUPPORTIVE OF THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY'S WORK, INCLUDING OUR OWN, TO ACHIEVE IRAQ'S FULL COMPLIANCE WITH ALL RELEVANT SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTIONS.

DOES THE ADMINISTRATION HAVE ANY REACTION TO THE 10 YEAR ANNIVERSARY OF THE HALABJA MASSACRE?

BACKGROUND ON MARCH 16, 1988, THE IRAQI MILITARY ATTACKED HALABJA, A KURDISH TOWN IN NORTHERN IRAQ, WITH CHEMICAL WEAPONS. AN ESTIMATED 5000 CIVILIANS WERE KILLED. MORE THAN 10,000 WERE INJURED.

THE IRAQI CAMPAIGN DID NOT MARK ITS ONLY USE OF CHEMICAL WEAPONS. AN ESTIMATED 20,000 IRANIAN SOLDIERS WERE KILLED

IN IRAQI CHEMICAL ATTACKS FROM 1983-1988, DURING THE IRAN-IRAQ WAR.

THE IRAQI REGIME HAS NEVER EXPRESSED REMORSE FOR HALABJA. TEN YEARS AFTER THE MASSACRE, THE PEOPLE OF HALABJA STILL SUFFER FROM THE EFFECTS OF THE MONSTROUS MARCH 16TH ATTACK,

INCLUDING MUCH HIGHER RATES OF SERIOUS DISEASES SUCH AS CANCER, BIRTH DEFECTS, AND MISCARRIAGES.

-- THE SYMPATHIES OF THE UNITED STATES ARE WITH THE PEOPLE OF HALABJA AS WE REMIND OURSELVES AND THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY THAT THE U.N. MUST REMAIN VIGILANT TO STOP IRAQ FROM REBUILDING ITS WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION PROGRAMS.

-- AS WE HAVE CONSISTENTLY SAID, THE MOST EFFECTIVE SOLUTION IS FOR UNSCOM WEAPONS INSPECTORS TO HAVE IMMEDIATE, UNCONDITIONAL AND UNFETTERED ACCESS TO ALL SUSPECT IRAQI SITES.

BUT, DIDN'T THE U.S. ACTUALLY HELP REARM IRAQ AFTER THE IRAN IRAQ WAR AND THE HALABJA ATTACK? IN THE SUMMER OF 1988, JUST MONTHS AFTER HALABJA, DIDN'T WE AGREE TO SELL THEM A BOMB FACTORY, A MISSILE FACTORY AND A \$1 BILLION PETROCHEMICAL FACILITY WHICH COULD BE USED TO PRODUCE MUSTARD GAS WEAPONS AND FUEL AIR EXPLOSIVES?

-- WE HAVE SEEN REPORTS TO THAT EFFECT.

HOW COULD WE ALLOW THIS REARMING TO HAPPEN?

-- YOU WILL HAVE TO ASK GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS FROM THAT ADMINISTRATION AT THAT TIME FOR THE ANSWER TO THAT QUESTION. SENATOR PELL INTRODUCED LEGISLATION IN THE 100TH CONGRESS TO SEVERELY SANCTION IRAQ IN RESPONSE TO ITS USE OF CHEMICAL WEAPONS. SENATOR HELMS AND THEN-SENATOR GORE WERE CO-SPONSORS. THE ADMINISTRATION AT THAT TIME SAID THE LEGISLATION WAS "PREMATURE"

DOES THE ADMINISTRATION SUPPORT SENATE RESOLUTION ON CHARGING SADDAM HUSSEIN WITH WAR CRIMES?

BACKGROUND: THE MOST RECENT DRAFT CALLS FOR 1) CREATION OF A FACT-FINDING COMMISSION TO ESTABLISH AN INTERNATIONAL RECORD OF SH'S CULPABILITY; 2) FORMATION OF A UN INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL TRIBUNAL FOR SH; 3) LONG-TERM PLAN

FOR REMOVAL OF SH. WE HAVE SUPPORTED THE INDICT EFFORT, (APRIL 16, 1997 TALBOTT LETTER TO KATHRYN PORTER), BUT THERE IS ALMOST NO WAY WE WILL GET UN AGREEMENT TO A TRIBUNAL. THIS RESOLUTION IS SEPARATE FROM BUT RELATED TO THE SENATE PROPOSAL FOR \$38M TO GO TOWARD REMOVING SADDAM.

-- WE SUPPORT AN EFFORT TO DOCUMENT IRAQI WAR CRIMES - INCLUDING THOSE OF SADDAM HUSSEIN - AND TO ESTABLISH AN INTERNATIONALLY RECOGNIZED RECORD OF THEM. WE MADE CLEAR LAST YEAR OUR SUPPORT FOR THE INDICT CAMPAIGN, WHICH SEEKS TO ASSEMBLE SUCH A RECORD FOR USE IN A POTENTIAL WAR CRIMES TRIBUNAL AGAINST IRAQVS LEADERSHIP.

-- WE WOULD BE SUPPORTIVE OF A WAR CRIMES TRIBUNAL THAT BUILT ON THIS ASSEMBLED RECORD. WHILE THERE APPEARS NOW TO

BE LITTLE SUPPORT IN THE UN SECURITY COUNCIL FOR SUCH A TRIBUNAL, AN ESPECIALLY VIGOROUS FACT-FINDING EFFORT MIGHT WELL IMPROVE THE CHANCES.

AS FOR THE REMOVAL OF SADDAM HUSSEIN, WE HAVE NO DOUBT THAT THE PEOPLE OF IRAQ AND THE REST OF US WOULD BE BETTER OFF WITH A NEW GOVERNMENT IN BAGHDAD.

-- YET, WHILE WE LOOK FORWARD TO WORKING WITH A POST-SADDAM GOVERNMENT IN IRAQ, ONE THAT DOES NOT PURSUE WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION OR THREATEN ITS NEIGHBORS, NO ONE SHOULD UNDERESTIMATE THE DIFFICULTIES OF SUCH A COURSE OF ACTION. WE HAVE TO ASSUME THAT THIS IS A LONG-TERM PROCESS.

-- WE HAVE WORKED WITH THE IRAQI OPPOSITION IN THE PAST, AND WE ARE ACTIVELY CONSIDERING WAYS TO DO SO MORE EFFECTIVELY IN THE FUTURE.

-- SOME OF THE IDEAS PUT FORWARD ON THIS ACCOUNT IN THE SEPARATE SENATE PROPOSAL FOR \$38M FOR FUNDING THE OPPOSITION ARE INTERESTING AND WE ARE LOOKING AT THEM CAREFULLY TO SEE WHICH WOULD BE USEFUL. AS AN EXAMPLE, RADIO FREE IRAQ IS AN INTERESTING IDEA THAT WE ARE EXAMINING.

THE NEW YORK TIMES SAYS THAT SIX IRAQI KURDS BROUGHT TO THE U.S. WHEN THE KURDISH OPPOSITION FLED IRAQ MAY BE DEPORTED BECAUSE THEY POSE "A DANGER TO THE SECURITY OF THE UNITED STATES." CAN YOU CONFIRM THAT THIS IS TRUE? IF SO, HOW DID THIS HAPPEN?

AFTER SADDAM HUSSEIN BRUTALLY STRUCK INTO NORTHERN IRAQ IN SEPTEMBER 1996, A LARGE NUMBER OF IRAQIS - MOST OF WHOM HAD CLOSE CONNECTIONS TO THE UNITED STATES SOUGHT OUR PROTECTION. WITH THE HELP OF THE GOVERNMENT OF TURKEY, THE USG QUICKLY EVACUATED 6,563 IRAQIS - MOSTLY KURDS - FROM IRAQ TO GUAM (A U.S. TERRITORY), THEN TO THE UNITED STATES.

-- THESE WERE MOSTLY IRAQIS WHO WERE ASSOCIATED WITH HUMANITARIAN PROGRAMS IN NORTHERN IRAQ. THIS WAS AN HONORABLE AND HUMANITARIAN EFFORT TO PROTECT IRAQIS WHO COULD OTHERWISE HAVE BEEN HARMED BY SADDAM'S TROOPS.p

-- WE WERE AWARE THAT SADDAM HAD MANY INFILTRATORS IN NORTHERN IRAQ AND, TO THE EXTENT WE COULD, WE QUICKLY REVIEWED THE BACKGROUWDS OF THESE INDIVIDUALS PRIOR TO THE EVACUATION. HOWEVER, BECAUSE OF THE URGENT CIRCUMSTANCES SURROUNDING THE EVACUATION, WE DEFERRED COMPLETE BACKGROUND CHECKS.

-- FOLLOWING THE ARRIVAL OF THESE INDIVIDUALS IN GUAM, FURTHER BACKGROUND INVESTIGATIONS WERE COMPLETED DURING THE PROCESSING OF THEIR ASYLUM CLAIMS. ON THE BASIS OF THESE INVESTIGATIONS, THE U.S. GOVERNMENT IDENTIFIED 25 INDIVIDUALS WHOSE IDENTITIES WERE IN DOUBT AND WHO WERE BELIEVED TO POTENTIALLY POSE A THREAT TO OUR NATIONAL SECURITY. THE INS DETAINED THESE INDIVIDUALS IN GUAM AND PLACED THEM INTO EXCLUSION PROCEEDINGS . THEY WERE BROUGHT

TO CALIFORNIA FOR HEARINGS BEFORE IMMIGRATION JUDGES.

-- THESE CASES ARE IN VARIOUS STAGES OF THE IMMIGRATION PROCESS. SEVERAL HAD SINCE BEEN GRANTED ASYLUM. TWO INDIVIDUALS HAVE BEEN DETERMINED BY AN IMMIGRATION JUDGE TO NOT BE WHO THEY SAID THEY WERE.

-- AN IMMIGRATION JUDGE FOUND THAT SIX OF THESE INDIVIDUALS WERE INELIGIBLE FOR IMMIGRATION RELIEF BASED ON CLASSIFIED INFORMATION DEVELOPED BY THE U.S. GOVERNMENT INDICATING THAT THESE INDIVIDUALS POSE A DANGER TO OUR NATIONAL SECURITY. NO FINAL DECISIONS HAVE BEEN MADE ABOUT WHAT THE U.S. GOVERNMENT WILL DO IF THE EXCLUSION ORDERS IN THESE CASES BECOME FINAL.

-- SINCE THIS IS A MATTER FOR THE COURTS, WE DEFER FURTHER QUESTIONS ABOUT THESE CASES TO THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE.

F ASKED]: SO WERE THESE SIX INDIVIDUALS INFILTRATED BY SADDAM?

-- WE CANNOT ELABORATE FURTHER OTHER THAN TO POINT OUT THE RULING OF THE JUDGE IN THIS CASE THAT THE SIX " POSE A DANGER TO THE NATIONAL SECURITY OF THE UNITED STATES."

WHAT'S THE ADMINISTRATION'S VIEW ON CONGRESSIONAL EFFORTS TO PROVIDE \$38M IN EFFORTS TO UNDERMINE SADDAM HUSSEIN?

-- WHILE WE LOOK FORWARD TO WORKING WITH A POST-SADDAM GOVERNMENT IN IRAQ, ONE THAT DOES NOT PURSUE WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION OR THREATEN ITS NEIGHBORS, NO ONE SHOULD UNDERESTIMATE THE DIFFICULTIES OF SUCH A COURSE OF ACTION. WE HAVE NO DOUBT THAT THE PEOPLE OF IRAQ AND THE REST OF THE WORLD WOULD BE BETTER OFF WITH A NEW GOVERNMENT IN BAGHDAD.

-- WE HAVE TO ASSUME THAT THIS IS A LONG-TERM PROCESS AND ALSO INVOLVES MANY COSTS AND RISKS.

-- WE HAVE WORKED WITH THE IRAQI OPPOSITION IN THE PAST, AND WE ARE ACTIVELY CONSIDERING WAYS TO DO SO MORE EFFECTIVELY IN THE FUTURE.

-- SOME OF THE IDEAS PUT FORWARD IN THE SENATE PROPOSAL ARE INTERESTING AND WE ARE LOOKING AT THEM CAREFULLY TO SEE WHICH WOULD BE USEFUL.

-- RADIO FREE IRAQ IS AN INTERESTING IDEA THAT WE ARE EXAMINING.

-- THE EXPANDED OIL FOR FOOD PROGRAM AGREED BY THE UNSC COULD INCREASE HUMANITARIAN FUNDING AVAILABLE FOR THE NORTHERN PROVINCES TO AT LEAST \$682 MILLION DOLLARS OVER THE NEXT 6 MONTHS.

-- IT IS APPROPRIATE THAT IRAQ'S OIL WEALTH PROVIDE FOR THE KURDS, TURKOMEN AND OTHERS LIVING IN THE REGION OUTSIDE

SADDAM'S CONTROL. U.S. FUNDED HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE SHOULD ONLY BE TARGETED TO COMPLEMENT THE RELIEF DISTRIBUTED BY THE UN UNDER THIS PROGRAM.

WE HAVE SUPPORTED THE CALLS FOR AN INVESTIGATION INTO THE IRAQI REGIME'S WAR CRIMES, CRIMES AGAINST HUMANITY AND POSSIBLE GENOCIDE.

STATUS OF INSPECTIONS/WHAT IF IRAQ FAILS TO COMPLY

WHAT DID SCOTT RITTER'S TEAM ACCOMPLISH IN BAGHDAD. HOW DOES HIS EXPERIENCE REFLECT ON THE SYG'S MOU.

-- I REFER YOU TO UNSCOM FOR SPECIFIC DETAILS. THE TEAM COMPLETED ITS MISSION IN BAGHDAD ON MARCH 10. ITS INSPECTIONS PROCEEDED WITHOUT MAJOR PROBLEMS. UNSCOM APPEARED TO HAVE THE ACCESS IT REQUIRED TO INSPECT SITES IT NEEDED TO SEE.

-- THIS LATEST INSPECTION TEAM WENT TO EIGHT SITES, ALL DECLARED SENSITIVE BY IRAQ, INCLUDING SEVERAL (SUCH AS IRAQ'S MINISTRY OF DEFENSE) THAT HAD PREVIOUSLY BEEN DECLARED OFF LIMITS TO UNSCOM. THE GOVERNMENT OF IRAQ COOPERATED, A FIRST INDICATION THAT IRAQ UNDERSTANDS WHAT THE UN SECURITY COUNCIL AND INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY EXPECT. WE EXPECT UNSCOM WILL PROVIDE ITS ASSESSMENT OF ANY NEW INFORMATION DEVELOPED BY THIS INSPECTION WHEN IT NEXT REPORTS TO THE SECURITY COUNCIL.

-- THIS WILL TAKE MORE THAN ONE INSPECTION. THIS REMAINS A LONG-TERM, OPEN-ENDED PROCESS. THERE ARE NO DEADLINES. UNSCOM HAS A LOT OF WORK AHEAD IN ORDER TO DO ITS JOB AND COMPLETE ITS WORK.

SYG ANNAN SAID THAT THE U.S. WOULD NEED TO CONSULT WITH THE UNSC BEFORE TAKING MILITARY ACTION IF IRAQ FAILS TO COMPLY WITH THE AGREEMENT? DO WE AGREE?

THE PRESIDENT AND THE SECRETARY GENERAL SAID YESTERDAY THAT THERE WAS NO DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THEM ON THIS ISSUE. IF IRAQ FAILS TO COMPLY WITH THIS AGREEMENT, THE US WILL CONSULT WITH OUR PARTNERS, INCLUDING MEMBERS OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL. NO COUNCIL ACTION, HOWEVER, WOULD BE NECESSARY.

THE UNSC HAS SAID THAT IRAQ FACES THE MOST SEVERE CONSEQUENCES IF IT FAILS TO COMPLY. WE WILL CONTINUE TO MONITOR UNSCOM'S PROGRESS WITH THE SECRETARY GENERAL AND THE SECURITY COUNCIL. HOWEVER, IF IRAQ ONCE AGAIN VIOLATES ITS OBLIGATIONS SPELLED OUT BY UNSC RESOLUTIONS, WE BELIEVE THE PRESIDENT HAS ALL THE AUTHORITY HE NEEDS TO ACT.

PRESIDENTIAL SITES

WHEN WILL UNSCOM TEST THE AGREEMENT AND INSPECT THE

PRESIDENTIAL SITES?

-- THE SECRETARY GENERAL HAS PROVIDED THE UN SECURITY COUNCIL WITH PROCEDURES HE DEVELOPED IN CONSULTATION WITH THE EXECUTIVE CHAIRMAN OF UNSCOM AND THE DIRECTOR GENERAL OF THE IAEA FOR INSPECTING THE SO-CALLED PRESIDENTIAL SITES.

-- THE NEW UNSCOM COMMISSIONER JAYANTHA DHANAPALA ARRIVES IN BAGHDAD TODAY.

-- THE UN HAS REQUESTED A NUMBER OF COUNTRIES, INCLUDING THE US, TO NOMINATE SENIOR DIPLOMATS TO PARTICIPATE IN THE SPECIAL GROUP THAT WILL INSPECT THESE SITES ALONG WITH UNSCOM EXPERTS.

WE EXPECT THAT ALL OF THE ARRANGEMENTS WILL BE IN PLACE LATER THIS MONTH FOR UNSCOM TO BEGIN INSPECTIONS OF THESE SITES, AS IT DEEMS APPROPRIATE.

SPECIAL ENVOY/NEW UNSCOM DEPUTY

DID THE SECRETARY GENERAL CONSULT WITH SECURITY COUNCIL MEMBERS ABOUT APPOINTING A SPECIAL ENVOY TO BAGHDAD: IF NOT, WHY NOT? WHAT DO WE THINK OF THE IDEA AND THE PERSON APPOINTED?

-- THE SECRETARY GENERAL HAS NAMED RETIRED INDIAN DIPLOMAT PRAKASH SHAH TO BE HIS PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE IN BAGHDAD.

-- WE BELIEVE THAT AMBASSADOR SHAH'S PRESENCE IN BAGHDAD CAN MAKE A USEFUL CONTRIBUTION TO IMPROVING THE DELIVERY OF HUMANITARIAN RELIEF TO THE IRAQI PEOPLE AND IRAQ'S FULFILLMENT OF ITS OBLIGATIONS TO THE UN.

-- WE LOOK FORWARD TO HIS ACTIVITIES ON SUCH ISSUES AS IRAQ'S OBLIGATION TO ACCOUNT FOR THOSE KUWAITIS MISSING SINCE THE WAR, ITS FAILURE TO RETURN KUWAITI STOLEN PROPERTY AND IRAQ'S TREATMENT OF THE HUMAN AND POLITICAL RIGHTS OF ITS PEOPLE..

WHAT IS YOUR REACTION TO THE RUSSIAN REQUEST THAT ANNAN NAME RUSSIAN DEPUTY TO BUTLER.

-- THE SECRETARY GENERAL HAS FORWARDED A RUSSIAN REQUEST TO NAME A NEW UNSCOM DEPUTY CHAIRMAN TO THE SECURITY COUNCIL FOR ITS POSSIBLE CONSIDERATION.

-- IN OUR VIEW UNSCOM HAS WORKED WELL WITH ITS EXISTING STRUCTURE. NEITHER EXECUTIVE CHAIRMAN BUTLER NOR HIS PREDECESSOR AMBASSADOR EKEUS EVER SUGGESTED TO US THAT AN ADDITIONAL DEPUTY WAS NEEDED.

-- WE DO NOT SUPPORT THE CREATION OF AN ADDITIONAL DEPUTY POSITION.

OIL FOR FOOD/DIVERSION OF ASSISTANCE

HOW ARE THE UN'S DISCUSSIONS WITH IRAQ ON THE EXPANDED OIL FOR FOOD PROGRAM GOING? IS THE US CONTINUING TO BLOCK SHIPMENTS TO IRAQ?

-- THE UN OIL FOR FOOD PROGRAM IS PROCEEDING. SINCE IRAQ ENDED ITS REFUSAL TO PUMP OIL ON JANUARY 14, FUNDS HAVE BEEN GENERATED FOR THE PURCHASE OF FOOD AND MEDICINE WHICH ARE FLOWING TO IRAQ ON A SUSTAINED BASIS. IRAQ'S STOPPAGES OF OIL EXPORTS AND ITS DECISIONS ON SUPPLIERS HAVE BEEN THE MAJOR CAUSE OF ANY DELAYS IN THE DELIVERY OF RELIEF UNDER THE PROGRAM.

-- IT IS OUR UNDERSTANDING THAT ALL FUNDS THAT HAVE BEEN RECEIVED IN THE UN ESCROW ACCOUNT UP TO THIS POINT HAVE BEEN COMMITTED TO PURCHASE HUMANITARIAN RELIEF. IN FACT, THE UN HAS OVER \$500 MILLION IN CONTRACTS READY FOR APPROVAL BUT AWAITING RECEIPT OF FUNDS FROM OIL SALES.

-- IRAQI OFFICIALS ARE CURRENTLY IN NEW YORK TO DISCUSS THE NECESSARY ADJUSTMENTS TO THE PROGRAM IN LIGHT OF THE INCREASE. IF THE GOVERNMENT OF IRAQ CHOOSES TO COOPERATE FULLY WITH THE THRUST OF THE SECRETARY GENERAL'S RECOMMENDATION, THE HUMANITARIAN SITUATION OF THE IRAQI PEOPLE CAN BE ADDRESSED RAPIDLY AND EFFECTIVELY.

-- THE REAL ISSUES ARE HOW THE GOVERNMENT OF IRAQ WILL RESPOND TO THE SECRETARY GENERAL'S PROPOSALS AND ITS CONTINUING DISREGARD FOR THE WELFARE OF THE IRAQI PEOPLE.

HAS FOOD BEEN DIVERTED TO REPUBLICAN GUARD/OTHER SADDAM HENCHMEN?

-- GOODS PURCHASED WITH "OIL-FOR-FOOD" MONEY GO DIRECTLY TO HELPING THE SUFFERING IRAQI PEOPLE. THERE IS NO EVIDENCE

THAT THESE GOODS ARE BEING DIVERTED TO THE REPUBLICAN GUARD OR ANYWHERE ELSE.

-- NOW THAT THERE IS A SUPPLY OF GOODS PURCHASED UNDER THIS PROGRAM, HOWEVER, THERE IS SOME INDICATION THAT SADDAM HAS FELT FREE TO USE FOOD AND MEDICINE PURCHASED (AND STORED) WITH IRAQ'S OWN RESOURCES FOR PURPOSES OUTSIDE THE "OIL-FOR-FOOD" PROGRAM. FOR EXAMPLE, THERE IS CREDIBLE EVIDENCE THAT MEDICINE PURCHASED PRIOR TO THE PROGRAM IS BEING SOLD ON THE BLACK MARKET.

-- KEEP IN MIND THAT THE PURPOSE OF 986 WAS TO SUPPLEMENT, NOT REPLACE, IRAQ'S OWN PURCHASES OF HUMANITARIAN GOODS. UNFORTUNATELY, IRAQ HAS SUBSTANTIALLY REDUCED ITS OWN PURCHASES - RELYING ALMOST ENTIRELY ON THIS PROGRAM FOR ASSISTANCE TO ITS PEOPLE.

HAS THE UNSC APPROVED SENDING AID TO REBUILD IRAQ'S OIL

INFRASTRUCTURE?

-- THE NEW RESOLUTION CALLS ON THE SECRETARY GENERAL TO STUDY THE CONDITION OF IRAQ'S OIL INFRASTRUCTURE AND TO REPORT TO THE SECURITY COUNCIL ON WHETHER IRAQ IS ABLE TO EXPORT OIL SUFFICIENT TO MEET THE INCREASED QUOTA.

WE UNDERSTAND AN EXPERT TEAM IS BEING DISPATCHED TO IRAQ THIS WEEK. WHEN THEY REPORT BACK, THE SECURITY COUNCIL WILL THEN CONSIDER WHAT, IF ANY, REPAIRS TO THE OIL INFRASTRUCTURE ARE WARRANTED FOR THIS PURPOSE.

-- OTHER THAN REPAIRS TO THE PIPELINE BETWEEN IRAQ AND TURKEY (NECESSARY FOR EXPORTING OIL UNDER THE PRESENT QUOTA), NO REPAIRS TO IRAQ'S OIL INFRASTRUCTURE HAVE BEEN APPROVED. IF ANY REPAIRS ARE APPROVED IN THE FUTURE, THEY WILL BE SOLELY FOR THE PURPOSE OF MEETING THE NEW QUOTA, AND WILL BE UNDERTAKEN UNDER STRICT UN MONITORING.

HAS THE UNSC APPROVED REBUILDING THE POWER GRID?

-- UNDER THE OIL-FOR-FOOD PROGRAM, SOME REPAIRS TO THE ELECTRICITY GENERATING AND DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM HAVE BEEN APPROVED, ESPECIALLY IN THE NORTH. IN SPITE OF THESE REPAIRS, THE SYG HAS DESCRIBED THE CONDITION OF THIS SECTOR AS "EXTREMELY GRAVE."

-- KEEP IN MIND THAT THE AVAILABILITY OF RELIABLE ELECTRICITY SUPPLIES HAS A DIRECT IMPACT ON THE HEALTH AND WELL-BEING OF THE IRAQI PEOPLE. CUTS IN ELECTRICITY SEVERELY DEGRADE HOSPITALS AND HEALTH SERVICES, SANITATION/WATER OPERATIONS, AND FOOD STORAGE AND PROCESSING.

-- THE NEW RESOLUTION CALLS UPON THE SYG TO STUDY AND MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS ON REPAIRS TO IRAQ'S ELECTRICITY SECTOR. ANY REPAIRS WILL PROCEED UNDER STRICT UN MONITORING.
ALBRIGHT

SECT: SECTION: 01 OF 01

SSN: 7150

TOR: 980316200328 M3199404

DIST:

SIT: NSC

Cable

PREC: ROUTINE
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RUEHUB/USINT HAVANA
RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHINGTON DC
RUESDM/JTLO MIAMI FL
RUETIAV/MPC FORT GEORGE G MEADE MD
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RUWMEGA/AFOSI DET 214 HOWARD AFB PM//CC//
ACCT FBPA-EWDK

INFO: ////

SUBJ: Editorial Sees Sen. Helms in 'Retreat' from Namesake Law

TEXT:

UNCLAS 6A

WARNING: TOPIC: POLITICAL, ECONOMIC, INTERNATIONAL

SERIAL: PA1703014098

COUNTRY: CUBA, UNITED STATES

SUBJ: Editorial Sees Sen. Helms in 'Retreat' from Namesake Law

SOURCE: Havana Trabajadores (Internet version) in Spanish 16 Mar 98
TEXT:

[Editorial: "A Categorical No to Solutions That Show No Respect for Cuba's Dignity"]

[FBIS Translated Text] A few days ago, the Helms-Burton law that tightened the US blockade against Cuba to an aberrantly genocidal level became two years old, at a moment when in the United States a growing number of forces oppose this foiled policy.

No one in the world is happy with the Helms-Burton law.

Its visible negative effects have not been able to stop Cuba's economic recovery process or the restructuring of its foreign relations. It has been impossible to fully implement the law, which has been contentious since its promulgation and therefore has pleased neither its supporters nor the broad universe of adversaries in and out of the United States.

There is the growing notion that with the Helms-Burton law, the blockade reached the highest peak of a mountain of political absurdity and that the descent phase is about to begin more or less rapidly.

Recently, news agencies attributed to the bishop of Boston a statement that summarizes such perception. Bishop Bernard Law said: "The question is not whether or not the US blockade on Cuba is going to end, but when it will end."

There are reasons for believing that this attitude is growing within the US business sector, including many businessmen the Helms-Burton law claims to represent.

A delegation of businessmen was in Cuba a week ago to participate in a Cuba-United States business forum. This delegation could be considered the largest and most influential US group so far to visit Cuba with commercial interests in mind.

In the meantime, it appears that the Torres-Dodd bill that calls for placing food, medicine, and medical equipment out of the blockade is gaining support in the US media and in various US political and business sectors.

In January of this year a coalition called North Americans in Favor of Humanitarian Trade With Cuba was created, which is backed by the US Chamber of Commerce and includes politicians from the two parties, former advisers of various administrations, businessmen, academicians, and religious people. This coalition backs the Torres-Dodd bill.

The strength of this legislative tendency can be measured by the

reaction from Jesse Helms, who, to upset the goal of the bill, has gone against the law he authored and is now calling for federal funds to send to Cuba medicine and food, but ignoring the Cuban state and without modifying at all the criminal practices of the blockade or the abundant legislation that supports it.

Although the blindness of a politician as reactionary as Helms does not allow him to admit that almost four decades of blockade have not been able to dismember the Cuban people's revolutionary unity or their capacity to resist, it is nevertheless significant that a man as archaic as him, who is an unconditional ally of the counterrevolutionary mafia, makes an apparent retreat by posing in an altruistic disguise, a fuss no one in the world has taken seriously and the Cuban people will not accept under any circumstances.

In denouncing this perfidious maneuver, Fidel alerted to the fact that Cuba is not asking for humanitarian aid from the United States, but demanding an end to the genocidal economic war and that it be allowed to exercise its right to develop economically and to trade freely with all the people of the world.

In commemorating yesterday the 120th anniversary of the historic Baragua Protest, that courageous deed by Maceo that Marti listed among the most glorious events in Cuban history, our people remain firm, watching closely the various tendencies on the blockade and its abominable legal expression, but without anxiety or desperation.

Like Maceo and the patriots who accompanied him in Baragua, we have a categorical and final no for all solution proposals that show no respect for the dignity of the Cubans or that may weaken full national independence and sovereignty.

The Cubans of today are made of the fiber of Antonio Maceo, who fought and never asked when the prolonged independence war was going to end. On the contrary, he protested the signing of an unprincipled peace. He did it to be able to remain in the battlefields or to return to the struggle as soon as possible, with honor.

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(endall) 16 mar rn/dyrek/ejl jdcu1603.09e 17/0145z mar

SECT: SECTION: 01 OF 01

SSN: 4468

TOR: 980316204659 M3199468

DIST:

SIT: NSC

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DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
001. cable	re: T/ACDA Director Holum's Meeting with CEA Chairman. (3 pages)	03/17/1998	P1/b(1)

COLLECTION:

Clinton Presidential Records
NSC Cables
Jan 1997-Dec 1998 ([Jesse Helms or Senator Helms])
OA/Box Number: 520000

FOLDER TITLE:

[03/12/1998-04/03/1998]

2006-1363-F

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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]
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- 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.
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- b(1) National security classified information [(b)(1) of the FOIA]
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- b(4) Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential or financial information [(b)(4) of the FOIA]
- b(6) Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(b)(6) of the FOIA]
- b(7) Release would disclose information compiled for law enforcement purposes [(b)(7) of the FOIA]
- b(8) Release would disclose information concerning the regulation of financial institutions [(b)(8) of the FOIA]
- b(9) Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA]

Cable

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RUANJTF/DIRJIATF EAST//J2//
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RUCBAIC/AIC NORFOLK VA
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INFO: ////

SUBJ: Robaina, Primakov Hold Talks, Sign Consular Convention

TEXT:

UNCLAS 6A 3A

WARNING: TOPIC: LEADER, POLITICAL, ECONOMIC, INTERNATIONAL

SERIAL: PA2403015498

PASS: ATTN WIRE SELECT

COUNTRY: CUBA, RUSSIA

SUBJ: Robaina, Primakov Hold Talks, Sign Consular Convention

REF: 1. 1d2302224698 moscow itar-tass english 232006--cuban
foreign minister robaina says moscow visit important
2. pa2303183898 havana prensa latina spanish 222304
--robaina on ties with russia, us announcement

SOURCE: Havana Prensa Latina in Spanish 2359 GMT 23 Mar 98

TEXT:

[FBIS Translated Text] Moscow, 23 Mar (PL) -- Cuban Foreign

Minister Roberto Robaina reiterated today his country's resolve to continue having closer and mutually beneficial relations with Russia.

On the first day of his official visit to this capital, Robaina talked with his acting Russian counterpart Yevgeniy Primakov. Together they signed a consular convention, which updated that of 1972.

The Cuban foreign minister highlighted Russia's reiterated and very strong stance at the international level against the US blockade and other measures that attempt to restrict Cuba.

Meanwhile, Primakov reiterated the decision that Russian authorities have made to expand relations with Havana and to strengthen bilateral ties.

In this regard, he recalled not only the significance of historical ties, but also everything that may be achieved now and in the future based on the new circumstances.

Both officials exchanged information on the situation prevailing in their respective countries and regions. They also exchanged their views on different international affairs of mutual interest.

Robaina and Primakov reiterated the bilateral determination to promote economic and commercial ties and to explore new ways for bilateral cooperation.

Shortly before concluding the first day of his official visit to Russia, the Cuban minister held a news conference during which he reiterated that his country will not accept humanitarian aid such as that promoted by US Senator Jesse Helms and by his followers in the rude anti-Cuban policy.

Regarding Washington's recent announcement on lifting certain restrictions against Cuba, including that related to US direct flights, he said this represents a certain relief for family contacts among Cubans residing on both sides of the Florida Straits.

However, Robaina warned that the Cuban Government will continue to examine these measures closely and will only make statements in this regard after having all elements available.

In the morning, Foreign Minister Robaina placed a floral arrangement before the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, which is located next to the walls of the Kremlin. He described this action as a mandatory duty in honor of the heroic Russian people.

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RUWMEGA/AFOSI DET 214 HOWARD AFB PM//CC//
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RYFWN/COMNORTH//JOINTINT//
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INFO: ////

SUBJ: Robaina Rejects 'Conditional' Humanitarian Aid

TEXT:

UNCLAS 6A

WARNING: TOPIC: LEADER, POLITICAL, ECONOMIC, INTERNATIONAL

SERIAL: PA2403024898

PASS: ATTN WIRE SELECT

COUNTRY: CUBA, UNITED STATES

SUBJ: Robaina Rejects 'Conditional' Humanitarian Aid

REF: 1. pa2403015498 havana prensa latina spanish 232359
--robaina, primakov hold talks, sign consular convention
2. pa2303183898 havana prensa latina spanish 222304 --
robaina on ties with russia, us announcement
3. pa2303023398 havana radio havana cuba spanish 230000 --
robaina arrives in moscow on 3-day visit
4. ld2203175898 moscow itar-tass world service russian
221725 -- cuban foreign minister arrives in russia for
visit

SOURCE: Havana Prensa Latina in Spanish 2308 GMT 23 Mar 98

TEXT:

[FBIS Translated Text] Moscow, 23 Mar (PL) -- Foreign Minister Roberto Robaina said today in this capital that as long as the US blockade continues, his country will not accept any humanitarian aid like that proposed by Senator Jesse Helms and his acolytes.

Robaina, however, said that the measures recently announced by the US Government in relation to the lifting of specific restrictions on Cuba are gestures that will improve family contacts between Cubans living on both sides of the Florida Straits.

After visiting the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier located adjacent to the Kremlin walls, Robaina said that his government will continue studying those measures carefully and will announce its position only after reviewing all pertinent factors.

He recalled that Cuba has been patient for 38 years and therefore will not become desperate in the last 72 hours. In that regard, he stressed that the US blockade has very complex restrictions.

Asked if Cuba will take any steps in replying to the new announcements, Robaina said: We have not blocked the United States or imposed any restrictions on that country and therefore should not be expected to do anything to lift that blockade. This is not a

game to see who takes the first step and who follows, he noted.

Robaina then protested actions promoted by some US senators, particularly Jesse Helms, with regard to a conditional humanitarian aid and many factors that appear more like blackmail and political maneuvers which, he said, are and always will be unacceptable to Cuba.

Regarding Russia's possible mediation to improve relations between Cuba and the United States, Robaina said his country is not looking for mediators around the world.

If anything can be said about interest and willingness to talk, we would like to reaffirm that any subject can be discussed with Havana without any prejudice, as long as there are no conditions.

Establishing conditions in normal relations is inadmissible. We are sure that one day we will have fruitful relations with the United States. In that regard, he mentioned the increase of respectful contacts with representatives of US economic, social, and political life.

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DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
002. cable	re: UK Slot Issues. (4 pages)	03/24/1998	P1/b(1)

COLLECTION:

Clinton Presidential Records
NSC Cables
Jan 1997-Dec 1998 ([Jesse Helms or Senator Helms])
OA/Box Number: 520000

FOLDER TITLE:

[03/12/1998-04/03/1998]

2006-1363-F
vz5588

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]
- b(2) Release would disclose internal personnel rules and practices of an agency [(b)(2) of the FOIA]
- b(3) Release would violate a Federal statute [(b)(3) of the FOIA]
- b(4) Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential or financial information [(b)(4) of the FOIA]
- b(6) Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(b)(6) of the FOIA]
- b(7) Release would disclose information compiled for law enforcement purposes [(b)(7) of the FOIA]
- b(8) Release would disclose information concerning the regulation of financial institutions [(b)(8) of the FOIA]
- b(9) Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA]

Withdrawal/Redaction Marker

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DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
003. cable	re: Costa Rica: Ambassador Richardson Meets. (3 pages)	03/28/1998	P1/b(1)

COLLECTION:

Clinton Presidential Records
NSC Cables
Jan 1997-Dec 1998 ([Jesse Helms or Senator Helms])
OA/Box Number: 520000

FOLDER TITLE:

[03/12/1998-04/03/1998]

2006-1363-F

vz5588

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Cable

PREC: IMMEDIATE
CLASS: UNCLASSIFIED
LINE1: OAAUZYUW RUEHCAA5715 0870234-UUUU--RHEHNSC.
LINE2: ZNR UUUUU ZZH
LINE3: O P 280224Z MAR 98
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ORIG: SECSTATE WASHDC
TO: ALL EAST ASIAN AND PACIFIC DIPLOMATIC POSTS IMMEDIATE
RUEHIA/USIA WASHDC PRIORITY 6856
RHEHNSC/NSC WASHDC PRIORITY 0889
RUCNDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY 4849
RUEHKOS/AMCONSUL SAPPORO IMMEDIATE 6799
RUEHKOF/AMCONSUL FUKUOKA IMMEDIATE 8014
RUEHKON/AMCONSUL NAGOYA IMMEDIATE 1457
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RUHBBMA/AMCONSUL NAHA IMMEDIATE 1667
RUEHSH/AMCONSUL SHENYANG IMMEDIATE 9210
RUESLE/AMCONSUL SHANGHAI IMMEDIATE 0977
INFO: RUEHLO/AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY 1132
RUEHFR/AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY 0361
RUEHMO/AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PRIORITY 3382
RUEHVEN/USMISSION USVIENNA PRIORITY
RUEHOL/AMEMBASSY BONN PRIORITY 1433
RUEHGV/USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY 7015
RUEHLE/AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG PRIORITY 2655
RUEHRO/AMEMBASSY ROME PRIORITY 2787
RUEHNE/AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI PRIORITY 2818
RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHDC//USDP PRIORITY 5925
RHHMHAH/USCINCPAC HONOLULU HI PRIORITY
RUAGAMS/COMUSKOREA SEOUL KS//CC/BJ/CJ/EJ/PAJ/SJS// PRIORITY
RUAGAMS/CHJUSMAG SEOUL KS PRIORITY
RUAGAMS/SACINCUNC KS PRIORITY
RUAGAMS/USCINCUNC SEOUL KS PRIORITY
RHHMHAH/CINCPACFLT HI PRIORITY
RUEKJCS/JOINT STAFF WASHDC PRIORITY 9516
RUEAIIA/CIA WASHDC 8789
RUETIAA/DIRNSA FT GEORGE G MEADE MD
SUBJ: MARCH 27, 1998 PRESS GUIDANCES FOR THE EAP REGION

ALL POSTS -- ALSO FOR USIS
SEODEF -- ALSO FOR OASD/PA
USCINOPAC FOR FPA TEARE
TEXT: UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 09 STATE 055715

USIA FOR EA; TOKYO FOR YAMAUCHI; MOSCOW FOR ANDERTON

E.O. 12958: N/A
TAGS: OPRC, XE, US

SUBJECT: MARCH 27, 1998 PRESS GUIDANCES FOR THE EAP REGION

ALL POSTS -- ALSO FOR USIS
SEODEF -- ALSO FOR OASD/PA
USCINOPAC FOR FPA TEARE
USVIENNA FOR UNVIE
ROME FOR STORELLA
BEIJING PASS CHENGDU

1. INDEX

-- JAPAN: LDP FISCAL STIMULUS ANNOUNCEMENT (PARAS 2 AND 3)
-- MALAYSIA: DETENTION CAMP RIOTS (PARAS 2 AND 4)
-- ARREST OF WANG BINGZHANG (PARAS 2 AND 5)
-- RUSSIA/CHINA MISSILE SALES TO IRAN (PARAS 6 AND 7)
-- CUBA: CHINESE INVESTMENTS (PARAS 6 AND 8)
-- CAMBODIA: KHMER ROUGE DISPUTE LOSS OF STRONGHOLD (PARAS 6 AND 9)
-- IMF FUNDING (PARAS 6 AND 10)
-- STATE AND LOCAL SANCTIONS (PARAS 6 AND 11)
-- INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL COURT (PARAS 6 AND 12-14)
-- STATE DEPT. AUTHORIZATION BILL/HOUSE VOTE (PARAS 15 AND 16)

2. THE FOLLOWING PRESS GUIDANCES WERE PREPARED ON 3/27/98 AND WERE USED BY DEPUTY SPOKESMAN JAMES B. FOLEY AT THAT DAY'S BRIEFING.

3. JAPAN: LDP FISCAL STIMULUS ANNOUNCEMENT

CONTEXT: AFTER MARKETS CLOSED IN TOKYO YESTERDAY, MARCH 26, THE RULING LIBERAL DEMOCRATIC PARTY (LDP) ANNOUNCED ITS PROPOSED OUTLINE FOR A NEW ECONOMIC STIMULUS PACKAGE ON THE ORDER OF OVER Y16 TRILLION (\$123 BILLION - 3.1 PERCENT OF GDP). THE EIGHT-POINT OUTLINE DID NOT CONTAIN ANY BREAKDOWN OF THE HEADLINE FIGURE, THEREFORE ITS IMPACT CANNOT YET BE RELIABLY CALCULATED. IN SPITE OF THE SIZE OF THE PACKAGE -- THE LARGEST EVER -- THE TOKYO STOCK MARKET FELL TODAY OVER DISAPPOINTMENT WITH THE PLAN'S LACK OF DETAIL.

Q: WHAT IS OUR REACTION TO THE ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE LDP'S Y16 TRILLION YEN FISCAL STIMULUS PACKAGE?

A: IT IS ENCOURAGING THAT JAPAN IS TAKING STEPS TOWARDS STIMULATING DOMESTIC DEMAND.

WE LOOK FORWARD TO FURTHER ELABORATION OF THE SPECIFIC MEASURES.

WE'LL HAVE TO AWAIT THESE SUBSTANTIVE DETAILS BEFORE WE CAN GIVE A BROADER ASSESSMENT OF THE NEW JAPANESE PACKAGE.

4. MALAYSIA: DETENTION CAMP RIOTS

CONTEXT: ON MARCH 26, A MALAYSIAN POLICE ATTEMPT TO DEPORT INDONESIAN MIGRANTS MET VIOLENT RESISTANCE IN AT LEAST TWO DETENTION CENTERS, RESULTING IN AT LEAST NINE DEATHS, INCLUDING ONE MALAYSIAN POLICE OFFICER. THE MASS

DEPORTATION IS PART OF A LARGE-SCALE CAMPAIGN BY THE MALAYSIAN GOVERNMENT TO DEAL WITH THE ESTIMATED 17,000 INDONESIANS CURRENTLY HELD IN MALAYSIAN DETENTION CAMPS, AS WELL AS DISCOURAGE FURTHER WAVES OF INDONESIAN MIGRANTS UNCLAS SECTION 02 OF 09 STATE 055715

USIA FOR EA; TOKYO FOR YAMAUCHI; MOSCOW FOR ANDERTON

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: OPRC, XE, US

SUBJECT: MARCH 27, 1998 PRESS GUIDANCES FOR THE EAP REGION

FROM ENTERING MALAYSIA ILLEGALLY. WE UNDERSTAND THAT MALAYSIA AND INDONESIA HAVE BEEN COOPERATING CLOSELY ON THE RETURN ON THE INDONESIAN MIGRANTS.

Q: DO YOU HAVE ANY REACTION TO REPORTS OF RIOTS IN MALAYSIAN DETENTION CAMPS?

A: WE ARE CONCERNED ABOUT REPORTS OF VIOLENCE IN MALAYSIAN DETENTION CAMPS. WE UNDERSTAND THAT THERE HAVE BEEN AT LEAST NINE FATALITIES, INCLUDING EIGHT INDONESIAN MIGRANTS AND ONE MALAYSIAN POLICE OFFICER. THERE WERE ALSO A NUMBER OF INJURED, INCLUDING 38 MALAYSIAN POLICE.

WE DEEPLY REGRET THE LOSS OF LIFE.

Q: WHAT IS YOUR REACTION TO MALAYSIA'S EFFORTS TO EXPEL ILLEGAL MIGRANTS?

A: WE BELIEVE THAT GOVERNMENTS SHOULD ACT JUDICIOUSLY IN CARRYING OUT THE RETURN OF ILLEGAL MIGRANTS, AND THAT SUCH ACTION SHOULD TAKE INTO ACCOUNT THE SAFETY AND DIGNITY OF THE INDIVIDUALS INVOLVED AND BE CONSISTENT WITH THE PRINCIPLES OF THE UNIVERSAL DECLARATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS.

ALL GOVERNMENTS HAVE THE SOVEREIGN RIGHT TO RESTRICT RIGHTS OF ENTRY AND RESIDENCE TO INDIVIDUALS OF ANOTHER COUNTRY, WHILE ASSURING APPROPRIATE PROTECTION FOR ANY BONA FIDE ASYLUM SEEKERS.

Q: IS THAT WHAT MALAYSIA IS DOING? WHAT ABOUT THIS CASE?

A: WE DO NOT YET HAVE A DEFINITIVE ACCOUNT OF WHAT HAPPENED.

5. ARREST OF WANG BINGZHANG

Q: WHAT CAN YOU TELL US OF THE ARREST OF WANG BINZHANG?

A: WANG BINGZHANG WAS ARRESTED LATE LAST NIGHT, MARCH 26, 1998 IN NEW YORK BY SPECIAL AGENTS OF THE DIPLOMATIC SECURITY SERVICE ON CHARGES RELATED TO PASSPORT FRAUD.

HE IS SCHEDULED TO BE ARRAIGNED IN NEW YORK LATER TODAY.

S THIS CASE IS NOW BEFORE THE COURTS, I HAVE NO FURTHER COMMENT.

ANY FURTHER QUESTIONS SHOULD BE REFERRED TO THE U.S. ATTORNEY'S OFFICE IN NEW YORK.

Q: WAS THE PASSPORT PHOTO SUBSTITUTED?

A: THIS AN ONGOING INVESTIGATION, AND IS NOW BEFORE THE COURTS. I CANNOT COMMENT FURTHER.

(NOTE TO BRIEFER: WANG BINGZHANG IS GOING TO BE OFFICIALLY CHARGED WITH MISUSE OF A US PASSPORT, ALTERING A PASSPORT, AND IMPERSONATION OF A US CITIZEN.)

6. THE FOLLOWING PRESS GUIDANCES WERE PREPARED ON 3/27/98 AND WERE NOT USED BY THE DEPUTY SPOKESMAN DURING THE DAILY BRIEFING. POSTS MAY DRAW FROM THESE GUIDANCES FOR USE ON AN IF ASKED BASIS.

UNCLAS SECTION 03 OF 09 STATE 055715

USIA FOR EA; TOKYO FOR YAMAUCHI; MOSCOW FOR ANDERTON

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: OPRC, XE, US

SUBJECT: MARCH 27, 1998 PRESS GUIDANCES FOR THE EAP REGION

V. RUSSIA/CHINA MISSILE SALES TO IRAN

CONTEXT: A WASHINGTON TIMES ARTICLE TODAY RAISES QUESTIONS ABOUT RUSSIA AND CHINA PROVIDING MATERIALS AND TECHNOLOGY TO IRAN'S SHAHAB-3 AND SHAHAB-4 MEDIUM-RANGE BALLISTIC MISSILE PROGRAMS. THE UNITED STATES HAS BEEN CONCERNED FOR SOME TIME ABOUT REPORTS OF RUSSIAN ENTITIES ASSISTING IRAN'S MISSILE PROGRAM. WE HAVE BEEN ENGAGED IN AN INTENSE, HIGH LEVEL DIALOGUE WITH RUSSIA AIMED AT CUTTING OFF ALL ASSISTANCE TO IRAN'S MISSILE PROGRAM. THE FOCUS WITH RUSSIA NOW IS ON IMPLEMENTATION AND ENFORCEMENT OF ITS NEWLY STRENGTHENED EXPORT CONTROLS. IN THE EARLY 1990S, CHINA SOLD IRAN CSS-8 SURFACE-TO-SURFACE BALLISTIC MISSILES THAT FALL BELOW MTCR THRESHOLDS, AND WE HAVE BEEN CONCERNED ABOUT REPORTS THAT CHINESE ENTITIES ARE INVOLVED IN MISSILE-RELATED COOPERATION WITH IRAN. WE TAKE THESE REPORTS VERY SERIOUSLY AND REPEATEDLY RAISE OUR CONCERNS AT THE HIGHEST LEVELS. IN OCTOBER 1994, CHINA AGREED TO BAN ALL EXPORTS OF MTCR-CLASS GROUND-TO-GROUND MISSILES. WE HAVE NO EVIDENCE THAT CHINA HAS CONDUCTED ACTIVITIES INCONSISTENT WITH THIS COMMITMENT.

Q: HAVE CHINA AND RUSSIA CONTRIBUTED TO IRAN'S SHAHAB MEDIUM-RANGE MISSILE PROGRAM?

A: WE HAVE BEEN CONCERNED FOR SOME TIME ABOUT IRANIAN EFFORTS TO ACQUIRE MISSILE TECHNOLOGY. WE HAVE BEEN ACTIVELY ENGAGED AT THE HIGHEST LEVELS TO STEM ANY FOREIGN INVOLVEMENT IN THESE PROGRAMS.

THE UNITED STATES HAS MADE STOPPING IRANIAN MISSILE PROLIFERATION A TOP PRIORITY FOR MANY YEARS,

INCLUDING THROUGH OUR PARTICIPATION IN THE 29-NATION MISSILE TECHNOLOGY CONTROL REGIME (MTCR).

OVER THE PAST YEAR, THE UNITED STATES HAS PRESSED AN INTENSIVE EFFORT WITH THE RUSSIAN LEADERSHIP TO PREVENT RUSSIAN ENTITIES FROM AIDING IRAN'S MISSILE PROGRAM. THIS EFFORT HAS ACHIEVED RESULTS. FOR EXAMPLE, ON JANUARY 22,

RUSSIA TOOK A MAJOR STEP BY ISSUING AN EXECUTIVE ORDER SUBSTANTIALLY STRENGTHENING THE RUSSIAN EXPORT CONTROL PROCESS, PROVIDING NEW AUTHORITY TO STOP ALL TRANSFERS OF DUAL-USE GOODS AND SERVICES TO MISSILE PROGRAMS AND PROGRAMS OF WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION.

WE ALSO HAVE REPEATEDLY MADE CLEAR TO CHINA AT SENIOR LEVELS OUR CONCERNS ABOUT REPORTS OF CHINESE EXPORTS OF MISSILE-RELATED EQUIPMENT AND TECHNOLOGY TO IRAN, AND SHALL CONTINUE TO DO SO.

IN OCTOBER 1994, CHINA COMMITTED NOT TO EXPORT MTCR-CLASS GROUND-TO-GROUND MISSILES. WE HAVE NO REASON TO BELIEVE THAT CHINA HAS ENGAGED IN ACTIVITIES INCONSISTENT WITH THAT COMMITMENT.

Q: IS RUSSIA OR CHINA EXPORTING MISSILE TECHNOLOGY IN VIOLATION OF ITS ARMS CONTROL AGREEMENTS?

A: IN 1995, RUSSIA BECAME A MEMBER OF THE MTCR. THE RUSSIAN GOVERNMENT HAS MADE CLEAR THAT ITS POLICY IS TO ABIDE BY ITS MTCR COMMITMENTS AND NOT TO ASSIST IRAN'S MISSILE PROGRAM.

UNCLAS SECTION 04 OF 09 STATE 055715

USIA FOR EA; TOKYO FOR YAMAUCHI; MOSCOW FOR ANDERTON

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: OPRC, XE, US

SUBJECT: MARCH 27, 1998 PRESS GUIDANCES FOR THE EAP REGION

IN OCTOBER 1994, CHINA REAFFIRMED ITS 1992 COMMITMENT TO ABIDE BY THE ORIGINAL GUIDELINES AND PARAMETERS OF THE MTCR AND AGREED TO BAN ALL EXPORTS OF MTCR-CLASS GROUND-TO-GROUND MISSILES.

WE HAVE NO REASON TO BELIEVE THAT CHINA HAS ENGAGED IN ACTIVITIES INCONSISTENT WITH THAT COMMITMENT.

WITH REGARD TO RUSSIA, OUR POLICY HAS BEEN TO WORK WITH RUSSIA TO CUT OFF ALL LINKS BETWEEN RUSSIAN SPECIALISTS AND THE IRANIAN MISSILE EFFORT.

THE UNITED STATES AND RUSSIA ARE WORKING TOGETHER BILATERALLY TO STRENGTHEN EXPORT CONTROLS, INCLUDING IMPLEMENTATION OF THE "CATCH-ALL" APPROACH IN THE JANUARY 22 EXECUTIVE ORDER.

8. CUBA: CHINESE INVESTMENTS

CONTEXT: CHINA TODAY WILL SIGN WITH CUBA A \$19 MILLION AGREEMENT ON INVESTMENTS, CREDITS AND SMALL GRANTS. OF THE NEW CREDIT ABOUT \$12 MILLION WILL BE TO SET UP A JOINT RICE FARM IN CUBA, WITH THE REST OF THE FUNDS AVAILABLE FOR OTHER TYPES OF INVESTMENTS. \$1 MILLION IS A GRANT TO CUBA.

Q: ANY REACTION TO CHINA SIGNING AN AGREEMENT WITH CUBA TO INVEST ABOUT \$19 MILLION IN CUBA?

A: WE DISCOURAGE ANY INVESTMENT IN CUBA. AS PART OF OUR MULTILATERAL APPROACH ON CUBA, WE URGE COMPANIES THAT DO INVEST IN CUBA TO ADOPT BEST BUSINESS PRACTICES TO PROMOTE AND PROTECT THE RIGHTS OF WORKERS.

IF ASKED

WE NOTE THAT THE LIBERTAD ACT PROVIDES FOR THE U.S. GOVERNMENT TO SANCTION ENTITIES (INCLUDING CORPORATE OFFICERS, DIRECTORS AND CONTROLLING SHAREHOLDERS) THAT ARE DETERMINED TO BE "TRAFFICKING" IN U.S.-CLAIMED PROPERTIES THAT WERE ILLEGALLY EXPROPRIATED BY THE GOC. WE WILL INVESTIGATE ANY ENTITY BASED ON THE FACTS AND TERMS OF THE LAW.

(MORE)

IF ASKED

CHINA AND CUBA HAVE LONGSTANDING DIPLOMATIC, TRADE, AND ASSISTANCE RELATIONS.

9. CAMBODIA: KHMER ROUGE DISPUTE LOSS OF STRONGHOLD

CONTEXT: THE KHMER ROUGE RADIO STATION HAS ISSUED A DENIAL THAT ITS BASE AT ANLONG VENG HAS FALLEN. ACCORDING TO THE CAMBODIAN GOVERNMENT, ANLONG VENG FELL TO FORCES OF THE KHMER ROUGE WHICH HAD DEFECTED TO THE CAMBODIAN GOVERNMENT. THE EXACT WHEREABOUTS OF POL POT, TA MOK, KHIEU SAMPHAN AND OTHER SENIOR KHMER ROUGE LEADERS ARE UNKNOWN. THE KHMER ROUGE ALSO HAVE SCATTERED FORCES ELSEWHERE IN CAMBODIA, BUT ANLONG VENG IS THEIR MAIN BASE OF OPERATIONS.

Q: ANY UPDATE ON THE SITUATION AROUND ANLONG VENG?

A: WE HAVE SEEN CONFLICTING REPORTS CONCERNING THE SITUATION OF THE KHMER ROUGE FORCES BASED IN ANLONG VENG.
UNCLAS SECTION 05 OF 09 STATE 055715

USIA FOR EA; TOKYO FOR YAMAUCHI; MOSCOW FOR ANDERTON

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: OPRC, XE, US

SUBJECT: MARCH 27, 1998 PRESS GUIDANCES FOR THE EAP REGION

THERE ARE CREDIBLE REPORTS OF DEFECTIONS BY SOME KHMER ROUGE FORCES TO THE CAMBODIAN GOVERNMENT SIDE. HOWEVER, WE CANNOT CONFIRM WHETHER ANLONG VENG HAS INDEED FALLEN TO

THESE FORCES NOR CAN WE CONFIRM THE EXTENT OF THE APPARENT DEFECTIONS.

WE DO NOT KNOW THE WHEREABOUTS OF POL POT, TA MOK OR KHEIU SAMPHAN AT THIS TIME.

10. IMF FUNDING

CONTEXT: TREASURY HAS THE LEAD ON IMF ISSUES. ON MARCH 26, THE SENATE APPROVED, AS PART OF TA MILITARY OPERATIONS AND DISASTER RELIEF BILL, FUNDING FOR THE U.S. CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE INTERNATIONAL MONETARY FUND (IMF) QUOTA INCREASE (\$14.5 BILLION) AND THE NEW ARRANGEMENTS TO BORROW (\$3.5 BILLION). THE QUOTA INCREASE WOULD PROVIDE ADDITIONAL OPERATING RESOURCES; THE NAB WOULD BE AN EMERGENCY RESERVE FUND. NEITHER WOULD BE SCORED AS A BUDGET OUTLAY. THE ADMINISTRATION REQUESTED SUPPLEMENTAL FUNDING FOR BOTH PURPOSES. TREASURY STAFFERS HAVE EXPRESSED CONCERN OVER SOME OF THE BILL'S CONDITIONS ON TRADE AND SUBSIDIES BUT BELIEVE THEY CAN BE WORKED OUT IN CONFERENCE. THE HOUSE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE HAS APPROVED A SEPARATE BILL REQUIRING THE IMF TO IMPOSE TRADE AND SUBSIDY CONDITIONS ON LARGE BORROWERS. TREASURY SECRETARY RUBIN HAS SAID THAT THE HOUSE CONDITIONS COULD DELAY INDEFINITELY IMPLEMENTATION OF THE QUOTA INCREASE. PROSPECTS IN THE FULL HOUSE REMAIN UNCERTAIN, AS HOUSE REPUBLICANS ARE LIKELY TO LINK "MEXICO CITY" ABORTION LANGUAGE TO THE BILL WHEN IT REACHES THE HOUSE FLOOR PROBABLY IN LATE FALL.

Q: WHAT IS THE ADMINISTRATION'S REACTION TO THE SENATE APPROVAL OF IMF FUNDING? DO YOU HAVE ANY COMMENTS ON THE BILL'S TRADE AND SUBSIDY CONDITIONS?

A: WE WELCOME SENATE APPROVAL OF FUNDING FOR THE IMF. IT IS VERY IMPORTANT THAT THE U.S. SHARE OF THE IMF QUOTA INCREASE AND THE NEW ARRANGEMENTS TO BORROW (NAB) BE APPROVED BY THE FULL CONGRESS WITHOUT DELAY SO WE HAVE THE CAPACITY TO DEAL WITH RISKS TO FINANCIAL STABILITY.

WE WOULD OBJECT TO ANY CONDITIONS THAT WOULD DELAY UNREASONABLY THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE QUOTA INCREASE OR THE NAB. FOR COMMENTS ON SPECIFIC PROVISIONS OF THE SENATE OR HOUSE LEGISLATION, I REFER YOU TO THE TREASURY DEPARTMENT.

11. STATE AND LOCAL SANCTIONS

FOR SPOKESMAN, NOT PUBLIC

BACKGROUND:

THE MARYLAND HOUSE OF DELEGATES AND SENATE ARE CONSIDERING COMPANION BILLS WHICH WOULD IMPOSE SANCTIONS ON COMPANIES

AND THEIR SUBSIDIARIES DOING BUSINESS IN NIGERIA. EB'S DAS FOR TRADE POLICY AND PROGRAMS, DAVID MARCHICK, TESTIFIED BEFORE THE MARYLAND HOUSE OF DELEGATES COMMERCE AND GOVERNMENT MATTERS COMMITTEE ON WEDNESDAY, MARCH 25, 1998.

THE PROVISIONS OF THE MARYLAND BILL ARE BROADER THAN THOSE IN THE MASSACHUSETTS LAW IN THAT THE MARYLAND BILL BANS PROCUREMENT ABOVE \$10,000 FROM SUPPLIERS DOING BUSINESS IN UNCLAS SECTION 06 OF 09 STATE 055715

USIA FOR EA; TOKYO FOR YAMAUCHI; MOSCOW FOR ANDERTON

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: OPRC, XE, US

SUBJECT: MARCH 27, 1998 PRESS GUIDANCES FOR THE EAP REGION

NIGERIA. IF PASSED, THE MARYLAND LAW COULD EXPOSE US TO A WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION (WTO) DISPUTE CHALLENGE, SIMILAR TO THE ONGOING DISPUTE SETTLEMENT CASE WITH THE EUROPEANS AND THE JAPANESE WHO ALLEGE THAT THE MASSACHUSETTS BURMA LAW VIOLATES CERTAIN PROVISIONS OF THE WTO GOVERNMENT PROCUREMENT AGREEMENT.

THE STATE DEPARTMENT HAS A NUMBER OF CONCERNS ABOUT STATE AND LOCAL SANCTIONS. WE BELIEVE SANCTIONS AT THE STATE AND LOCAL LEVEL ARE NOT EFFECTIVE IN PURSUING REFORM IN THE TARGETED COUNTRY. WE ARE CONCERNED THAT STATE AND LOCAL SANCTIONS MAY IMPAIR THE PRESIDENT'S ABILITY TO SEND A CLEAR AND UNIFIED MESSAGE TO THE REST OF THE WORLD. AD HOC AND SCATTERING ACTIONS AT VARIOUS LEVELS OF GOVERNMENT, HOWEVER WILL-INTENTIONED, CAN DO MORE HARM THAN GOOD IN ACHIEVING THE DESIRED OBJECTIVE. THEY CAN IMPEDE THE PRESIDENT'S AND THE SECRETARY OF STATE'S CONDUCT OF FOREIGN POLICY.

FOR THE PUBLIC

Q: WHAT IS THE STATE DEPARTMENT'S VIEW OF STATE AND LOCAL SANCTIONS?

A: WE SHARE MARYLAND'S AND OTHER STATES' CONCERNS ABOUT HUMAN RIGHTS IN NIGERIA AND THROUGHOUT THE WORLD AND THE NECESSARY DEMOCRATIC REFORMS WHICH MUST TAKE PLACE TO IMPROVE THE LIVES OF THE CITIZENS OF THOSE COUNTRIES. WE ARE REACHING OUT TO THE STATES TO OFFER A PARTNERSHIP -- WITH AN OPPORTUNITY TO WORK WITH THEM-- TO RESPOND TO EGREGIOUS THREATS TO OUR NATIONAL SECURITY, OUR INTEREST IN ENHANCING HUMAN RIGHTS OR IN PROMOTING OTHER OF OUR NATIONAL VALUES.

WHILE WE RECOGNIZE AND SHARE STATE GOVERNMENTS' FRUSTRATION OR EVEN OUTRAGE AT CERTAIN COUNTRIES' UNACCEPTABLE BEHAVIOR, WE ARE CONCERNED ABOUT THE GROWING NUMBER OF STATE AND LOCAL MEASURES AND THE MESSAGE THEY SEND TO THE REST OF THE WORLD. OUR CONCERN IS WHETHER SANCTIONS ARE EFFECTIVE IN PURSUING THE GOALS WE ALL SHARE. TO BE MOST EFFECTIVE, SANCTIONS SHOULD HAVE MULTILATERAL SUPPORT AND

PARTICIPATION WHEREVER POSSIBLE. ABOVE ALL, ANY ACTION, WHETHER IT IS AT THE STATE, LOCAL OR THE FEDERAL LEVEL, SHOULD MOVE US FORWARD IN IMPROVING HUMAN RIGHTS AND ADVANCING DEMOCRATIC REFORM IN THE TARGETED COUNTRY.

12. INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL COURT

CONTEXT: QN THURSDAY SENATOR HELMS MADE PUBLIC A LETTER TO THE SECRETARY IN WHICH HE DECLARED THAT THE TREATY FOR AN INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL COURT WOULD BE "DEAD-ON-ARRIVAL" IN THE SENATE IF THE U.S. DOES NOT HAVE A VETO OVER CASES INVOLVING U.S. CITIZENS. HELMS WROTE THAT HE IS "UNALTERABLY OPPOSED TO THE CREATION OF A PERMANENT U.N. CRIMINAL COURT" AND THAT U.S. NEGOTIATORS "DO NOT HAVE ANY 'FLEXIBILITY'." HELMS WAS REACTING TO LAST WEEK'S RATHER MISLEADING MEDIA HEADLINES ABOUT POSSIBLE U.S. FLEXIBILITY, EVEN THOUGH YESTERDAY THE WASHINGTON POST REPORTED OUR EFFORTS TO FURTHER LIMIT THE COURT'S JURISDICTION.

Q: WHAT IS YOUR REACTION TO SENATOR HELMS' PRONOUNCEMENT THAT THE ICC TREATY IS "DEAD-ON-ARRIVAL" IN THE SENATE?

UNCLAS SECTION 07 OF 09 STATE 055715

USIA FOR EA; TOKYO FOR YAMAUCHI; MOSCOW FOR ANDERTON

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: OPRC, XE, US

SUBJECT: MARCH 27, 1998 PRESS GUIDANCES FOR THE EAP REGION

A: THE SECRETARY RESPECTS CHAIRMAN HELMS' VIEWS ON THE INTERNATIONAL COURT AND WILL BE STUDYING THE LETTER HE SENT HER VERY CAREFULX.

THE U.S. DELEGATION TO THE U.S. TALKS ON THE ICC HAS BEEN PURSUING OUR LONG-HELD POSITIONS ON KEY ISSUES. THIS HAS BEEN A LONG NEGOTIATING PROCESS AND NEGOTIATIONS WILL CONTINUE AT A DIPLOMATIC CONFERENCE IN ROME THIS SUMMER. WE FULLY APPRECIATE THE FACT THAT ANY TREATY WHICH IS NEGOTIATED WILL NEED THE ADVISE AND CONSENT OF THE SENATE IF THE UNITED STATES DECIDES TO SIGN THE TREATY.

Q: WILL YOU ACCEPT A TREATY THAT DOES NOT HAVE A "U.S. VETO" OF CASES AGAINST U.S. CITIZENS, AS SENATOR HELMS DEMANDS?

A: THE UNITED STATES IS WORKING HARD TO TAKE CONSTRUCTIVE POSITIONS IN SUPPORT OF AN EFFECTIVE COURT THAT WE CAN JOIN AND SUPPORT. THE PURPOSE OF THIS COURT IS THAT IT WOULD OPERATE ONLY WHEN THE NATIONAL JURISDICTION IS UNWILLING OR UNABLE TO HANDLE CASES CLEARLY WARRANTING PROSECUTION.

Q: SENATOR HELMS OPPOSES ANY PERMANENT JUDICIARY IN THE U.N. SYSTEM BECAUSE HE BELIEVES IT WOULD VIOLATE U.S. SOVEREIGNTY. ISN'T HE RIGHT?

A: I DO NOT WANT TO GET INTO THE DETAILS OF THE LETTER, AS THE SECRETARY WANTS TO STUDY IT. HOWEVER, IT SHOULD BE NOTED THAT THE ICC WOULD BE A TREATY-BASED COURT OUTSIDE OF THE U.N. SYSTEM.

Q: SPECIFICALLY, WHAT WILL BE THE SAFEGUARDS FOR U.S. SOVEREIGNTY IN ANY AGREEMENT APPROVED.

A: IT SIMPLY WOULD NOT BE APPROPRIATE FOR ME TO COMMENT ON THE SPECIFICS OF THE NEGOTIATIONS. HOWEVER, THE U.S. IS COMMITTED TO THE CREATION OF AN EFFECTIVE INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL COURT THAT WILL PROVIDE APPROPRIATE PROTECTIONS FOR U.S. INTERESTS.

Q: WHAT WILL BE U.S. COURTS' JURISDICTION IN CASES INVOLVING AMCITS?

A: AGAIN, I DO NOT WANT TO GET DRAWN INTO THE SPECIFICS OF THE NEGOTIATIONS. WE HAVE BEEN WORKING HARD TO SEEK TO ENSURE THAT THE COURT DEFERS TO U.S. COURTS WHERE AMCITS ARE INVOLVED.

13. THE FOLLOWING PRESS GUIDANCE WAS PREPARED BY THE NSC ON 3/27/98. POSTS MAY DRAW FROM IT FOR USE ON AN IF ASKED BASIS.

14. INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL COURT

Q: WHAT IS THE NEW PROVISION RELATING TO THE ICC BEING PROPOSED BY THE UNITED STATES?

A: WE'RE PROPOSING A PROVISION TO PERMIT COUNTRIES WITH WORKING LEGAL SYSTEMS TO DEFER--FOR A LIMITED PERIOD OF TIME--COURT ACTION IN CASES INVOLVING THEIR OWN CITIZENS.

THIS DELAY WOULD ONLY OCCUR IF THE COUNTRY AGREED TO - INVESTIGATE AND, IF WARRANTED, PROSECUTE THE CRIME ITSELF.

UNCLAS SECTION 08 OF 09 STATE 055715

USIA FOR EA; TOKYO FOR YAMAUCHI; MOSCOW FOR ANDERTON

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: OPRC, XE, US

SUBJECT: MARCH 27, 1998 PRESS GUIDANCES FOR THE EAP REGION

Q: WHY IS THE U.S. PUSHING SUCH A CHANGE?

A: OUR PROPOSAL BUILDS ON A PRINCIPLE THAT ALL STATES IN THE NEGOTIATIONS HAVE ACCEPTED: THAT WE SHOULD ENCOURAGE NATIONAL COURTS TO PROSECUTE WAR CRIMINALS, AND ONLY USE THE ICC WHEN SUCH COURTS FAIL TO DO SO.

WE ALSO WANT TO ENSURE THAT THE COURT DOES NOT BECOME A FORUM FOR POLITICAL ATTACKS AGAINST THE UNITED STATES OR OUR ALLIES.

IT IS VERY IMPORTANT THAT COUNTRIES WITH DEVELOPED LEGAL SYSTEMS, LIKE THE UNITED STATES, HAVE THE FIRST OPPORTUNITY TO PROSECUTE THEIR OWN NATIONALS.

Q: WON'T THE PROVISION PERMIT LAWLESS STATES LIKE IRAQ TO DELAY OR AVOID PROSECUTIONS BEFORE THE COURT?

A: NO. THIS PROVISION WOULDN'T APPLY, AND THE ICC COULD

PROCEED, WHEN IT COULD BE SHOWN THAT A STATE LACKED THE ABILITY TO INVESTIGATE ITS OWN NATIONAL. (NOTE: PROSECUTOR WOULD MAKE THIS DECISION, WHICH WOULD NEED TO BE CONFIRMED BY ICC JUDGES.)

Q: WHAT IS YOUR VIEW OF THE POSITION EXPRESSED YESTERDAY BY SENATOR HELMS IN A LETTER TO SECRETARY ALBRIGHT THAT HE WOULD ADAMANTLY OPPOSE A TREATY THAT DID NOT PROVIDE THE U.S. WITH CLEAR VETO POWER OVER ANY ICC ACTION?

A: I SHARE SENATOR HELMS' CONCERN THAT THE ICC NOT BECOME A VEHICLE FOR POLITICAL ATTACKS ON CITIZENS OF THE UNITED STATES OF OTHER LAW-ABIDING MEMBERS OF THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY.

AT THE SAME TIME, WE VERY MUCH NEED AN EFFECTIVE INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL COURT TO DETER AND PUNISH THOSE WHO WOULD COMMIT ATROCITIES OF THE SORT I LEARNED ABOUT FIRST HAND DURING MY STOP IN RWANDA. AND WE MUST BE WILLING TO WORK WITH OUR ALLIES AND THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY TO ACCOMPLISH THIS RESULT.

I BELIEVE WE CAN ACHIEVE BOTH OF THESE GOALS.

15. THE FOLLOWING PRESS GUIDANCE WAS PREPARED ON 3/26/97 AND WAS NOT USED BY THE DEPUTY SPOKESMAN AT THE 23/2V/98 PRESS BRIEFING. POSTS MAY DRAW FROM IT FOR USE ON AN IF ASKED BASIS.

16. STATE DEPT. AUTHORIZATION BILL/HOUSE VOTE

WE ARE DISAPPOINTED THAT THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES ADOPTED TODAY THE CONFERENCE REPORT FOR THE FY-98-99 STATE DEPARTMENT AUTHORIZATION BILL. THE CONFERENCE REPORT CONTAINS UNACCEPTABLE MEXICO CITY RESTRICTIONS ON INTERNATIONAL FAMILY PLANNING PROGRAMS, AND THE ADMINISTRATION HAS SAID REPEATEDLY THAT THE PRESIDENT WILL VETO THIS LEGISLATION IF APPROVED IN ITS CURRENT FORM.

THE CONFERENCE REPORT CONTAINS SEVERAL KEY FOREIGN POLICY INITIATIVES IMPORTANT TO THE ADMINISTRATION, AND WE REMAIN COMMITTED TO WINNING THEIR EARLY ENACTMENT IN A FORM ACCEPTABLE TO THE ADMINISTRATION. MOST IMPORTANTLY, THE CONFERENCE REPORT AUTHORIZES PAYMENT FOR UN ARREARS. THE U.S. HAS AN OPPORTUNITY BEGINNING IN MAY OF THIS YEAR TO UNCLAS SECTION 09 OF 09 STATE 055715

USIA FOR EA; TOKYO FOR YAMAUCHI; MOSCOW FOR ANDERTON

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: OPRC, XE, US

SUBJECT: MARCH 27, 1998 PRESS GUIDANCES FOR THE EAP REGION

ACHIEVE KEY UN REFORMS, INCLUDING THE REDUCTION OF THE AMOUNT OF MONEY THE U.S. HAS TO PAY IN DUES, AND IT REMAINS IMPERATIVE THAT UN ARREARS BE ENACTED INTO LAW TO INFLUENCE THESE NEGOTIATIONS. PAYMENTS OF OUR ARREARS IS ALSO CRITICAL TO RESTORING AMERICAN LEADERSHIP AT THE UN.

THE LEGISLATION ALSO PROVIDES FOR FOREIGN POLICY REORGANIZATION, WHICH ALSO REMAINS AN IMPORTANT ADMINISTRATION PRIORITY.

WHEN THE SENATE TAKES UP THIS CONFERENCE REPORT, WE WILL REITERATE THE ADMINISTRATION'S STRONG OBJECTIONS TO THE LEGISLATION IN ITS CURRENT FORM, AND WORK TOWARDS ENACTMENT OF LEGISLATION ACCEPTABLE TO THE ADMINISTRATION.
ALBRIGHT

SECT: SECTION: 01 OF 09
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DIST:
SIT: BADER BOONE GAGNON KRISTOFF KYLE LEE NORRIS PRITCHARD
SIT: NSC

Cable

PREC: IMMEDIATE

CLASS: UNCLASSIFIED

LINE1: OAAUZYUW RUEHTVA4251 0891004-UUUU--RHEHNSC RHEHAAA.

LINE2: ZNR UUUUU ZZH

LINE3: O 301004Z MAR 98

LINE4: FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

OSRI: RUEHTV

DTG: 301004Z MAR 98

ORIG: AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

TO: RUEHIA/USIA WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9166
RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1360
RHEHAAA/WHITEHOUSE WASHDC IMMEDIATE
RHEHNSC/WHITEHOUSE NSC WASHDC IMMEDIATE
RUEAIIA/CIA WASHDC IMMEDIATE
RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHDC//USDP/ASD-PA/ASD-ISA// IMMEDIATE
RUEAHQA/HQ USAF WASHINGTON DC//XOXX// IMMEDIATE
RUEADWD/DA WASHDC//SASA// IMMEDIATE
RUENAAA/CNO WASHINGTON DC IMMEDIATE
RUEKDIA/DIA WASHINGTON DC IMMEDIATE
RUEKJCS/JOINT STAFF WASHDC//PA// IMMEDIATE
RUEHAM/AMEMBASSY AMMAN IMMEDIATE 9408
RUEHAK/AMEMBASSY ANKARA IMMEDIATE 0055
RUEHLB/AMEMBASSY BEIRUT IMMEDIATE 6834
RUEHEGCMEMBASSY CAIRO IMMEDIATE 0458
RUEHDM/AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS IMMEDIATE 6877
RUEHLO/AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE 0377
RUEHNC/AMEMBASSY NICOSIA IMMEDIATE 6183
RUEHFR/AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE 3904
RUEHRB/AMEMBASSY RABAT IMMEDIATE 4039
RUEHRO/AMEMBASSY OME IMMEDIATE 0368
RUEHRH/AMEMBASSY RIYADH IMMEDIATE 5498
RUCNDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE 5148
RUEHJM/AMCONSUL JERUSALEM IMMEDIATE 9273
RUFGNOA/USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GE//PAO/POLAD// IMMEDIATE
RUFHQJQ/COMSIXTHFLT IMMEDIATE
RUCJACC/USCINCCENT MACDILL AFB FL//POLAD/USIA ADVISOR//

INFO: ///

SUBJ: ISRAEL MEDIA REACTION

SUBJECTS COVERED IN THIS REPORT:

TEXT:

UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 07 TEL AVIV 004251

USIA

STATE PASS BIB

STATE FOR NEA/IAI, NEA/P, INR, HA, IO, S/P, PA, PM
USIA FOR NEA, I/GNEA, R/NA, I/RF, I/RFW, B/G, B/TVP,
B/TVW,

B/BXA, M/PA, M/PF, M/PFN, B/A, B/VOA/N, B/VOA/C

WHITE HOUSE FOR PRESS OFFICE
WHITE HOUSE SIT ROOM
JERUSALEM ALSO FOR VOA
JERUSALEM ALSO FOR ICD
LONDON ALSO FOR HKANONA AND POL - TUELLER
PARIS ALSO FOR POL - LEAF
ROME FOR MFO

NICOSIA FOR ILMG

E.O. 12958: N/A

SUBJECT: ISRAEL MEDIA REACTION

SUBJECTS COVERED IN THIS REPORT:

1. SMEC ROSS MISSION
2. PRESIDENT CLINTON IN AFRICA

KEY STORIES IN THE MEDIA:

THE NEWS MEDIA LED WITH ACCOUNTS OF SMEC ROSS' INTENSIVE EFFORTS TO REVIVE THE PALESTINIAN TRACK - AGAINST THE BACKDROP OF SECRETARY ALBRIGHT'S REPORTEDLY GLOOMY REMARKS TO AMERICAN JEWISH LEADERS ABOUT THE STATE OF THE PEACE PROCESS AND THE VOCAL OPPOSITION OF POLITICAL HAWKS IN THE ISRAELI CABINET TO THE AMERICAN PULLBACK FIGURES. NATIONALIST HATZOFE BANNERED, "BACK TO THE STREETS; SETTLERS PLAN ANTI-WITHDRAWAL DEMONSTRATIONS." FORMER AMBASSADOR TO THE U.S. ITAMAR RABINOVICH WROTE IN YEDIOT ABOUT THE SECRETARY'S REMARKS: "NOT SINCE BAKER'S WORDS TO SHAMIR HAVE SUCH GRAVE COMMENTS BEEN MADE."

CHANNEL 2-TV SAID SATURDAY THAT ISRAEL IS FACING A DOUBLE CRISIS - WITH THE PALESTINIANS AND WITH THE U.S. DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT EMANUEL ROSEN OBSERVED, "DENNIS ROSS IS THE LAST PERSON STILL BELIEVING THAT A CRISIS MAY BE AVOIDED." ISRAEL TV REPORTED, "PRIME MINISTER NETANYAHU TOLD THE CABINET THAT THE AMERICANS ARE LEANING ON ARAFAT TO FORMULATE A JOINT PALESTINIAN-AMERICAN-ARAB COMMON POSITION IN ORDER TO ISOLATE ISRAEL."

ACCORDING TO ISRAEL TV, ROSS' IDEA OF A SECOND ISRAELI REDEPLOYMENT INCLUDED A TRANSFER OF 12 PERCENT OF AREA C TO B, 1 PERCENT OF AREA C TO A AND OVER 14 PERCENT OF AREA B TO A. MAARIV REPORTED FROM WASHINGTON THAT SMEC ROSS MAY BE MOTIVATED BY THE RESULTS OF A POLL THE STATE DEPARTMENT RECEIVED

SHORTLY BEFORE HIS DEPARTURE, INDICATING THAT MOST ISRAELIS WANT THE U.S. TO COME FORWARD WITH PERMANENT ARRANGEMENT SOLUTIONS AND TO REBUKE ANY ACTIONS WHICH UNDERMINE THE PEACE PROCESS.

CHANNEL 2-TV SUNDAY CITED UNNAMED "SENIOR AMERICAN SOURCES (THAT) THE ISRAELI SIDE HAS SOFTENED ITS UNCLAS SECTION 02 OF 07 TEL AVIV 004251

USIA

STATE PASS BIB

STATE FOR NEA/IAI, NEA/P, INR, HA, IO, S/P, PA, PM
USIA FOR NEA, I/GNEA, R/NA, I/RF, I/RFW, B/G, B/TVP,
B/TVW,
B/BXA, M/PA, M/PF, M/PFN, B/A, B/VOA/N, B/VOA/C

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WHITE HOUSE SIT ROOM

JERUSALEM ALSO FOR VOA

JERUSALEM ALSO FOR ICD

LONDON ALSO FOR HKANONA AND POL - TUELLER

PARIS ALSO FOR POL - LEAF

ROME FOR MFO

NICOSIA FOR ILMG

E.O. 12958: N/A

SUBJET: ISRAEL MEDIA REACTION

POSITIONS." REPORTING THAT ROSS SUCCEEDED IN GETTING THE PARTIES TO AGREE TO SET UP A JOINT COMMITTEE TO HANDLE THE 3RD REDEPLOYMENT, ISRAEL TV DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT DAN SEMMAMA SAID THIS WAS "A SIGNIFICANT CONCESSION" ON THE PART OF THE PRIME MINISTER. MAARIV REPORTED "CAUTIOUS OPTIMISM" AND HEADLINED, "NETANYAHU DISPLAYED FLEXIBILITY, 11 PERCENT PULLBACK MAY BE AGREED UPON." MAARIV ADDED THAT ISRAEL HAS ALSO OFFERED TO PARTIALLY FREEZE CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS IN THE TERRITORIES, BUT NOT IN THE JERUSALEM AREA. "ROSS TENDS TO AGREE TO THIS," WROTE MAARIV.

YEDIOT WROTE, "U.S.-ISRAELI DISCUSSIONS FOCUS ON ISRAEL'S DEMAND TO SCRAP 3RD REDEPLOYMENT." YEDIOT

ADDED THAT SMEC ROSS DECIDED TO EXTEND HIS VISIT "BECAUSE HE FAILED TO SECURE ISRAEL'S AGREEMENT TO THE AMERICAN PROPOSALS." YEDIOT ALSO FEATURED DENIALS BY SENIOR ISRAELI OFFICIALS OF REPORTS THAT THE PRIME MINISTER HAS AGREED TO A TIME-OUT ON SETTLEMENTS.

HA'ARETZ ENGLISH EDITION HEADLINED "NO PROGRESS IN ROSS TALKS." HOWEVER, THE NEWSPAPER'S HEBREW EDITION SAID "COMPROMISE ACHIEVED ON 3RD WITHDRAWAL; U.S. OFFERS MULTI-NATIONAL AGREEMENT-SIGNING

WASHINGTON SUMMIT."

CHANNEL 2-TV REPORTED SUNDAY: "SECRETARY ALBRIGHT COMPLAINED TO DEFENSE MINISTER MORDECHAI ABOUT THE GOI'S FOOTDRAGGING AS WELL AS ABOUT JERUSALEM'S ALLEGATIONS THAT THE U.S. WAS MAKING PROPOSALS HARMFUL TO ISRAEL'S SECURITY."

ALL MEDIA REPORTED A PLEDGE BY U.S. DEFENSE SECRETARY COHEN TO VISITING DEFENSE MINISTER MORDECHAI TO POSITIVELY CONSIDER ISRAEL'S REQUEST FOR A THIRD ARROW BATTERY. MAARIV WASHINGTON CORRESPONDENTS YITZHAK BEN-HORIN NOTED THAT DURING THEIR JOINT PRESS CONFERENCE, "COHEN DISPLAYED HIS GREAT PERSONAL FRIENDSHIP FOR MORDECHAI."

WASHINGTON CORRESPONDENTS REPORTED THAT THE U.S. WAS DEEPLY OFFENDED BY ISRAEL'S DECISION TO TURN FIRST TO FRANCE AND NOT TO THE U.S. WITH ITS LEBANON PULLOUT INITIATIVE.

THE PRESS REPORTED THAT LABOR AND WELFARE MINISTER UNCLAS SECTION 03 OF 07 TEL AVIV 004251

USIA

STATE PASS BIB
STATE FOR NEA/IAI, NEA/P, INR, HA, IO, S/P, PA, PM
USIA FOR NEA, I/GNEA, R/NA, I/RF, I/RFW, B/G, B/TVP,
B/TVW,
B/BXA, M/PA, M/PF, M/PFN, B/A, B/VOA/N, B/VOA/C

WHITE HOUSE FOR PRESS OFFICE
WHITE HOUSE SIT ROOM
JERUSALEM ALSO FOR VOA
JERUSALEM ALSO FOR ICD
LONDON ALSO FOR HKANONA AND POL - TUELLER
PARIS ALSO FOR POL - LEAF
ROME FOR MFO

NICOSIA FOR ILMG

E.O. 12958: N/A

SUBJECT: ISRAEL MEDIA REACTION

ELI YISHAI IS SCHEDULED TO VISIT JONATHAN POLLARD TODAY.

MAARIV REPORTED THAT PRESIDENT CLINTON SENT A LETTER TO AMBASSADOR BEN-ELISSAR "EXPRESSING HIS AND THE FIRST LADY'S GRATITUDE FOR THE AMBASSADOR'S SUPPORT IN THE FIRST DIFFICULT DAYS OF THE MONICA LEWINSKY AFFAIR."

YEDIOT FEATURED A PHOTOMONTAGE OF MINISTER ARIEL SHARON CLAD IN NAZI UNIFORM WHICH THE PAPER SAID APPEARED IN A POPULAR JORDANIAN WEEKLY "SHIHAN"

(PHON.)

ISRAEL RADIO MONDAY REPORTED CLASHES IN ISRAEL AND THE TERRITORIES BETWEEN SECURITY FORCES AND ISRAELI ARABS/PALESTINIANS MARKING THE 22ND ANNIVERSARY OF THE DEATH OF 6 ISRAELI ARABS IN A LAND DISPUTE WITH ISRAELI AUTHORITIES.

ALL MEDIA REPORTED A BOMB EXPLOSION IN RAMALLAH MAY HAVE BEEN A TERRORIST ACCIDENT.

INTERNAL SECURITY MINISTER KAHALANI MET IN GAZA WITH CHAIRMAN ARAFAT AND OBTAINED AGREEMENT ON AUTO THEFT PREVENTION.

1. SMEC ROSS MISSION:

SUMMARY:

POPULAR, PLURALIST MAARIV WROTE IN ITS LEAD EDITORIAL: "SECRETARY OF STATE ALBRIGHT TOLD AMERICAN JEWISH LEADERS THAT THE PEACE PROCESS IS DYING AND THAT THE U.S. WOULD WASH ITS HANDS OF THE ENTIRE PROCESS. IN SHORT, ALBRIGHT HAS DESPAIRED OF THE GOI."

ANTI-NETANYAHU ANALYST AKIVA ELDAR WROTE IN HA'ARETZ: "U.S. SECRETARY OF STATE MADELEINE ALBRIGHT IN EFFECT TOLD AMERICAN JEWISH LEADERS THAT IF NETANYAHU DOES NOT CHOOSE THE AMERICAN INITIATIVE, JEWS WILL HAVE TO CHOOSE WHETHER TO BE LOYAL TO ISRAEL OR TO THE U.S."

NATIONALIST HATZOFE WROTE IN ITS LEAD EDITORIAL:
UNCLAS SECTION 04 OF 07 TEL AVIV 004251

USIA

STATE PASS BIB
STATE FOR NEA/IAI, NEA/P, INR, HA, IO, S/P, PA, PM
USIA FOR NEA, I/GNEA, R/NA, I/RF, I/RFW, B/G, B/TVP,
B/TVW,
B/BXA, M/PA, M/PF, M/PFN, B/A, B/VOA/N, B/VOA/C

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PARIS ALSO FOR POL - LEAF
ROME FOR MFO

NICOSIA FOR ILMG

E.O. 12958: N/A

SUBJECT: ISRAEL MEDIA REACTION

"THE AMERICANS ARE OUR FRIENDS BUT THEY MUST NOT GET INVOLVED IN WHAT IS STRICTLY AN ISRAELI AFFAIR."

ANTI-NETANYAHU HA'ARETZ WROTE IN ITS LEAD EDITORIAL: "THE U.S. PEACE INITIATIVE HAS TO A GREAT EXTENT BEEN TAILORED TO FIT NETANYAHU'S DEMANDS."

NATIONALIST PUNDIT MOSHE ZAK OPINED IN POPULAR, PLURALIST MAARIV: "THE U.S. ATTEMPT TO DRIVE A WEDGE BETWEEN ISRAEL AND AMERICAN JEWS IS MORE PAINFUL THAN ANY ECONOMIC SANCTIONS."

DIPLOMATIC ANALYST JAY BUSHINSKY WROTE IN A FRONTPAGE COMMENTARY IN INDEPENDENT JERUSALEM POST: "IT IS HARD TO DECIPHER ALBRIGHT'S EMOTION-TINGED BRIEFING TO AMERICAN JEWISH LEADERS."

BLOCK QUOTES:

I. "WALKING TALL TO THE ABYSS"

POPULAR, PLURALIST MAARIV WROTE IN ITS LEAD EDITORIAL: (3/30): "SECRETARY OF STATE ALBRIGHT TOLD AMERICAN JEWISH LEADERS THAT THE PEACE PROCESS IS DYING AND THAT THE U.S. WOULD WASH ITS HANDS OF THE ENTIRE PROCESS. IN SHORT, ALBRIGHT HAS DESPAIRED OF THE GOI JERUSALEM MAY BELIEVE THAT IF IT AGREES TO NO THING, NOTHING WOULD HAPPEN. THIS IS A DANGEROUS ILLUSION WHICH IS GOING TO COST US DEARLY. ALREADY, THE WORLD LOOKS ON US AS ON A PLAGUE-STRICKEN NATION. AND THIS IS JUST THE BEGINNING."

II. "THE JEWS MUST CHOOSE"

ANTI-NETANYAHU ANALYST AKIVA ELDAR WROTE IN HA'ARETZ (3/30): "U.S. SECRETARY OF STATE MADELEINE ALBRIGHT IN EFFECT TOLD THE AMERICAN JEWISH LEADERS THIS WEEKEND THAT ... IF NETANYAHU DOES NOT CHOOSE THE AMERICAN INITIATIVE, JEWS WILL HAVE TO CHOOSE WHETHER TO BE LOYAL TO ISRAEL OR TO THE U.S. THIS IS A CHOICE THE JEWS LIKE ABOUT AS MUCH AS THEY LIKE LOUIS FARRAKHAN. IT REMINDS THEM PAINFULLY OF THE CASE OF THE SPY JONATHAN POLLARD, WHOSE PRISON CELL HAS BECOME A SITE OF PILGRIMAGE FOR ISRAELI MINISTERS ISRAELI OFFICIALS IN WASHINGTON CAN ALREADY FEEL THE ADMINISTRATION'S CHILL. WHAT USED TO BE REFERRED TO AS 'INTIMACY' HAS BEEN REPLACED BY UNCLAS SECTION 05 OF 07 TEL AVIV 004251

USIA

STATE PASS BIB

STATE FOR NEA/IAI, NEA/P, INR, HA, IO, S/P, PA, PM

USIA FOR NEA, I/GNEA, R/NA, I/RF, I/RFW, B/G, B/TVP,
B/TVW,
B/BXA, M/PA, M/PF, M/PFN, B/A, B/VOA/N, B/VOA/C

WHITE HOUSE FOR PRESS OFFICE
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PARIS ALSO FOR POL - LEAF
ROME FOR MFO

NICOSIA FOR ILMG

E.O. 12958: N/A

SUBJECT: ISRAEL MEDIA REACTION

AN ATMOSPHERE OF SUSPICION THE SMILES BESTOWED
ON DEFENSE MINISTER YITZHAK MORDECHAI DID NOT REALLY
MUFFLE WHISPERS OF DISAPPOINTMENT. THE AMERICANS
SUSPECT THAT MORDECHAI'S LEBANON ACTIVITY HIDES HIS
IMPOTENCE ON THE PALESTINIAN TRACK."

III. "'REDEPLOYMENT' WITHOUT PRESSURE"

NATIONALIST HATZOFE WROTE IN ITS LEAD EDITORIAL:
"THE AMERICANS WANT TO IMPOSE ON ISRAEL THE SCOPE OF
THE NEXT WITHDRAWAL. THE AMERICANS ARE OUR FRIENDS
BUT THEY MUST NOT GET INVOLVED IN WHAT IS STRICTLY
AN ISRAELI AFFAIR. WE PUBLISHED LAST FRIDAY AN
AMERICAN LETTER TO THE PRIME MINISTER SIGNED BY U.S.
AMBASSADOR (MARTIN INDYK) ON THE EVE OF THE HEBRON
WITHDRAWAL WHICH STATED CLEARLY THAT THE NEXT
REDEPLOYMENTS ARE FOR ISRAEL TO MANAGE AND THAT IT
CANNOT BE NEGOTIATED WITH THE PALESTINIANS THIS
- AND NOT PRESSURE AND COERCION - IS THE APPROACH
WHICH SHOULD LEAD THE AMERICANS."

IV "HOUR OF DECISION"

ANTI-NETANYAHU HA'ARETZ WROTE IN ITS LEAD EDITORIAL
(3/30): "'SECRETARY ALBRIGHT'S DECISION TO GIVE
FAIRLY WIDE PUBLICITY TO HER DISAPPOINTMENT IN THE
NETANYAHU GOVERNMENT'S POLICIES SIGNALS A VERY LOW
POINT IN ISRAELI-AMERICAN RELATIONS THE U.S.
PEACE INITIATIVE HAS TO A GREAT EXTENT BEEN TAILORED
TO FIT NETANYAHU'S DEMANDS ONE OR TWO
PERCENTAGE POINTS IN THE UNPOPULATED SECTIONS OF
AREA C SHOULD NOT BE ALLOWED TO STAND IN THE WAY OF
BRINGING THE PEACE PROCESS BACK ON A CONSTRUCTIVE
TRACK RESTORING THE FAITH OF THE U.S. AND THE REST
OF THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY IN THE SINCERITY OF
ISRAEL'S DESIRE FOR A JUST PEACE".

V. "WHAT ALBRIGHT SHOULD REMEMBER"

NATIONALIST PUNDIT MOSHE ZAK OPINED IN POPULAR,
PLURALIST MAARIV (3/30): "WE HAVE NO REASON TO DOUBT

SECRETARY ALBRIGHT'S ASSURANCES THAT THE ADMINISTRATION WILL NOT TRY TO FORCE A SOLUTION DOWN ISRAEL'S THROAT. SIMILARLY, WE NEVER DOUBTED THE ADMINISTRATION'S CONCERN FOR ISRAEL'S SECURITY. INDEED, THE U.S. WILL IMPOSE NO SANCTIONS ON ISRAEL SHOULD JERUSALEM TURN DOWN THE AMERICAN BRIDGING PROPOSALS. BUT THE ATTEMPT TO DRIVE A WEDGE BETWEEN ISRAEL AND AMERICAN JEWS IS MORE PAINFUL THAN ANY ECONOMIC SANCTIONS."

UNCLAS SECTION 06 OF 07 TEL AVIV 004251

USIA

STATE PASS BIB

STATE FOR NEA/IAI, NEA/P, INR, HA, IO, S/P, PA, PM
USIA FOR NEA, I/GNEA, R/NA, I/RF, I/RFW, B/G, B/TVP,
B/TVW,
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ROME FOR MFO

NICOSIA FOR ILMG

E.O. 12958: N/A

SUBJECT: ISRAEL MEDIA REACTION

VI. "U.S. CAN'T AFFORD FAILURE"

DIPLOMATIC ANALYST JAY BUSHINSKY WROTE IN A FRONTPAGE COMMENTARY IN INDEPENDENT JERUSALEM POST (3/30): "AFTER TREADING DIPLOMATIC WATER FOR THREE DAYS, THE STATE DEPARTMENT'S INTREPID MEDIATOR DENNIS ROSS IS MAKING A LAST DITCH BID TO FULFILL A MISSION THAT MAY BE IMPOSSIBLE: TO GET NETANYAHU AND ARAFAT BACK ON THE PEACE TRACK IT IS HARD TO DECIPHER ALBRIGHT'S EMOTION-TINGED BRIEFING TO AMERICAN JEWISH LEADERS TO DETERMINE WHETHER SHE WAS SIMPLY TRYING TO GET THEM TO PUT PRESSURE ON NETANYAHU AND HIS GOVERNMENT OR WHETHER SHE WAS EXPRESSING FRUSTRATION AND DISAPPOINTMENT WITHOUT HOLDING ANY POLITICAL GRUDGES."

2. PRESIDENT CLINTON IN AFRICA:

SUMMARY:

COLUMNIST SAGUY COHEN OPINED IN POPULAR, PLURALIST

MAARIV: "TRADITIONAL COLONIAL POWERS INVARIABLY
FAILED IN THEIR ATTEMPTS T
O TURN AFRICA INTO AN
EXTENSION OF EUROPEAN CULTURE. IT APPEARS THAT IT
IS NOW THE TURN OF THE LAST COLONIAL POWER TO
EXPERIENCE THAT FAILURE."

INDEPENDENT JERUSALEM POST EDITORIALIZED: "THE AIM
IS NOT TO POUR AID INTO RAT HOLES, BUT TO CONVERT
RAT HOLES INTO DECENT PLACES WHERE PEOPLE CAN BEGIN
TO LEAD LIVES WITH SOME BASIC COMFORT AND DIGNITY."

BLOCK QUOTES:

I. "WESTERN PRESCRIPTIONS WONT' DO"

COLUMNIST SAGUY COHEN OPINED IN POPULAR, PLURALIST
MAARIV (3/29): "PRESIDENT CLINTON AND HIS AFRICAN
HOSTS HAVE TOTALLY DIFFERENT PERCEPTIONS ABOUT THE
VISIT. CLINTON CAME TO AFRICA TO SELL ITS
INHABITANTS THE FREE MARKET GOSPEL ACTING AS A
TRADITIONAL WHITE MISSIONARY, CLINTON BROUGHT WITH
UNCLAS SECTION 07 OF 07 TEL AVIV 004251

USIA

STATE PASS BIB
STATE FOR NEA/IAI, NEA/P, INR, HA, IO, S/P, PA, PM
USIA FOR NEA, I/GNEA, R/NA, I/RE, I/REW, B/G, B/TVP,
B/TVW,
B/BXA, M/PA, M/PF, M/PFN, B/A, B/VOA/N, B/VOA/C

WHITE HOUSE FOR PRESS OFFICE
WHITE HOUSE SIT ROOM
JERUSALEM ALSO FOR VOA
JERUSALEM ALSO FOR ICD
LONDON ALSO FOR HKANONA AND POL - TUELLER
PARIS ALSO FOR POL - LEAF
ROME FOR MFO

NICOSIA FOR ILMG

E.O. 12958: N/A

SUBJECT: ISRAEL MEDIA REACTION

HIM COLORED BEADS IN THE FORM OF 129 MILLION DOLLARS
FOR THE UGANDANS, TO HELP THEM LINK UP TO INTERNET.
THE UGANDANS NEED THE GIFT JUST AS THEIR FATHERS
NEEDED THE BEADS WHAT THE AFRICANS ARE SEEKING
IS STRONGER DEMOCRATIC INSTITUTIONS TRADITIONAL
COLONIAL POWERS INVARIABLY FAILED IN THEIR ATTEMPTS
TO TURN AFRICA INTO N EXTENSION OF EUROPEAN
CULTURE. IT APPEARS THAT IT IS NOW THE TURN OF THE
LAST COLONIAL POWER TO EXPERIENCE THAT FAILURE."

II. "AID VERSUS TRADE"

INDEPENDENT JERUSALEM POST EDITORIALIZED (3/29):
"U.S. SENATOR JESSE HELMS HAS DESCRIBED AID TO AFRICA AS 'THROWING AMERICAN MONEY DOWN FOREIGN RAT HOLES' - A PARTICULARLY UNENLIGHTENED COMMENT, CONSIDERING HOW HIS COUNTRY ACQUIRED AN AFRO-AMERICAN COMMUNITY CLINTON SAW FOR HIMSELF WHAT A LITTLE AID CAN MEAN IN REAL LIVES WHEN HIS WIFE VISITED A SMALL HOUSING PROJECT NEAR CAPE TOWN LAST YEAR, THERE WERE 18 CINDERBLOCK HOUSES ON THE SITE. AN INFUSION OF AMERICAN FUNDS HAS ENABLED THE LITTLE SETTLEMENT TO GROW TO 104 HOUSES TODAY A LITTLE AID, WELL USED, GOES A LONG WAY IN AFRICA. THE AIM IS NOT TO POUR IT INTO RAT HOLES, BUT TO CONVERT RAT HOLES INTO DECENT PLACES WHERE PEOPLE CAN BEGIN TO LEAD LIVES WITH SOME BASIC COMFORT AND DIGNITY."

DESHAZO

SECT: SECTION: 01 OF 07

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SIT: NSC

Cable

PREC: IMMEDIATE

CLASS: UNCLASSIFIED

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LINE2: ZNR UUUUU ZZH

LINE3: O 301216Z MAR 98

LINE4: FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

OSRI: RUEHLO

DTG: 301216Z MAR 98

ORIG: AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO: RUEHIA/USIA WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0405

INFO: RUEAIIA/CIA WASHDC

RUEATRS/DEPT OF TREASURY WASHDC

RUCPDOG/USDOC WASHDC

RUEKJCS/DIA WASHDC

RUEBBEA/DOT WASHDC

RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHDC

RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 4884

RHEHAAA/WHITEHOUSE WASHDC

RUEHAR/AMEMBASSY ACCRA 0026

RUEHBL/AMCONSUL BELFAST 0284

RUEHOL/AMEMBASSY BONN 0537

RUEHBS/AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS 0352

RUEHDK/AMEMBASSY DAKAR 0025

RUEHDL/AMEMBASSY DUBLIN 0229

RUEHOR/AMEMBASSY GABORONE 0022

RUEHKM/AMEMBASSY KAMPALA 0029

RUEHMO/AMEMBASSY MOSCOW 0557

RUEHFR/AMEMBASSY PARIS 0530

RUEHSA/AMEMBASSY PRETORIA 0049

RUEHRO/AMEMBASSY ROME 0432

RUEHTV/AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV 0232

RUEHBS/USEU BRUSSELS

RUCNDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK 0376

RUEHVEN/USMISSION USVIENNA

RUEHNO/USMISSION USNATO 0326

RUDOVFA/3AF RAF MILDENHALL UK//PA//

RHDLONE/CINCUSNAVEUR LONDON UK//019//

SUBJ: LONDON MEDIA REACTION REPORT, MONDAY, MARCH 30, 1998

A) BROADCAST MEDIA

BRIEF, NON-SUBSTANTIVE MENTION WAS MADE OF PRESIDENT CLINTON'S

TEXT:

UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 05 LONDON 003392

USIA

PERISHABLE INFORMATION - DO NOT SERVICE

USIA FOR I/GWEU; R/C; R/MR; WEU; NEA; VOA NEWS/CA; PL

LSECREST; B/TV/WP;

STATE FOR EUR/P AND PLS PASS ACDA/PA; EUR/PA; EUR/P/SP;

EUR/WE; EUR/NE; IO/CU; NEA/P; EB/TT; INR/P; PM; S/IR;
 CSD ISA FOR ILN; FOR NEA; OASD/PA;
 USDOC PASS USTR/PA
 WHITEHOUSE FOR NSC-WEUROPE, NSC FOR BERGER;
 USMISSION USNATO FOR USIS
 PARIS FOR USIS; UNESCO; OECD;
 VIENNA PASS USDEL-CSCE;

E.O.12958:N/A

SUBJECT:LONDON MEDIA REACTION REPORT, MONDAY, MARCH 30, 1998

A) BROADCAST MEDIA

BRIEF, NON-SUBSTANTIVE MENTION WAS MADE OF PRESIDENT CLINTON'S CONTINUING TRAVELS IN AFRICA. NO OTHER FOREIGN AFFAIRS STORIES WERE COVERED.

B) MAJOR NEWS STORIES

- 1) THE PRESIDENT IN AFRICA
- 2) MIDDLE EAST PEACE PROCESS
- 3) WAR CRIMES COURT
- 4) NAZI GOLD

C) SUMMARIES

- 1) THE PRESIDENT IN AFRICA

ALL BROADSHEETS REPORT ON THE PRESIDENT'S VISIT IN SOUTH AFRICA, FOCUSING ON S. AFRICAN PRESIDENT MANDELA'S CONTINUING SUPPORT FOR COUNTRIES LIKE IRAN, LIBYA AND CUBA. TEXTS ARE ALL SIMILAR, WITH DIFFERENCES ONLY IN HEADLINES.

- 2) MIDDLE EAST PEACE PROCESS

THREE BROADSHEETS REPORT ON SECRETARY OF STATE ALBRIGHT'S WARNINGS ABOUT THE LACK OF PROGRESS IN THE MEPP.

- 3) WAR CRIMES COURT

TWO BROADSHEETS REPORT ON SEN. HELMS' THREAT TO BLOCK RATIFICATION OF A PERMANENT WAR CRIMES COURT.

- 4) NAZI GOLD

THREE BROADSHEETS COVER THE ISSUE OF SWISS BANKS AND JEWISH ASSETS.

D) TEXTS

- 1) PRESIDT CLINTON IN AFRICA
 "MANDELA GIVES CLINTON LESSON IN FRIENDSHIP"

THE CENTRIST "INDEPENDENT" (3/28) REPORTS: "PRESIDENT CLINTON KEPT ON SMILING. BUT HE MUST HAVE BEEN SQUIRMING AS PRESIDENT MANDELA, STANDING BESIDE HIM, TOLD THE WORLD THAT SOUTH AFRICA WOULD NOT BE

BULLIED INTO ABANDONING ITS IRANIAN, LIBYAN AND CUBAN ALLIES, ENEMIES OF THE UNITED STATES.... IF MR. CLINTON WAS SEEKING TO SMOOTH OVER POLICY DIFFERENCES, MR. MANDELA WAS WORKING FROM A DIFFERENT SCRIPT. HE PRAISED MR. CLINTON FOR HAVING THE 'RIGHT INSTINCTS.' ...BUT MR. MANDELA DISMISSED AMERICA'S NEW 'TRADE NOT AID' APPROACH TO AFRICA AND THE RELATED AFRICAN GROWTH AND UNCLAS SECTION 02 OF 05 LONDON 003392

USIA

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USIA FOR I/GWEU; R/C; R/MR; WEU; NEA; VOA NEWS/CA; PL
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WHITEHOUSE FOR NSC-WEUROPE, NSC FOR BERGER;
USMISSION USNATO FOR USIS
PARIS FOR USIS; UNESCO; OECD;
VIENNA PASS USDEL-CSCE;

E.O.12958:N/A

SyBJECT:LONDON MEDIA REACTION REPORT, MONDAY, MARCH 30, 1998

OPPORTUNITY BILL. MR. CLINTON INSISTS THE LEGISLATION WILL INCREASE AFRICAN NATIONS' ACCESS TO THE AMERICAN ECONOMY BUT SOUTH AFRICA BELIEVES THE CONTINENT'S ECONOMIES WILL SUFFER IN THE PROPOSED TRADE RELATIONSHIP WITH THE RICH U.S., AND THAT AID WILL BE CUT."

"MANDELA ATTACKS 'UNFAIR' TRADE BILL"

THE INDEPENDENT "FINANCIAL TIMES" (3/28) REPORTS: "NELSON MANDELA, THE SOUTH AFRICAN PRESIDENT, ATTACKED PRESIDENT BILL CLINTON'S AFRICAN TRADE POLICIES YESTERDAY AND VIGOROUSLY DEFENDED HIS FRIENDSHIPS WITH THE LEADERS OF CUBA, IRAN AND LIBYA."

"CLINTON SEEKS TO STEP UP AFRICA INVESTMENT"

THE INDEPENDENT "FINANCIAL TIMES" (3/30) REPORTS: "PRESIDENT BILL CLINTON ANNOUNCED FURTHER MEASURES AT THE WEEKEND TO INCREASE U.S. INVESTMENT AND AID FOR AFRICA. HOWEVER, HIS SIX-NATION TOUR OF THE CONTINENT HAS SO FAR BEEN UNABLE TO PRODUCE ANY BIG NEW PRIVATE INVESTMENT DEALS AND HE REMAINS LOCKED IN A DISPUTE WITH SOUTH AFRICA OVER PROPOSED U.S. TRADE LEGISLATION... HE SAID HE WANTED TO MAKE SURE HIS AFRICAN TOUR WAS FOLLOWED UP AND WAS NOT MERELY A 'ONE-SHOT DEAL.' ...ANOTHER PROBLEM FOR THE U.S. ADMINISTRATION HAS BEEN SOUTH AFRICAN OPPOSITION TO THE PROPOSED AFRICA GROWTH AND OPPORTUNITY ACT NOW BEFORE THE U.S. CONGRESS. IT PROVIDES FOR IMPROVED ACCESS TO U.S. MARKETS FOR COUNTRIES CONSIDERED BY WASHINGTON TO BE MOVING TOWARDS DEMOCRACY AND ECONOMIC REFORM. SOUTH AFRICAN LEADERS OBJECT TO SUCH CONDITIONS--ALTHOUGH THEIR OWN COUNTRY MEETS THE CRITERIA--AND ARE LIKELY TO HAVE RESERVATIONS ON MR. CLINTON'S SUMMIT PROPOSAL FOR SIMILAR REASONS. MR. CLINTON ALSO HAD TO FEND OFF SUGGESTIONS THAT THE U.S. WAS ABANDONING AID TO AFRICA IN FAVOR OF TRADE.

MR. CLINTON LAST NIGHT ANNOUNCED THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A U.S.-RUN

RADIO SERVICE AIMED AT PROMOTING DEMOCRACY IN AFRICA. FOLLOWING A MEETING WITH... BOTSWANA'S PRESIDENT, HE SAID THE SERVICE... WOULD BE A VERSION OF VOICE OF AMERICA AND BE BROADCAST IN 19 COUNTRIES IN NINE LANGUAGES."

"EDUCATING BILL"

THE INDEPENDENT "FINANCIAL TIMES" (3/30) EDITORIALIZES: "PRESIDENT BILL CLINTON'S AFRICA SAFARI, WHICH ENDS WITH HIS VISIT TO SENEGAL TOMORROW, HAS NOT ONLY RAISED THE PROFILE OF A MARGINALIZED CONTINENT AND IMPROVED THE IMAGE OF A REGION ASSOCIATED WITH DISASTER. IT HAS PROVIDED A SALUTARY LEARNING EXPERIENCE FOR MR. CLINTON. IT HAS BROUGHT HOME TO HIM THE ENORMITY OF AFRICA'S PROBLEMS, AND THE INADEQUACY OF THE U.S. RESPONSE..."

"WHETHER THE PRESIDENT CAN PERSUADE CONGRESS TO PUT THESE PROMISES INTO PRACTICE REMAINS TO BE SEEN. NOR DID MR. CLINTON DEAL WITH THE PROBLEM OF THE MILITARY REGIME IN NIGERIA. INSTEAD, HE HAS MUDDIED THE WATERS."

UNCLAS SECTION 03 OF 05 LONDON 003392

USIA

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WHITEHOUSE FOR NSC-WEUROPE, NSC FOR BERGER;
USMISSION USNATO FOR USIS
PARIS FOR USIS; UNESCO; OECD;
VIENNA PASS USDEL-CSCE;

E.O.12958:N/A

SUBJECT:LONDON MEDIA REACTION REPORT, MONDAY, MARCH 30, 1998

"THE PRESIDENT HAS GIVEN THE IMPRESSION OF BACKING AWAY FROM THE POSITION SET OUT BY HIS MOST SENIOR AFRICA POLICY MAKER, WHO SAID THAT THE ELECTION OF GENERAL SANI ABACHA, NIGERIA'S MILITARY LEADER, IN A PRESIDENTIAL POLL DUE LATER THIS YEAR WOULD BE UNACCEPTABLE."

"BUT FOR ALL THE SHORTCOMINGS OF U.S. POLICY, AFRICA SHOULD WELCOME THE FACT THAT THE WORLD'S MOST POWERFUL LEADER HAS PUT THE CONTINENT ON HIS AGENDA. IT IS TIME TONY BLAIR FOLLOWED SUIT."

2) MIDDLE EAST PEACE PROCESS

"ALBRIGHT CONDEMNS 'PHONEY' PEACE TALKS"

THE CONSERVATIVE "TIMES" (3/30) REPORTS: "OPPOSITION LABOUR POLITICIANS IN ISRAEL LAST NIGHT DEMANDED AN EMERGENCY RECALL OF THE KNESSET FROM ITS PASSOVER RECESS TO DEBATE PESSIMISTIC CLAIMS BY MADELEINE ALBRIGHT THAT TH PEACE PROCESS IS CLOSE TO TOTAL COLLAPSE AND HER WARNING OF A POTENTIAL 'EXPLOSION OF VIOLENCE' IN

1999... THE BLUNT U.S. WARNING FOLLOWED TWO TENSE TELEPHONE CALLS BETWEEN MR. NETANYAHU AND PRESIDENT CLINTON IN WHICH THE ISRAELI LEADER TRIED TO PERSUADE THE PRESIDENT TO DROP THE U.S. PLAN, OR AT LEAST NOT MAKE IT PUBLIC."

"PEACE PROCESS IS NEAR COLLAPSE, WARNS ALBRIGHT"

THE CENTRIST "INDEPENDENT" (3/30) REPORTS: "THE AMERICAN SPECIAL ENVOY, DENNIS ROSS, MET BENJAMIN NETANYAHU, THE ISRAELI PRIME MINISTER, LAST NIGHT TO DISCUSS THE EXTENT OF ISRAELI WITHDRAWAL FROM THE WEST BANK AS WASHINGTON WARNED THAT THE PEACE PROCESS WAS ON THE VERGE OF COLLAPSE.... THE U.S. HAS YET TO PUBLICIZE ITS INITIATIVE AND MR. NETANYAHU HAS ASKED IT NOT TO. DESPITE OPPOSITION FROM THE EXTREME RIGHT TO GIVING BACK ANY OF THE LAND ISRAEL CONQUERED IN 1967, THE PRIME MINISTER COULD DELIVER AN AGREEMENT."

"ISRAEL DRAGS FEET ON WEST BANK HANDOVER"

THE INDEPENDENT "FINANCIAL TIMES" (3/30) REPORTS: "DENNIS ROSS, U.S. MIDDLE EAST PEACE ENVOY, HAS MADE LITTLE HEADWAY DURING HIS MISSION IN THE REGION, AHEAD OF A THIRD ROUND OF TALKS SCHEDULED LAST NIGHT WITH ISRAELI AND PALESTINIAN LEADERS.... MR. ARAFAT ALSO WELCOMED A U.S. PROPOSAL FOR A PEACE SUMMIT IN WASHINGTON WITH MR. NETANYAHU TO BE ATTENDED BY WORLD LEADERS."

3) WAR CRIMES COURT

"U.S. DOUBTS ON WAR CRIMES COURT"

THE LIBERAL "GUARDIAN" (3/30) REPORTS: "A THREAT BY SENATOR JESSE HELMS, THE MAVERICK REPUBLICAN FROM NORTH CAROLINA, TO BLOCK SENATE RATIFICATION OF A PERMANENT WAR CRIMES TRIBUNAL UNLESS THE UNITED STATES WIELDS VETO POWER OVER THE PANEL HAS CAST A PALL OVER EFFORTS TO CREATE A STRONG INTERNATIONAL COURT... HIS MESSAGE TO UNCLAS SECTION 04 OF 05 LONDON 003392

USIA

PERISHABLE INFORMATION - DO NOT SERVICE
USIA FOR I/GWEU; R/C; R/MR; WEU; NEA; VOA NEWS/CA; PL
LSECREST; B/TV/WP;
STATE FOR EUR/P AND PLS PASS ACDA/PA; EUR/PA; EUR/P/SP;
EUR/WE; EUR/NE; IO/CU; NEA/P; EB/TT; INR/P; PM; S/IR;
CSD ISA FOR ILN; FOR NEA; OASD/PA;
USDOC PASS USTR/PA
WHITEHOUSE FOR NSC-WEUROPE, NSC FOR BERGER;
USMISSION USNATO FOR USIS
PARIS FOR USIS; UNESCO; OECD;
VIENNA PASS USDEL-CSCE;

E.O.12958:N/A

SUBJECT:LONDON MEDIA REACTION REPORT, MONDAY, MARCH 30, 1998

SECRETARY OF STATE ALBRIGHT WAS A BRUTAL REMINDER THAT EVEN IF DELEGATES FROM MORE THAN 100 COUNTRIES CAN OVERCOME THEIR SIGNIFICANT DIFFERENCES ON SUCH A COURT, THE EFFORT COULD FOUNDER IN A U./ SENATE SUSPICIOUS OF ANY ORGAN THAT MIGHT ENCROACH ON U.S. SOVEREIGNTY.... WHILE THE U.S. HAS BEEN CRITICIZED FOR ITS

STANCE, BRITAIN HAS WON PLAUDITS FOR PUSHING FOR A STRONG COURT. IN THIS FINAL ROUND IT HAS JOINED THE SO-CALLED "LIKE-MINDED" GROUP, INCLUDING NORDIC COUNTRIES AND EUROPEAN STATES, WHICH FAVOR AN EFFECTIVE AND INDEPENDENT COURT."

"U.S. SEEKS TO LIMIT WAR CRIMES COURT"

THE CONSERVATIVE "TIMES" (3/30) REPORTS: "THE UNITED STATES, FEARING ITS SERVICEMEN COULD BE PUT ON TRIAL, IS SEEKING STRICT LIMITS ON THE POWERS OF THE PLANNED INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL COURT THAT WILL TRY THE WAR CRIMES OF THE NEXT CENTURY. WHILE PRESIDENT CLINTON WAS ENDORSING THE NEW WORLD COURT AFTER MEETING GENOCIDE SURVIVORS IN RWANDA LAST WEEK, AMERICAN DIPLOMATS WERE BUSY JOBBYING AT UNITE AZTHORITY. HUMAN RIGHTS ACTIVISTS COMPLAINED THAT NEW AMERICAN PROPOSALS WOULD 'STRAITJACKET' THE COURT TO SUCH AN EXTENT THAT WAR CRIMINALS IN FUTURE CONFLICTS COULD BE SHIELDED FROM INVESTIGATION AND PROSECUTION...."

4) NAZI GOLD
"SWISS BUNKER"

THE INDEPENDENT "FINANCIAL TIMES" (3/30) EDITORIALIZES: "FOR THE PAST THREE YEARS, SWISS BANKS HAVE BEEN UNDER ATTACK FOR HANDLING NAZI WARTIME LOOT AND SITTING ON MONEY DEPOSITED BY HOLOCAUST VICTIMS. A COMBINATION OF PUBLIC OUTRAGE, BOYCOTT THREATS AND LAWSUITS, MOUNTED CHIEFLY BY JEWISH GROUPS IN THE U.S., HAVE PUSHED THE BANKS INTO AN AGREEMENT IN NEW YORK LAST WEEK TO NEGOTIATE AN EARLY 'GLOBAL SETTLEMENT.' SUCH A DEAL WOULD BE WELCOME. THERE ARE DOUBTS, HOWEVER, WHETHER IT WILL BE COMPREHENSIVE ENOUGH TO PROVIDE THE SPEEDY CONCLUSION THAT IS IN THE INTERESTS NOT ONLY OF THE BANKS BUT ALSO OF AGEING SURVIVORS OF THE HORRORS OF MORE THAN 50 YEARS AGO...

"A QUICK SETTLEMENT IS BADLY NEEDED. IT SHOULD TAKE ACCOUNT OF THREE POINTS. FIRST, THE NEGOTIATIONS OVER COMPENSATION SHOULD REFLECT THAT SWISS BANKS AND INDUSTRY HAVE ALREADY PAID NEARLY \$200 MILLION INTO A HOLOCAUST VICTIMS FUND; AND THAT A STATEMENT OF CONTRITION HAS A VALUE. SECOND, IT SHOULD DRAW A DEFINITIVE LINE UNDER THE PAST. WHAT IF THE U.S. PLAINTIFFS SETTLE WITH SWISS BANKS ONLY TO OPEN A NEW FRONT AGAINST, SAY, THE SWISS GOVERNMENT? THIRD, THE SWISS GOVERNMENT'S RECENT BOLDNESS IN SETTING UP AN INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION ON ITS WARTIME BEHAVIOR AND IN PROPOSING TO SELL SOME GOLD TO FUND A SEVEN BILLION SWISS FRANC SOLIDARITY FUND FOR THE VICTIMS OF CATASTROPHES DESERVES CREDIT. IT SHOULD BE CONTRASTED WITH THE RETICENCE OF RUSSIA ABOUT WARTIME LOOT OR OF THE VATICAN ABOUT ITS WARTIME ACQUIESCENCE IN JEWISH PERSECUTION.
UNCLAS SECTION 05 OF 05 LONDON 003392

USIA

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LSECREST; B/TV/WP;
STATE FOR EUR/P AND PLS PASS ACDA/PA; EUR/PA; EUR/P/SP;
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WHITEHOUSE FOR NSC-WEUROPE, NSC FOR BERGER;
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VIENNA PASS USDEL-CSCE;

E.O.12958:N/A
SUBJECT:LONDON MEDIA REACTION REPORT, MONDAY, MARCH 30, 1998

IF THE WORLD GOES ON DEMANDING EVER MORE OF THE SWISS, THE SEARCH
FOR DUE COMPENSATION WILL LOSE SOME OF ITS MORAL LUSTER." SMITH

SECT: SECTION: 01 OF 05
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SAPIRO
SIT: NSC

Cable

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CLASS: UNCLASSIFIED
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LINE3: R 311656Z MAR 98
LINE4: FM FBIS CHIVA CHIVA PM
OSRI: RUESPF
DTG: 311656Z MAR 98
ORIG: FBIS CHIVA CHIVA PM
TO: RUCWAAA/FBIS RESTON VA
RHDIAAA/AFOSI REGION 2 RTAC LANGLEY AFB VA
RHEHOND/DIR ONDCP//OR//
RHFJFGI/NAVCRIMINVSERVFO MAYPORT FL//05MP//
RHFJFYW/CTF 125
RHFJJXP/CINCLANTFLT DET SO NZ FT RODMAN PM
RUANJTF/DIRJIATF EAST//J2//
RUCBACM/USCINCOM NORFOLK VA//J5//
RUCBAIC/AIC NORFOLK VA
RUCKMEZ/SJTTFHQ MFL//J2//
RUCMACC/CDR PSYOPGP FT BRAGG NC//ASOF-POG-SB//
RUCMACC/CDR 4THPSYOPGP FT BRAGG NC//AOCF-POG-SB//
RUCOGCG/NAVCRIMINVSERVRA GUANTANAMO BAY CU
RUCOGDA/NAVINTELOFC GUANTANAMO BAY CU//N2//
RUCXGRD/COGARD INTELCOORDCEN WASHINGTON DC
RUCXONI/ONI WASHINGTON DC//2140//
RUDHNIS/DIRNAVCRIMINVSERV WASHINGTON DC
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RUDKMBK/FBIS LONDON UK//BBC RUCWAAA//
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RUDPMAX/FAISA FT BRAGG NC
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RUEAIIS/STORAGE CENTER FBIS RESTON VA
RUEALGX/DEFINTAGENCY WASHINGTON DC
RUEDADA/AFISA AMHS BOLLING AFB DC
RUEDAEA/NAIC WRIGHT PATTERSON AFB OH
RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHINGTON DC//INR//
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RUEHUB/USINT HAVANA
RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHINGTON DC
RUESDM/JTLO MIAMI FL
RUETIAV/MPC FORT GEORGE G MEADE MD
RULGPRW/NAVCRIMINVSERVRA ROOSEVELT ROADS PR
RUMIAAA/USCINCSO MIAMI FL//SCPA/SCJ2-IW//
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SUBJ: Article Reacts to Recent US Measures

TEXT:

UNCLAS 6A

WARNING: TOPIC: POLITICAL, ECONOMIC, INTERNATIONAL

SERIAL: PA3103165698

COUNTRY: CUBA, UNITED STATES

SUBJ: Article Reacts to Recent US Measures

SOURCE: Havana Granma (Internet version) in Spanish 28 Mar 98

TEXT:

[Article by Nidia Diaz: "Neither the Stick Nor the Carrot"]

[FBIS Translated Text] Certain US politicians believe the repetition of their lies will cause them to become truths and that is why they leap into the world, sanctioning or decertifying those who do not share their viewpoints or refuse to be their servants.

Now that the Washington government has announced, through its Secretary of State Madeleine Albright, a "softening" [flexibilization] of the blockade on Cuba more than a few are applauding the measure, granting them the virtue of kindness.

The world public opinion is thus presented as though it were something new the restoration of direct flights between Havana and Miami, the authorization to send up to \$300 in remittances every three months, and the possibility to sell medicines and medical equipment, which were measures that had been repealed by President Clinton in August 1994 and February 1996.

It must not be forgotten that as for the sale of medicines and medical equipment -- the new measure is unclear if the purchase of component parts will be allowed -- which was included in the Torricelli law, was one of the measures Cuba never accepted because it was approved under the condition that its implementation would be verified on site.

Something must be made clear. If the US president was able on 20 March to announce the lifting of the aforementioned sanctions it is because they are not part of the Helms-Burton law.

When publicizing the lifting of the aforementioned sanctions, Clinton also announced he had instructed his secretary of state to hold consultations with Congress to draft a bipartisan initiative to regulate "the transfer" of food from the United States to the Cuban people.

The ambiguity in the treatment of the food topic is not fortuitous. It responds to the strict prohibitions regarding the food topic contained in the Torricelli as well as in the Helms-Burton laws, which only stipulate the supplying of "humanitarian aid" -- with certain conditions, of course -- and not the sale of such products.

The new situation, which apparently the Democratic administration is trying to take advantage of, is that for the first time in the US Congress a bill has been submitted to lift the prohibition on the

sale of food to our country.

The bill, which is being promoted by Congressmen Dodd, Rangel, and Torres, is, however, competing with another bill, which has not yet been officially presented to the legislature and which is being promoted by well-known fundamentalist Jesse Helms with the backing of extreme rightist anti-Cubans Diaz-Balart and Ros Lehtinen. It contains the onerous and conditioned "humanitarian food aid," which because of its humiliating nature has already been publicly condemned and forcefully rejected by the Cuban authorities.

There is no doubt that since the signing of the Helms-Burton law in March of 1996, there was an increase in Washington's hostility toward the Cuban revolution. Such hostility was expressed, among other actions, in a bigger presence of the viewpoints of the most reactionary sectors in the policy of the executive and the anti-Cuban wing of the legislative, as well as in a greater US pressure to influence the position of third countries regarding Cuba.

There is no doubt, either, that upon signing the Helms-Burton law the very maneuvering ability of the US Government was significantly reduced by placing in the hands of Congress any possibility to correct the path of its hostility policy toward Cuba.

It is also true that in the second half of 1997 new forces that attempt to influence the US Congress are beginning to emerge. These forces favor the economic interests of the food and pharmaceutical sectors in that country, who are obviously interested in eliminating once and for all the absurd prohibitions to export their products to Cuba.

During this same period, prominent personalities and influential media sources almost every week have questioned the results of the stubborn application of the blockade policy against Cuba. They have pointed out the contradictory and criminal effects of this policy on our people, and recommended that the methods be changed in order to harvest other fruits.

The visit of Pope John Paul II to our country and his statements rejecting the blockade policy, undoubtedly influence the US decision, helping to support the president's decision.

The measures announced must be implemented in the coming weeks and until then we will be able to determine their true objectives.

Although for Cuba the announced lifting of some parts of the web of old sanctions is a positive gesture which could pave the way for a future understanding with the United States, as two neighbor countries should conduct themselves, it does not generate false expectations or confuse us in the sense that the main effort to accomplish what we want will depend on the heroic resistance of our people and the advancement of the successes that are being obtained.

The stick and the carrot are not serious instruments to negotiate, on a equal footing, the total lifting of the blockade, which is intrinsically immoral, criminal, and unjust and the end of which is an almost unanimous claim of the nations of this planet.

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SECT: SECTION: 01 OF 01

SSN: 5086

TOR: 980331120300 M3223217

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SIT: NSC

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DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
004. cable	re: Building an Effective International Criminal Court. (5 pages)	04/02/1998	P1/b(1)

COLLECTION:

Clinton Presidential Records
NSC Cables
Jan 1997-Dec 1998 ([Jesse Helms or Senator Helms])
OA/Box Number: 520000

FOLDER TITLE:

[03/12/1998-04/03/1998]

2006-1363-F

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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]
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Cable

PREC: ROUTINE

CLASS: UNCLASSIFIED

LINE1: RAAUZYUW RUEHVEN3054 0931622-UUUU--RHEHAAA.

LINE2: ZNR UUUUU ZZH

LINE3: R 031622Z APR 98

LINE4: FM USMISSION USVIENNA

OSRI: RUEHVEN

DTG: 031622Z APR 98

ORIG: USMISSION USVIENNA

TO: RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC

INFO: RUEHGV/USMISSION GENEVA
RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHDC
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RUEHVI/AMEMBASSY VIENNA

SUBJ: CTBTO: P-3/P-5 MEETINGS PREVIEW THE APRIL

TEXT: UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 03 USVIENNA 003054

DEPT FOR IO/UNP RUDMAN AND IO/S PARK
GENEVA FOR CD DEL
ACDA FOR MA AND NP
DOE FOR NN-40
JCS FOR J5/DDIN
SECDEF FOR OSD/ISP AND ATSD/NCB/NT
VIENNA FOR ELIZABETH ROOD

FROM USMISSION UNVIE

E.O. 12958: DECL: N/A
TAGS: PARM, KTBT, CDG, UNGA, KNNP
SUBJECT: CTBTO: P-3/P-5 MEETINGS PREVIEW THE APRIL
PREPCOM; UK AND FRANCE ANNOUNCE CTBT RATIFICATION

REF: (A) USVIENNA 2782 (B) GENEVA 2153
(C) 4/3/98 PARK-BRUSH E-MAIL

1. (U) THIS IS PC-104.

SUMMARY

2. THE P-3 MET ON APRIL 2 AND THE P-5 MET ON APRIL 3 TO REVIEW THE APRIL 6-9 CTBTO PREPCOM AGENDA AND EXCHANGE PRELIMINARY THOUGHTS ON THE ARTICLE XIV CONFERENCE AND THE 1999 BUDGET. THE UK AND FRANCE ANNOUNCED THEIR PARLIAMENTS HAD APPROVED THE CTBT. THEY WILL JOINTLY PRESENT THEIR INSTRUMENTS OF RATIFICATION TO THE UNSYG ON APRIL 6. END SUMMARY

ARTICLE XIV

3. UK AMBASSADOR FREEMAN HOSTED A PRE-PREPCOM P-3 AMBASSADORS MEETING ON APRIL 2. (NOTE: THE US HOSTED THE P-3 MEETING PRIOR TO THE DECEMBER 1997 PREPCOM AND THE FRENCH WILL HOST THE MEETING PRIOR TO THE AUGUST PREPCOM.) THE FRENCH HOSTED THE P-5 AMBASSADORS MEETING ON APRIL 3. (NOTE: THE RUSSIANS HOSTED THE P-5 PRIOR TO THE DECEMBER PREPCOM AND THE US WILL HOST THE P-5 MEETING PRIOR TO THE AUGUST PREPCOM.)

4. AT THE APRIL 2 P-3 MEETING, FREEMAN TURNED TO P-3/P-5 CONSULTATIONS ON THE ARTICLE XIV REVIEW CONFERENCE (REF B). FREEMAN STATED THAT UK LAWYERS AGREED THERE IS NO DEFINITIVE INTERPRETATION OF THE TREATY LANGUAGE STATING A REVIEW CONFERENCE CAN BE CALLED "THREE YEARS AFTER THE ANNIVERSARY" OF THE SIGNING: IT COULD MEAN EITHER 1999 OR 2000. BUT THE UK HAS A PREFERENCE FOR 1999. FREEMAN SAID THE UK PREFERS A VIENNA VENUE. FREEMAN NOTED THAT THE AUSTRALIANS ALREADY HAD BEGUN INFORMAL CONSULTATIONS; THE UK SUGGESTED A P-5 CONSULTATIVE PROCESS IN GENEVA, IN CAPITALS AND IN VIENNA. FREEMAN NOTED THAT THE UK HOPES THE CONFERENCE WILL BE SHORT AND LOW-KEY -- A STATUS REPORT ON ENTRY-INTO-FORCE.

5. THE FRENCH AGREED WITH THE UK.

6. THE US SAID WASHINGTON HAD NOT DECIDED ON THIS ISSUE, BUT THAT WE ACCEPTED THE LOGIC OF AMBASSADOR FREEMAN'S ARGUMENT. WE AGREED THAT THE P-5 CONSULTATIVE PROCESS SHOULD BE CENTERED IN VIENNA.

7. AT THE P-5 MEETING ON APRIL 3, THE RUSSIANS AND CHINESE OPPOSED TALKING ABOUT ARTICLE XIV AT THE PREPCOM, STATING THAT "THE PTS SHOULD NOT BE ALLOWED TO DRIVE THIS PROCESS." THEY STATED THAT NO DISCUSSIONS SHOULD BE HELD UNTIL THE ISSUE OF THE DATE (1999 VS 2000) IS CLARIFIED.

8. THE US SAID THAT THE PTS WAS NOT DRIVING THIS ISSUE. RATHER, PREPCOM CHAIRMAN OURO-PRETO WOULD RAISE THE TOPIC AS AN ISSUE OF INTEREST TO STATES SIGNATORIES. THE PTS SIMPLY WAS INTERESTED IN STATES SIGNATORIES' VIEWS SO THAT IT COULD PLAN FOR THE 1999 BUDGET.

9. IN THE END, BOTH RUSSIA AND CHINA ACKNOWLEDGED THAT THE PREPCOM CHAIRMAN COULD POINT OUT THAT THIS ISSUE LIES AHEAD.

BUDGET

UNCLAS SECTION 02 OF 03 USVIENNA 003054

DEPT FOR IO/UNP RUDMAN AND IO/S PARK
GENEVA FOR CD DEL
ACDA FOR MA AND NP
DOE FOR NN-40
JCS FOR J5/DDIN
SECDEF FOR OSD/ISP AND ATSD/NCB/NT
VIENNA FOR ELIZABETH ROOD

FROM USMISSION UNVIE

E.O. 12958: DECL: N/A

TAGS: PARM, KTBT, CDG, UNGA, KNNP

SUBJECT: CTBTO: P-3/P-5 MEETINGS PREVIEW THE APRIL
PREPCOM; UK AND FRANCE ANNOUNCE CTBT RATIFICATION

REF: (A) USVIENNA 2782 (B) GENEVA 2153

10. AT THE P-3 MEETING, FREEMAN SAID THAT PTS EXECUTIVE SECRETARY HOFFMANN RECENTLY BEGAN MENTIONING USDOL 100 MILLION AS A POSSIBLE BUDGET FOR 1999. FREEMAN NOTED THAT IF THIS COST IS JUSTIFIED BY THE WORK PLAN AGREED TO BY WORKING GROUP B, THIS FIGURE REPRESENTS IPSO FACTO A GOOD STARTING POINT. OF COURSE, STATES SIGNATORIES MUST THEN CAREFULLY REVIEW THE DRAFT BUDGET. THE FRENCH AGREED WITH THIS LOGIC.

11. THE US REVIEWED THE CURRENT BUDGET CLIMATE IN WASHINGTON AND SAID THAT, REGARDLESS OF LOGIC, IT WOULD BE AN UPHILL BATTLE TO SECURE THIS LEVEL OF FUNDING.

12. UK TECHNICAL EXPERT ALWYN DAVIES (WORKING GROUP B TASK LEADER ON ESTABLISHING THE INTERNATIONAL MONITORING SYSTEM) SAID THE COST OF ESTABLISHING THE IMS WOULD ONLY GO UP IF WORK IS DELAYED. FOR EXAMPLE, IF THE CTBTO BUDGET REMAINED AT ZERO REAL GROWTH, IT WOULD TAKE 15 YEARS TO ESTABLISH THE IMS. FURTHERMORE, WORK DELAYED ENDS UP COSTING MORE. THE FRENCH EXPRESSED OPTIMISM THAT THE USDOL 100 MILLION WOULD DROP TO AS LOW AS USDOL 80 MILLION.

13. AT THE P-5 MEETING ON APRIL 3, THE CHINESE CAUTIONED THAT "HAVING TOO GREAT AN APPETITE CAUSES INDIGESTION." THE PTS SHOULD BE CAUTIOUS, THE CHINESE ALTREP SAID, ABOUT BUDGETING FOR MORE WORK THAN IT ACTUALLY COULD PERFORM. FOR EXAMPLE, THE WORK PLAN FOR 1997 HAD NOT BEEN FULLY REALIZED AND IT WAS UNLIKELY THAT THE WORK PLAN FOR 1998 WOULD BE FULLY REALIZED EITHER.

STAFF REGS

14. AT THE P-3, THE FRENCH AND UK SAID THEY AND THE EU WERE READY TO APPROVE THE STAFF REGULATIONS ATTACHED TO THE WGA REPORT AND HOPED TO WORK ON THE RUSSIANS TO GET THEM TO APPROVE THE REGULATIONS AT THE PREPCOM. "THE RUSSIANS ARE THE ONLY ONES OPPOSING THE CHAIRMAN'S DRAFT," AMBASSADOR FREEMAN SAID.

15. THE US REPLIED THAT WE HAD NEVER SAID IN WGA THAT WE APPROVED THE STAFF REGULATIONS, AS PRESENTED IN THE CHAIRMAN'S PACKAGE. RATHER, WE HAD SAID THEY PRESENTED A SOUND BASIS FOR CONSIDERATION BY CAPITALS. IN FACT, WASHINGTON WAS STILL SCOURING THE REGULATIONS AND WOULD NOT BE READY TO APPROVE THEM BY THE PREPCOM. THE FRENCH AND UK WERE DISMAYED BY THE US POSITION, SAYING THEY FEARED IT COULD PLAY INTO THE RUSSIAN STONE-WALLING STRATEGY. WE SAID OUR POINT OF VIEW IS DIFFERENT FROM THAT OF THE RUSSIANS. WE ARE SYMPATHETIC TO A NUMBER OF THEIR VIEWS, BUT ARE INTERESTED IN GETTING THE STAFF REGULATIONS PASSED AT THE EARLIEST POSSIBLE OPPORTUNITY.

16. AT THE P-5 MEETING, THE UK AND FRANCE STATED THAT ONLY THE RUSSIANS OPPOSED THE CHAIRMAN'S TEXT OF THE PROPOSED STAFF REGULATIONS AND URGED THE RUSSIANS TO SHOW SOME FLEXIBILITY ON THIS ISSUE. THE RUSSIAN ALTREP SAID THE RUSSIAN POSITION HAD NOT CHANGED AND THAT THE RUSSIANS WERE TAKING THEIR POSITION TO VARIOUS CAPITALS, INCLUDING OTHER P-5 CAPITALS TO EXPLAIN THEIR POSITION.

17. ALL P-5 AGREED THAT THE PREPCOM SHOULD ONLY "TAKE NOTE" OF THE CHAIRMAN'S TEXT. WE SAID WE ARE STILL REVIEWING THE REGULATIONS IN WASHINGTON ARE LIKELY TO UNCLAS SECTION 03 OF 03 USVIENNA 003054

DEPT FOR IO/UNP RUDMAN AND IO/S PARK
GENEVA FOR CD DEL
ACDA FOR MA AND NP
DOE FOR NN-40
JCS FOR J5/DDIN
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REF: (A) USVIENNA 2782 (B) GENEVA 2153
PROPOSE A NUMBER OF TECHNICAL CHANGES.

FINANCIAL RULES

18. THE US ASKED FOR COOPERATION ON THE PROPOSED "PENALTY CLAUSES" RELATING TO REDUCED ASSESSMENTS IN THE DRAFT FINANCIAL RULES. "WE SHOULD NOT BRING NEW YORK'S

PROBLEMS TO THE CTBTO," WE SAID. BOTH THE FRENCH AND UK SAID THEY, AND THE EU, GENERALLY WERE INCLINED TOWARD PENALTY CLAUSES AS AN INCENTIVE TO GET COUNTRIES IN ARREARS TO PAY. IN THIS CASE, HOWEVER, INSISTANCE ON PENALTY CLAUSES COULD BE COUNTER-PRODUCTIVE BY ANTAGONIZING THE US CONGRESS. WE THANKED THE UK AMBASSADOR FOR HIS COOPERATION AND PRACTICAL APPROACH AND URGED HIM TO SHARE THESE VIEWS WITH THE EU AND OTHER STATES SIGNATORIES.

CREDENTIALS

19. AT THE P-3 MEETING, AMBASSADOR FREEMAN SAID THE SITUATION REGARDING THE MESA/CREDENTIALS ISSUE WAS LOOKING BETTER. HE NOW THOUGHT IT LIKELY THAT MESA WOULD PASS ON CHAIRING THE PREPCOM IN JULY; THE CHAIRMANSHIP THEN WOULD PASS TO NAWEG. IN ANSWER TO AMBASSADOR FREEMAN'S QUESTION, NONE OF THE P-3 EXPRESSED A PREFERENCE FOR ANY PARTICULAR NAWEG MEMBER TO SERVE AS CHAIRMAN.

MODEL AGREEMENTS

20. TASK LEADER TREVOR MOORE (UK) NOTED THAT NOT A SINGLE FACILITIES AGREEMENT HAS YET BEEN SIGNED. HE EXPECTED HOFFMANN TO MAKE AN APPEAL TO THE PREPCOM TO ACCELERATE THIS PROCESS.

21. AT THE P-5, THE US REPRESENTATIVE SUGGESTED THAT THE PTS GIVE A STATUS REPORT ON THE FACILITIES AGREEMENTS, WITH A VIEW TO IDENTIFYING COMMON OBSTACLES/PROBLEMS. ALL AGREED.

UK/FRENCH CTBT RATIFICATION

22. THE UK AND FRANCE ANNOUNCED THAT THEIR PARLIAMENTS HAD APPROVED THE CTBT. THEY WILL PRESENT THEIR INSTRUMENTS OF RATIFICATION TO THE UNSYG ON APRIL 6. SIMULTANEOUSLY, THEY PLAN TO MAKE A STATEMENT AT THE PREPCOM IN VIENNA.

23. AT THE P-5, AMBASSADOR RITCH SAID HE HAD CALLED SENATE FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN JESSE HELMS TO INQUIRE ABOUT THE STATUS OF US RATIFICATION BUT THAT HIS CALL HAD NOT YET BEEN RETURNED.

RITCH

SECT: SECTION: 01 OF 03
<^SECT>SECTION: 02 OF 03
<^SECT>SECTION: 03 OF 03

SSN: 3054
<^SSN>3054

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TOR: 980403112844 M3229612

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