

M S M a i l

DATE-TIME 21 March 96 18:10
FROM Wozniak, Natalie S.
CLASSIFICATION UNCLASSIFIED
SUBJECT DAILY GUIDANCE UPDATE [UNCLASSIFIED]
TO Abdulmalik, April B.
Alijanil, Leyla
Andreasen, Steven P.
Appel, Edward J.
Argarin, Jocelyn D.
Armstrong, Fulton T.
Atlas, Edwin L.
Baker, Jane E.
Baker, James E.
Bakke, Kyle D.
Baldwin, Kenneth
Bassett, Leslie A.
Bass, Peter E.
Battenfield, Pat
Beers, Rand R.
Behring, Deanna M.
Bellamy, Ralph C.
Bell, Robert G.
Bendick, Gordon L.
Benjamin, Daniel
Birkland, Andrea L.
Blacker, Coit D.
Black, Todd F.
Blieberger, Marion H.
Blinken, Antony J.
Bolinski, Charlene C.
Boynton, Peter J.
Bresnahan, Gary E.
Broadway, Jamuna
Brown, Dallas
Brown, Nancy E.
Bruton, Robert G.
Bryan, Lloyd D.
Burrell, Christina L.
Canty, Mary T.
Carter, Michael E.
Cicio, Kristen K.
Clark, Bronya
Clarke, Richard A.
Cooper, Kathleen H.

Cullin, Brian P.
Daadler, Ivo H.
Daniel, Patty A.
Danvers, William C.
Darnes, Victoria J.
Davis, William K.
Deshazer, Macarthur X.
Dimel, Marsha L.
Dobbins, James F.
Dohse, Fred J.
Dragone, Karen D.
Dupuy, Shawn L.
Dymersky, Debra L.
Eddy, Randolph P.
Edwards, Joan
Eisenhower, James J.
Fairfax, Kenneth J.
Feeley, John F.
Fetig, James L.
Ficklin, John W.
Flessas, Daniel
Florio, Elaine
Frias, Angela M.
Fried, Daniel
Friedrich, M. K.
Fuhrman, Thomas A.
Gates, Brian K.
George, Christopher
Gerstner, Christina L.
Gladbach, Damon J.
Glinski, David L.
Goldgeier, James M.
Gorsuch, Robert P.
Gray, Wendy
Grummon, Stephen R.
Guekel, Kathi A.
Haines, Mary A.
Hale, John E.
Hall, Wilma G.
Hamilton, Roy A.
Harding, Bruce D.
Harmon, Joyce A.
Harris, Elisa D.
Harrison, Lyle M.
Hawes, David J.
Hawkins, Ardenia R.
Heslin, Sheila N.
Hilliard, Brenda I.
Hill, Roseanne M.
Hofmann, Stephan D.

Houck, Baerbel K.
Huggins, Peter
Hunerwadel, Joan S.
Johnson, David T.
Jones, Kerri-Ann D.
Joshi, M. Kay
Kelly, Sandra L.
Kerr, Andrew S.
Kessinger, Jodi
Kreczko, Alan J.
Kristoff, Sandra J.
Kyle, Robert D.
Leary, William H.
Letts, Kelly J.
Lindsey, Wanda
Lorin, Matthew E.
Lowry, Jay E.
MacDonald, Bruce W.
Malley, Robert
Marshall, Betty A.
Martinez, Alejandro
Maxfield, Nancy H.
Mazzuchi, Anthony D.
McCormick, Shawn H.
McIntyre, Stuart H.
Merchant, Brian
Miller, Matthew E.
Millison, Cathy L.
Miscik, Judith A.
Mitsler, Elaine M.
Miyaoka, Lester H.
Moody, Angelyn D.
Mueller, William (Doug) D.
Naplan, Steven J.
Neil, M. Elise
Norman, Marcia G.
Nuccio, Richard A.
O'loughlin, Kathrine
Parco, Jim E.
Gwyn M. Parker
Parramore, Carl W.
Parris, Mark R.
Pascual, Carlos E.
Peggins, John W.
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Pifer, Steven K.
Kenneth M. Pollack
Poneman, Daniel B.
Porter, Gidell
Quinn, Mary E.

Ragan, Richard F.
Ramsay, Martha S.
Reade, Evan G.
Reznik, Victoria (NMI)
Rice, Susan E.
Ritterhauff, Robin
Roach, Darren S.
Roundtree, Beverly J.
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Samore, Gary S.
Sanborn, Daniel R. K.
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Unrue, Michael M.
Van Tassel, David S.
Veit, Katherine M.
Vershbow, Alexander R.
Verville, Elizabeth G.
Wadsworth, Valon J.
Walsh, Helen C.
Ward, JoAnn X.
Weber, Paul A.
Whitworth, Frank D.
Wiley, Mary C.
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Please review and forward your updates IN BOLD to @PRESS by 10:00 a.m.
Friday, March 22. Thank you.

[[MAR21GUI.DOC : 4699 in MAR21GUI.DOC]]

**ATTACHMENT
FILE DATE**

21 March 96 12:57

**ATTACHMENT
FILE NAME**

MAR21GUI.DOC
NATIONAL SECURITY AFFAIRS GUIDANCE

March 21, 1996

Haiti

B-2

UNSCOM/Iraq

Bosnia/Croatia

Pakistan

Russia

China

Lebanon

Israel

Iraq

Northern Ireland

Loose Nukes

Nigeria

Republican National Missile Defense Bill

HAITI: MEETING WITH HAITIAN PRESIDENT RENE PREVAL

The Haitian Economy

Q: We understand that the focus of your meetings this morning was on economic issues.

What is your assessment of the state of the Haitian economy?

A: President Preval and the President had an open discussion this morning on the critical requirement for reform and revitalization of the Haitian economy. He has already made clear his intent to push forward on privatization of the government-owned industries in Port-au-Prince; development of a realistic budget for the Government of Haiti; and agreements with the World Bank, International Monetary Fund and Inter-American Development Bank to free up international economic assistance.

They also discussed a bilateral U.S.-Haitian economic "summit," wherein senior U.S. economic experts would travel to Port-au-Prince for discussions with their Haitian counterparts. This would be modeled loosely on the Economic Summit convened in Little Rock shortly after the 1992 election.

Congressional Holds

Q: The recent letters from Senator Dole and Senator Helms, and restrictions on U.S. assistance to Haiti by the House International Relations Committee and Senate Foreign Relations Committee, seem to be direct attacks on your overall Haiti policy. What is your response to these attacks?

A: The chief focus of Congressional critics of our Haiti policy has been charges that:

a) individuals implicated in politically-related murders in Haiti over the past eighteen months continue to hold appointments in the Haitian National Police, and

b) that the Government of Haiti has been slow to fully

investigate such murders.

President Preval has now fired the last of the eight individuals at issue from the police force, has appointed a new Director-General for the HNP, and has pledged to pursue fully the investigations of politically-related murders.

What our Congressional critics fail to acknowledge is that we have in fact restored democracy to Haiti, that we have provided a return to normalcy for the Haitian people, and that we have provided them a chance to rebuild their country and a hope for a more prosperous future.

The Security Situation

Q: There have been a number of incidents within recent weeks of altercations initiated by urban street gangs in Port-au-Prince. In one such incident, in Cite Soleil, eight people were killed. How do you assess the overall security situation?

A: One of the prime tenets of our overall Haiti policy has been recruitment, training and fielding of the new Haitian National Police. That organization is young and inexperienced, and mistakes have been made in a number of instances.

The HNP has been accepted and is respected in cities, towns and villages throughout Haiti however, and we are confident that as the UN presence ramps down, the HNP will continue to mature into a fully professional police force that will reinforce democratic traditions and uphold the rule of law.

Q: Are you comfortable with the fact that the UN Security Council authorized only a four-month extension to the UNMIH mandate?

A: We are comfortable with it, and want to acknowledge the fact that the government of Canada stepped forward to take charge of the UNMIH military mission. Four months longer was an appropriate compromise for the presence of an international military force.

We are working with the UN and the Friends of Haiti in New York to explore options for an extended civilian police advisory presence past the end of UNMIH II.

Redeployment of U.S. Forces

Q: How are the redeployment of U.S. troops and turnover of the UNMIH military mission to Canadian command-and-control proceeding?

A: Our troops have done an absolutely superb job in Haiti, demonstrating once again that they are the best-trained and best-motivated military force in the world today.

The redeployment and transition to Canadian command-and-control is proceeding smoothly and on schedule. Fewer than 500 U.S. troops who were part of UNMIH remain in Haiti. These will finish packing to redeploy completely to their home stations in the United States by April 15.

PRESIDENT'S "21ST B-2" DECISION

Background: In our February 8 announcement of the President's decisions on the future of the B-2 program, we said that while we would not request money for additional B-2s in our FY 1997 budget, we would direct Defense to study "deep strike" tradeoffs involving options with more than 20 B-2s. We also announced that we would spend the \$493 million that Congress had added to the program in FY 1996 "on procurement of B-2 components, upgrades and modifications that would be of value for the existing fleet" of 20 bombers. Since then, various options have been under review for these funds.

On March 20, the President decided that the \$493 million would be used for one specific, high-payoff "upgrade" -- to convert the first B-2 test prototype ("Air Vehicle One" or "AV-1") into the "21st" deployed B-2. The B-2 program included five test prototypes (AV-1 through AV-5) and the other four AVs have already been upgraded into

operational B-2s. Before now, the Air Force had planned to donate AV-1 to a museum.

Northrop has written Secretary Widnall a letter confirming that there is no "fundamental impediment to changing AV-1 to operational configuration" and stating that it is "prepared to propose and negotiate a modification to the existing low rate initial production contract target price of not more than \$493 million." The President has directed the Air Force to negotiate with Northrop Grumman a firm fixed price contractual arrangement to accomplish this upgrade. Obviously, the upgrade of AV-1 will be contingent on this contract being worked out.

Q: What effect will this decision have on the B-2 industrial base?

A: The Air Force has determined that the AV-1 option would result in a substantial rejuvenation of the B-2 vendor base, with most of the \$493 million going to Northrop-Grumman in California. Subcontracts for structural assembly work will also be required with Boeing and Vought and with Hughes for a B-2 radar.

Q: Does this mean that the Administration is now more likely to decide to restart the B-2 production line and build more bombers?

A: No. The situation remains as we described it last month: while we do not rule out more B-2s, we do not believe the case has been made that buying more can be justified, given the high cost and the other modernization and recapitalization priorities facing our Services. Whether that case can be made will be determined by the tradeoff study, which is due the beginning of next year.

Q: Will this decision be supported on the Hill?

A: We certainly believe so. Hill B-2 proponents, including Senator Nunn and Representatives Dicks, Skelton and Harman, have indicated their strong support for this

option. This use of the money is certainly consistent with the intent of Congress when it added the \$493 million to our B-2 request last year.

Q: Is there any daylight between the White House and the Pentagon on this? Did the White House force this "21st B-2" on the Defense Department?

A: No and no. Both Secretary Perry and the Air Force recommended this option, as did the NSC.

Q: Why go this route? Why not spend the money on war readiness spares or munitions and communications upgrades?

A: The Administration concluded that this use of the \$493 million clearly produces the "biggest bang for the buck", since it will in one step increase the B-2 force's capability by five percent. A "21st" B-2 would also provide a better margin for unexpected attrition of B-2s in training accidents or contingencies.

Q: Isn't this inconsistent with your announcement last month that you were not going to build additional B-2s?

A: No. There is no inconsistency between the President's February 8 decision and this option, since this is not a case of building a new B-2 but rather upgrading an existing, sunk-cost asset (the AV-1 test plane) using money we have already committed to expend on the program in one form or the other. In that sense, we will not be "going beyond" the existing program, since the "20 B-2 program" always included 21 "AVs."

Q: What happens next?

A: The next step will be for the Air Force and its acquisition officials to sit down with Northrop-Grumman and negotiate a mutually agreeable firm fixed price contractual arrangement to upgrade Air Vehicle One -- as directed by the President. Unless something unexpected comes up, that contract negotiation should be completed in several weeks.

UNSCOM: EKEUS TESTIMONY ON IRAQ

Background: Rolf Ekeus, the head of the UN Special Commission charged with dismantling Iraq's weapons of mass destruction, testified yesterday that Iraq may still be hiding as many as 16 ballistic missiles, capable of carrying chemical or biological warfare agents.

Q: Do you have any comment on Ambassador Ekeus's testimony on Iraq?

A: Ambassador Ekeus, head of the United Nations Special Commission (UNSCOM), articulated UNSCOM's concerns about Iraq's possible continued possession of Scud missiles; his assessment can stand on its own merits, without our commentary.

UNSCOM is responsible for dismantling Iraq's weapons of mass destruction.

I think it is worthwhile, however, to reemphasize one point made by Ambassador Ekeus on Wednesday. Clearly, the people of Iraq have suffered considerable economic hardship as a direct result of Saddam's continued refusal to cooperate fully with the UN in accounting for and destroying Iraq's arsenal of weapons of mass destruction. This is a situation that Saddam has the power to remedy.

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release March 20, 1996

STATEMENT BY THE PRESS SECRETARY

Quick Impact Assistance Package for Bosnia Nears Completion

The "Quick Impact" package of urgent assistance to Bosnia-Herzegovina that President Clinton announced at the Paris signing of the Dayton Peace Agreement three months ago is beginning to show results. Nearly all of the \$85.6 million pledged by the President has been awarded and most projects have been successfully completed or are well underway. Further support for civilian implementation of the Bosnian peace agreement is awaiting Congressional approval of urgently needed funds and activities for the region.

The \$85.6 million Quick Impact package announced by President Clinton in Paris on December 14, 1995, funds 36 projects relating to humanitarian assistance, urgent reconstruction, and immediate rebuilding of key infrastructure. Of these projects, 15 have been completed and another 15 are either near completion or ongoing as scheduled. Grants are pending and sites are being selected for the balance of the projects.

The Quick Impact package has helped millions of Bosnians through the harsh winter months and the early stages of their country's rehabilitation. Emergency food and clothing have been delivered; home heating and electricity have been restored; emergency building and infrastructure repairs have been carried out; employment-generating activities have begun; and efforts to strengthen the Bosnian Federation and repair the human fabric of local communities have been initiated.

"Only when the people of Bosnia can readily see the results of peace will they come to believe that their investment in peace is worthwhile," said President Clinton. "We must work hard in the early phases of implementation to ensure that all Bosnians see that peace brings immediate and tangible awards. I am gratified to see that the Quick Impact package I announced only three months ago is bearing quick results."

The Quick Impact package is designed to jump-start the recovery process and represents the first part of a longer-term international effort to assist in the reconstruction and recovery of

Bosnia. On February 21, the President requested \$200 million to fund civilian implementation efforts outlined in the Dayton Peace Accords. This request, which awaits Congressional approval, includes funds for reconstruction, demining, and police monitors and training. Activities funded by the request will focus on areas within the U.S. IFOR sector and Sarajevo.

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THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release March 20, 1996

FACT SHEET

Significant Projects Included in \$85 Million "Quick Impact" Package

Food Aid: Began providing emergency food aid totaling 93,000 metric tons to 1.9 million

Bosnians. Reopened bakery that will serve Sarajevo, Tuzla, and other cities (over 100,000,000 loaves of bread baked). Provided funds to feed 60,000 elderly citizens in Tuzla and Zenica.

Food Production: Funded supplies to resume agriculture planting, livestock production, and food processing. Will benefit 250,000 people in Sarajevo, Tuzla, Zenica, and Mostar.

Clothing: Funded project to produce 15,000 winter coats for children in Sarajevo and Gorazde.

Heating: Completed rebuilding 17 of 23 boiler houses in the Sarajevo gas system and replaced 6,000 residence gas connections. Over 120,000 residents benefited.

Water Systems: Repaired water pumps and equipment in Sarajevo, restoring regular water service to 180,000 residents.

Reconstruction: Signed agreement with contractor to begin mass replacement of glass in Sarajevo homes and businesses (over 752,000 square feet in 6

months). Projects on residential building repairs also underway in Sarajevo suburb of Dobrinja and multi-ethnic town of Busovaca.

Hospital Repairs: Completed repairs on hospitals in Sarajevo, including major winterization work, and began repairs on health facilities in two towns.

Road Work: Replaced road signs in Tuzla and set plans for repaving roads in spring.

School Repairs: Began project to renovate elementary schools in Bihac area (e.g., fix pipes, windows, and heating).

Radio Station: Repaired radio station "Kameleon" in Tuzla region. Station operates 24 hours a day and broadcasts VOA, RFE, and local public service programs.

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THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release March 20, 1996

STATEMENT BY THE PRESIDENT ON SIGNING H.R. 2778 PROVIDING TAX BENEFITS FOR MILITARY PERSONNEL IN "OPERATION JOINT ENDEAVOR"

Today, in recognition of the sacrifices members of the U.S. Armed Forces are making in and around Bosnia, I signed a bill extending special tax benefits to military personnel serving in Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, and Macedonia.

During Vietnam and the Gulf War, tax relief was granted to individuals serving in "combat zones." By extending similar tax benefits to those supporting peace efforts in the former Yugoslavia, this legislation recognizes the unique hardships and risks members of the U.S.

Armed Forces face in non-combat missions like the one in Bosnia.

I wish to thank Congress for their overwhelming support and timely passage of this legislation and also for their recognition of the hardships encountered by American troops serving in Operation JOINT ENDEAVOR.

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BOSNIA/CROATIA

IFOR Pullout

- ☐ It remains our position that IFOR can accomplish the implementation of the military aspects of the Dayton Accords in about one year.
- ☐ IFOR's mission has not changed. It is to establish a secure environment and create the conditions within which the parties and the international community can establish a stable and long-lasting peace. That mission is being successfully implemented.
- ☐ We do not see any need for IFOR to remain in Bosnia after it has accomplished its mission.

If asked about the NYT's Article on the future of the Peace Accords

- ☐ There is no question that, in order to establish lasting peace in Bosnia, full implementation of the Dayton Accords, both the military and civilian aspects, is essential.
- ☐ That is why the parties committed themselves in Geneva to build upon the accomplishments of the first three months of implementation and expressed their determination ensure the complete fulfillment of the spirit and letter of the Agreement.
- ☐ Now that satisfactory compliance with the military aspects of the Agreement has established a framework of security and predictability within which to build

civilian structures, the international community is increasing its efforts to provide the people of Bosnia the necessary means to rebuild their lives.

□ Economic Reconstruction is moving forward. The President's quick-impact package has been implemented (see today's press handout), the World Bank held a successful mini-donors conference in December and a major donors' conference will be held in mid-April. The World Bank is working with the Bosnian Government to clear its arrears for future reconstruction funding, and election planning and implementation is ongoing.

□ We must remember that only the parties can guarantee the success of the Peace Accords. We are there to provide them the opportunity. No question that there is a lot of work still to be done.

Christopher Meeting in Geneva with Balkan Presidents

□ Leaders of Bosnia, Croatia and Serbia met in Geneva on Monday at invitation of Secretary Christopher. Contact Group representatives, Italian EU Presidency, Carl Bildt and military commanders also participated.

□ Aim was to give impetus to next phase of implementation of Dayton accords, now that initial military withdrawals have been completed, and to create basis for successful meeting of Contact Group Foreign Ministers with their Balkan counterparts in Moscow on Saturday.

□ In Geneva, Balkan leaders reaffirmed their commitment to full implementation of spirit and letter of Dayton accords and to laying the groundwork for free and fair elections this summer. Specific commitments included guaranteeing freedom of movement, release of all remaining prisoners, and safe return of refugees and displaced persons.

□ Especially significant with respect to elections was commitment to ensuring access to the media for all recognized political groupings.

☐ Also note agreement by Milosevic and Tudjman to transfer indicted war criminals to the War Crimes Tribunal in The Hague.

☐ Bosnians and Croats also undertook series of commitments to strengthen the Federation and implement the Dayton and Rome agreements on the establishment of Federation institutions.

Next step on Federation is Bonn meeting on March 28, second anniversary of Federation's creation in Washington.

Arson and Looting in Sarajevo Suburbs

☐ Situation in Grbavica (gur-ba-VEET-sa) has stabilized. Federation authority has been established and original residents beginning to return.

☐ We condemn the violent incidents and the wanton destruction of property Bosnian Serbs have left in their wake. We regret that a large number of Bosnian Serbs have left Sarajevo.

☐ Ultimate responsibility lies with Bosnian Serb leaders in Pale who have stirred up fear and distrust in the suburbs with the aim of forcing all Serbs to leave the capital.

☐ The ability of all Bosnian citizens to return to their homes is a central tenet of the peace process. We hope as transition progresses the citizens of Sarajevo will realize the importance of a unified city and that many Serbs will remain or return.

☐ Bosnian government has worked hard to persuade the Bosnian Serbs to stay. They have granted general amnesty; delayed deployment of armed forces into suburbs by several weeks; agreed to a multiethnic police force; and conducted an extensive media campaign assuring Serb residents of their safety.

☐ IFOR and the International Police Task Force have increased their patrols in Grbavica in order to secure utilities and other facilities and to provide IFOR security for firefighters.

Funding for Bosnia

☐ The Administration sent to Congress a \$991 million reprogramming

request to fund a major portion of Bosnia operations. The Administration also sent an additional supplemental/rescission request to the Congress, and will send an additional reprogramming request at a later date, to fund the remainder of these operations through September 30, 1996.

Where will funds come from? How much?

☐ This reprogramming action is financed by inflation savings resulting from revised economic assumptions. The supplemental/rescission action will be financed from classified intelligence programs, while the source of the second reprogramming request is not yet identified. The total amount required for U.S. Bosnia military operations in FY 1996 is just under \$2 billion

☐ The EU and the World Bank are responsible for coordinating donors' support for Bosnia.

☐ The \$200 million rescission/supplemental package, presently before Congress, is essential to the overall international reconstruction effort.

☐ Although the Europeans are expected to donate the bulk of the needed funds, the U.S. contribution will be important for creating momentum for the International Donors' Conference in April and demonstrating our credible commitment to the people of Bosnia. If Congress does not approve our contribution, then the international donors' conference in April will probably fail.

Reconstruction.

☐ The World Bank approved a plan for Bosnia to become a member of the Bank and expected to lend the country \$450 million over the next four years.

☐ We welcome the decision. This is another important step toward

recovery, stability and peace. Helps pave the way for the upcoming Donors' Conference in April.

IFOR Support for Civilian Implementation

☐ NATO, SACEUR, High Rep Bildt, and civilian implementation officials are discussing how IFOR can help support civilian aspects of implementation within the limitations of IFOR's primary mission and available resources.

☐ IFOR Commanders have the authority for supporting tasks, including provision of assistance to War Crimes Tribunal and other international organizations in their humanitarian missions.

Removal of Head of Bosnian Security Agency

☐ We have made clear to Bosnian officials that Bosnian relations with Iran beyond normal diplomatic relations do not contribute to regional stability. These ties also impede the development of our relations with Bosnia.

☐ The presence of any terrorist training elements is unacceptable.

☐ The Bosnian government has assured us that all such activities will come to an immediate halt.

☐ Removal of Alispahic, the Head of Bosnian Agency for Investigation and Documentation's (BAID), is encouraging given evidence of BAID's continued links with Iranian forces and intelligence personnel.

☐ The Dayton Agreement is very clear. It requires that all foreign forces, including individual advisors, freedom fighters, trainers, volunteers, and personnel from neighboring and other States be withdrawn from Bosnia-Herzegovina.

☐ The discovery of the suspected terrorist training site at Fojnica was clear evidence that foreign forces were still operating in Bosnia-Herzegovina despite assurances by BAID to the contrary.

Request to Serbian officials by Tribunal to hand over War-Crimes

Suspects

- ☐ The parties agreed at Dayton and reaffirmed their commitment in Rome to comply with any order or request of the Tribunal for the arrest, detention, surrender of or access to persons involved in committing war crimes.
- ☐ We expect that all parties will honor their commitments to the Dayton Accords. This is a key item on Secretary Christopher's agenda in Geneva today
- ☐ The issue of the two Serbs who have admitted to involvement in the Srebrenica atrocities was raised by Assistant Secretaries of State Shattuck and Kornblum when they met with President Milosevic in Belgrade last week.
- ☐ Shattuck met with the two suspects, and they were interviewed by a representative of the War Crimes Tribunal as well.
- ☐ We are encouraged by Milosevic's cooperation and expect him to follow through on his assurance that the two suspects will be transferred to the Tribunal in The Hague.

PAKISTAN

Q: Has the Administration decided to ship conventional arms to Pakistan under the Brown Amendment?

A: No final decision has been made. We are consulting with members of the House and Senate on how best to proceed.

The Brown Amendment opens up a range of cooperation possibilities that had been precluded by previous legislation.

We believe that proceeding with some of this assistance could be helpful in strengthening USG influence with Pakistan on other issues of interest, such as counter-narcotics and non-proliferation.

There is a subset of programs that Brown opens up that would be precluded should we make a decision that our non-proliferation laws have been violated, such as IMET, OPIC and TDA.

While we have made no decision on the non-proliferation issue, we are not considering allowing these programs to go forward in our discussions with the Congress.

Q: Have you decided not to punish either country for China's transfer of ring magnets to the Pakistani nuclear program?

A: No final decision has been made. We now have a nonproliferation team in China, which is raising this issue, and have also approached Pakistan. Once these discussions conclude, we will make decisions based on the law and facts as we understand them.

Q: Did the Administration withhold embarrassing evidence about the ring magnets to help passage of Brown?

A: No.

RUSSIA/NIS

Current Items

Russian Poultry Sanctions

☐ Negotiations start today with Russian officials; seek quick and comprehensive resolution of trade dispute.

☐ Continue to rely heavily on Prime Minister Chernomyrdin's assurances that cessation of trade will not take effect. Remain concerned about conflicting Russian news reports over past week. Negotiations critical to ensure that trade stays on track.

☐ Have recourse to Section 301 trade measures if needed; Administration currently examining

modalities for their potential application.

☐ Believe that U.S. poultry, and its inspection system, are as safe and rigorous as that of any poultry-producing nation in the world.

Duma Vote on Belovezhskoye Accords

☐ On March 15 Duma passed nonbinding resolutions to repeal Supreme Soviet's ratification of December 1991 Belovezhskoye Accord, which led to dissolution of USSR and to recognize March 17, 1991 referendum that called for preservation of Soviet Union.

☐ Neither resolution has legal effect. Yeltsin denounced them as unconstitutional, irresponsible and inflammatory. Yeltsin stated integration among NIS should be voluntary, with respect for individual states and without pressure from any side.

☐ U.S. recognizes NIS as sovereign, independent nations and deals with them as such. Reject any attempt to call into question their sovereignty. Support good, cooperative relations among NIS. As for integration, should be based on equality, voluntary and outward-looking.

Alleged "Zavtra" Transcript of January 26 POTUS-Yeltsin Telcon

☐ The President and Yeltsin spoke by phone on January 26. White House Spokesman McCurry summarized the main points of the call at that day's press briefing.

☐ We do not comment in detail on private diplomatic exchanges between the President and other leaders and do not intend to comment on the veracity of the alleged transcript.

General Items

\$10.2 Billion IMF Program for Russia, Impact of Protectionist Measures

☐ IMF-Russia agreement sets clear course for next stage of Russian reform. Encourage Russia

to follow through with key policy steps they agreed to take prior to IMF board's final approval of program in late March. Have noted with concern recent statements on protectionist measures that could violate IMF conditions.

☐ If Russia follows through with its commitments, expect that, by time IMF board meets to approve program, Russia will have had three months of solid economic performance in 1996, building on exceptional performance in 1995 when Russia met or exceeded all IMF targets.

☐ Commend IMF focus on good economic policy. Program sets forth economic guidelines we would back for any government.

Russian Presidential Election

☐ June election for Russian people to decide, exercising democratic habits that are increasingly taking hold in their country. Not for us to intrude on choice of future Russian leader. As elsewhere, we will work with any democratically-elected leadership on the basis of its policies.

☐ We remain steady in our policy of active engagement with Russia to support democracy, economic reform and Russia's integration, and to promote cooperation to advance common foreign and security policy goals.

☐ Working to advance common interests: nuclear disarmament; detargeting; new trade, investment opportunities. Engagement remains in strong interests of both nations.

Chechnya

☐ Strongly believe cycle of violence must be broken. Our consistent position has been that only reliable path to peace is negotiated settlement that takes interests of all parties into account. Hope that Russian government, as it has previously indicated, will soon put forward plan for peaceful resolution to Chechen conflict.

Russia and NATO

□ U.S. and Russia have different views on logic of NATO enlargement. Have ongoing dialogue with Russians on this issue.

□ For our part, we intend to manage enlargement process in deliberate, transparent manner that strengthens security, stability of Europe as a whole. Russia a key player in building stable, undivided Europe. Our goal is to develop strong, cooperative NATO-Russia relationship in parallel with NATO's process of taking in new members.

CHINA

CHINA AND NUCLEAR WEAPONS

Background: On C-SPAN March 17, Win Lord dismissed the rumor that China would use nuclear weapons against the United States. There has been no threat by China that it would use nuclear weapons against the United States. This is disinformation by low-level Chinese authorities stemming from current tensions in the Taiwan Strait. We learned of this through informal conversations with a private U.S. citizen who had been traveling in Beijing.

Q: How do you comment on reports about China's threat to use nuclear weapons against the United States?

A: There has been no threat from China that it would use nuclear weapons against the United States. This report has no official basis.

The Chinese have told us officially that this does not represent their policy.

THE TAIWAN STRAIT

Background: There continue to be stories of escalating tension in the Strait despite the fact that the missile tests have been concluded. Hong Kong press sources misinterpreted statements by China's Premier Li Peng made at the close of the PRC legislative session, "If someone makes a show of force in the Taiwan Strait, that will not only be a futile act, but it also will make the situation all the more complicated." These comments were

standard warnings against foreign interference in the Taiwan issue and did not represent a new policy.

Q: Can you comment on Chinese "threats" against U.S. forces operating near Taiwan?

A: I will not comment on specific movements of U.S. naval assets. However, our naval presence is a prudent effort to show our interest in sustaining peace and stability in the Taiwan Strait.

(If pressed): The U.S. reserves the right to move its naval forces in international waters at any time.

THE OKINAWA RAPE

Background: On March 17, a Okinawan woman was raped by an unidentified assailant. She was treated for knife wounds and reported to police that her assailant was a young non-Japanese person, but she has not been able to identify him from various records from the U.S. military.

Q: How do you comment on the most recent rape incident on Okinawa?

A: We are aware that a rape was reported over the weekend. There is no evidence to indicate that a servicemember was involved.

Because the alleged incident occurred outside the jurisdiction of the military, the matter is being investigated by the Okinawa City Police. They have assumed jurisdiction of the reported incident.

Military investigative services are cooperating with the Okinawa City Police.

TAIWAN ARMS SALES

Background: The annual arms sales talks with Taiwan take place this week in Washington. There likely will be reporting that Taiwan is requesting expedited sales and deliveries of new weapons systems. Taiwan's wish list includes a number of weapons

systems which we believe they do not need to sustain an adequate defense. The situation in the Taiwan Strait has not led us to conclude that we should accelerate sales of new systems or deliveries of past purchases. Taiwan is having difficulty absorbing military technology it already has received.

Q: Can you comment on the U.S.-Taiwan discussions on arms sales?

A: The U.S. conducts annual arms sales discussions with Taiwan in the context of our obligations under the Taiwan Relations Act to assist Taiwan in maintaining an adequate self-defense.

This year's talks were scheduled well in advance of the current activities in the Strait. The talks involved experts from both sides.

Both sides agree not to discuss the details of the talks. Proper notifications will be made to Congress concerning any sales.

Q: Will the U.S. be providing new weapons systems to Taiwan as a result of the arms sales talks taking place this week?

A: In accordance with U.S. law (the Taiwan Relations Act) the administration and the Congress determine which defense articles and services Taiwan needs in order to maintain a sufficient self-defense capability.

We have an annual process through which we discuss these issues with Taiwan.

This year's talks are scheduled for 19 March. This date was set some time ago through normal and routine scheduling consultations.

Both the U.S. and Taiwan authorities agree not to discuss the specific details of the talks. Announcements of any sales approved by the U.S. and agreed to by Taiwan will be notified to Congress and announced in normal fashion.

CHINESE THREAT TO USE NUCLEAR WEAPONS AGAINST LOS ANGELES

Points

☐ We will continue to monitor the situation in the Taiwan Straits very closely.

☐ We have had a series of high level meetings during the past several weeks with the Chinese. We have made clear our position on rising tensions in the Taiwan Straits.

☐ During all of these meetings we have urged the Chinese government to exercise maximum restraint.

☐ At no time have the Chinese threatened military action against the United States.

If asked where the reports of these threats came from:

☐ There never has been any official communication with the United States government or any of its representatives.

CHINA/TAIWAN

☐ There is no ambiguity about our policy on Taiwan's security; grave consequences would flow from a use of force against Taiwan, and we have made clear our determination to see that the future of Taiwan is worked out in a peaceful manner.

☐ A resort to force with respect to Taiwan would directly involve American national interests and would carry grave risks. There should be no ambiguity about our posture in Beijing, Taipei or anywhere else.

☐ We have not concluded that there is any imminent threat to Taiwan, and that we understand the Taiwan authorities have reached the same conclusion.

☐ We are urging restraint by Beijing, while also making clear to Taiwan's leaders that restraint is in their interest. We oppose provocation by either side. We strongly urge both sides to resume their high-level dialogue.

☐ PRC authorities have stated publicly, as well as to us in diplomatic exchanges, that there is no change in their intention to seek a peaceful resolution of the

Taiwan question. They have not, however, ruled out the use of force in certain circumstances. However, we have no reason to believe the PRC plans to use force against any part of Taiwan.

□ We continue to monitor the military situation around Taiwan. The USS INDEPENDENCE battle group remains positioned in international waters near Taiwan. The USS NIMITZ and elements of her battle group are due to arrive in the Western Pacific late next week.

LEBANON

RELEASE OF SUSPECTS IN DEATH OF AMBASSADOR MELOY

Q: What is your reaction to reports that the Lebanese government has released the two convicted suspects in the assassination of Ambassador Meloy in Beirut in 1976?

A: We are disappointed that accomplices to the murder of U.S. diplomats have been acquitted of murder charges and given amnesty for their role in the kidnappings.

The timing of their acquittal and amnesty is particularly unfortunate at a time of special international focus on the need for greater cooperation against terrorism.

ISRAEL

ISRAELI BORDER FENCE

Q: What is the U.S. position on the Israeli proposal to erect a high-tech fence between Israeli and Palestinian areas? Will we support the project financially or otherwise?

A: Israel is clearly wrestling with a difficult security problem. It is considering a number of options.

We are providing certain equipment to help the Israelis deal with explosives-detection.

That's the principal focus of our efforts. Our efforts do not focus on the construction of a fence.

Q: Wouldn't a fence prejudice the Declaration of Principles principle that territorial issues are a subject for permanent status negotiations between Israelis and Palestinians?

A: That's a hypothetical question. Again, I'm simply not going to get into reported proposals.

Q: Why is the U.S. continuing to provide funds to the PLO in the wake of the terror attacks?

A: Cutting off aid to the Palestinian Authority at this time would be short-sighted and self-defeating.

Chairman Arafat and the Palestinian Authority have begun to take deliberate steps to bring those responsible for these acts to justice and to prevent further attacks.

Denying aid to the Palestinians now would not increase Israeli security.

ON FREEDOM OF ACTION

□ The Israelis are engaged in a struggle against violence and terror, a struggle which has claimed the lives of innocent citizens. They have the right to take steps necessary to defend themselves against these outrages.

□ The President has made very clear that the United States will stand with Prime Minister Peres and the people of Israel as, along with other the peacemakers, they confront this critical challenge.

□ Chairman Arafat is taking important steps to combat terror; in coordination and cooperation with Israel, there must be a sustained, decisive effort to dismantle the terrorist infrastructure.

(If pressed on "legality" of Israeli actions)

☐ Israel and the Palestinians are both facing a critical threat from the enemies of peace to the peace process and to their hopes for a better future. It is imperative that everything possible be done to confront terror. I am not going to elaborate further.

IRAQ: ANNOUNCEMENT OF ROUND 3 OF 986 TALKS

Q: Do you have any reaction to reports that Iraqi and UN officials will meet again April 8 for another round of talks on UNSCR 986?

A: As we have said in the past, we want to see 986 implemented. We helped draft it, and its implementation would help relieve the hardships being suffered by many Iraqis.

Q: What about reports that the only remaining obstacle in the talks is the purchase and distribution of humanitarian assistance to northern Iraq?

A: Resolution 986 is explicit that the humanitarian situation in northern Iraq is to be handled by the UN humanitarian program currently operating there. This program has been very effective in providing humanitarian relief to the North for the past five years; it can certainly continue the job under 986.

NORTHERN IRELAND

If asked about a meeting with Adams

☐ We remain in contact with Adams, as with all the party leaders. Beyond that, I am not going to go into details.

Loyalist Statement Warning of Retaliation for IRA Attacks

☐ Praise loyalists restraint to date.

☐ Hope that loyalists will continue to stand firmly against violence as they have done so far. Do

not believe that responding to violence with violence is right or effectual; will only increase the toll of death, destruction and hatred.

IRA Claims Responsibility for Bomb in Dumpster March 9

- ☐ We condemn the latest act of terrorism. Fortunately no one was hurt.
- ☐ No excuse or reason for campaign of violence. Will lead nowhere but to destruction and hatred.
- ☐ Only way forward is thorough political process. Talks begin June 10 -- cease-fire must be restored.
- ☐ We support the efforts of the two governments to move to talks so a lasting and just settlement can be achieved.

U.S. Response to Bombings

- ☐ Strongly condemn attacks. Hope those responsible brought to justice swiftly.
- ☐ Sympathy and prayers go out to victims and their families.
- ☐ Deeply concerned that IRA has resumed violence. People of Northern Ireland clearly want peace. No one has right to deny them that.
- ☐ Cannot allow terrorists to derail a peace process so overwhelmingly supported by the people of Northern Ireland.
- ☐ Will do everything we can to assist the two governments in continuing their search for peace.
- ☐ Note that loyalists paramilitaries have shown restraint in not responding to the breach of the cease-fire and the bombs in London.
- ☐ Welcome the firmness they are showing, which accords with the wishes of the people of Northern Ireland for peace.

Response to IRA Statements

- ☐ Call on those who have resorted to violence to restore the

cease-fire immediately.

☐ Another "25 years of war" would be senseless and incomprehensible. Only negotiation and dialogue can achieve a just and lasting settlement in Northern Ireland.

☐ Setting of date for all-party talks of June 10 is a milestone for the peace process. Call on all parties to take full advantage of this opportunity to achieve a just and lasting settlement.

IRA Reiteration of No Cease-Fire

☐ If raised: The peace process is continuing; we hope the IRA will recognize that that is the way forward and restore the cease-fire.

"Proximity Talks"

☐ (Note: Sinn Fein delegation was refused admittance in accordance with British and Irish policy of no ministerial contact): Understand that British and Irish government policy is not to have ministerial contacts with Sinn Fein until the cease-fire is restored. Contacts at the official level continue, and we hope Sinn Fein will make its views known through those channels.

☐ Hope that the unionist parties will take full advantage of this opportunity for dialogue on how to move the peace process forward.

Adams Visa

☐ Have issued Adams a three-month multiple-entry visa.

☐ Has undertaken not to raise funds. If he did, we would revoke his visa.

☐ Adams will travel to U.S. at critical time for peace process. Vital that cease-fire be restored. Important that he hear how anxious American people are for peace in Northern Ireland.

☐ Believe Adams has a vital role to play in advancing the process.

Do you have any regrets about issuing Adams a visa or your involvement in the peace process?

☐ No regrets about support we have given and will continue to give to search for lasting peace in Northern Ireland. Many people are alive today because of the 17-month cease-fire. People have new hope and confidence in the peace process, in spite of the resumption of violence.

Is Adams in control of the IRA?

☐ Do not have insight into inner workings of IRA, but believe Adams is influential within republican movement.

U.S. Role

☐ President stays in touch with two prime ministers by phone and letter. Spoke with them February 23 on their efforts to get peace process back on track.

☐ NSA has been in close touch two governments and party leaders (including Gerry Adams) all along, and on an intensified basis since the cease-fire was broken.

☐ Have urged them to keep eye on goal of inclusive negotiations leading to just and lasting peace. Have also vouched for good faith of two governments.

White House Meetings?

☐ Since the cease-fire was broken, we decided there will be no meetings with Adams at the White House or other government departments.

☐ No plans for meetings with any other USG officials.

Major/Bruton Announcement

☐ Pleased with announcement, which is a significant step forward for the peace process. President has issued a statement welcoming it.

☐ Process provides clear path to substantive all-party negotiations on a lasting settlement starting June 10.

☐ Continue to call on those who have resorted to violence and terror to respect the wishes of the people of Northern Ireland and restore the cease-fire.

☐ If asked about Sinn Fein or SDLP opposition to elections: Understand that the elective process will include all parties in Northern Ireland. We would hope for the widest possible participation in all aspects of the process leading to talks.

☐ If asked: We do not have a view on what kind of elective process is appropriate for Northern Ireland. That is a matter primarily for the parties and the British Government. But we call on the parties to participate fully in the process announced as the best chance of creating a lasting peace.

President's Phone Calls

☐ President spoke with both Prime Minister Major and Prime Minister Bruton on February 23 to discuss their efforts to get the Northern Ireland peace process back on track. He reiterated his commitment to supporting that effort.

Fundraising

(Background: The Financial Times ran an article February 20 implying that there was something unexpected or sinister about the fact that some of the funds raised had been transferred to Ireland. Friends of Sinn Fein is suing the FT over that report. Way the system works is that some of the funds are used for expenses of local Sinn Fein office; some is transferred to bank in Dublin for political expenses of Sinn Fein in Ireland. That has been the understanding since permission to fundraise was granted in March of 1995.)

☐ DOJ and Treasury monitor funds raised here by Friends of Sinn Fein. For details on how the system works, I refer you to them.

Sinn Fein Currently Fundraising?

☐ There are currently no Sinn Fein fundraisers with visa waivers in the U.S.

Troops Back to Northern Ireland?

(Background: HMG is sending 500 troops back to Northern Ireland. They had withdrawn 1600 during the cease-fire.)

- ☐ British are responsible for security in Northern Ireland.

Why did Adams call Lake February 9? Did Lake have advance warning?

- ☐ He alerted us to disturbing rumors he was hearing, but nothing specific.
- ☐ Call came shortly before the bomb went off.

LOOSE NUKES: SECURITY OF NUCLEAR MATERIALS IN THE FSU

- ☐ Administration aware of and working to address concerns over security of nuclear materials in the Former Soviet Union.
- ☐ Our concern reflected in \$70 million FY-96 budget for improving nuclear materials security in FSU and plans (detailed in recent GAO report) for \$400 million program over 7 year period.
- ☐ Cooperative programs currently underway with all appropriate governments. Cooperation by host nations -- including Russia -- is excellent.
- ☐ Nuclear material security frequent topic of discussion by Presidents Clinton/Yeltsin and Vice President Gore/Prime Minister Chernomyrdin. VP and PM recently submitted joint report to Presidents on our cooperative efforts -- see Hyde Park statement.
- ☐ Last year, President Clinton consolidated overall management of programs to improve nuclear material security in NSC.
- ☐ Rate of progress is extremely rapid -- information correct just months ago is seriously dated today.

- ☐ Over the past year, agreements put in place and work started at more than 35 locations in Russia and FSU, or about 75% of all known locations where weapons-useable material believed to be stored.
- ☐ Over past year, U.S. and Russia completed projects protecting more than 8 tons of material -- enough for hundreds of nuclear bombs. In past six months, U.S. and Russia agreed to improve nuclear material security at 17 additional locations, including some large defense-related facilities.
- ☐ Administration agrees with need for funding; current FY-97 budget request is \$95 million; call on Congress to support Administration's efforts.
- ☐ U.S. experts never denied access at any facility where we have agreement on improving in nuclear material security.
- ☐ While valuable, Harvard/Graham Allison study cited by Washington Times based on data collected a year ago and fails to reflect many developments. Even new GAO report based on data collected several months ago.
- ☐ For up-to-date information on on-the-ground efforts, direct you to Department of Energy.

NIGERIA: SANCTIONS

Q: Are we seeking tougher sanctions against Nigeria?

A: Since the annulled elections in 1993, we have been engaged in close consultation with the international community on the full range of issues and options related to Nigeria.

The U.S. imposed additional measures against Nigeria following the execution of Ken Saro-Wiwa and his eight colleagues. At that time, we indicated we would review further measures to move Nigeria towards democracy; that review process continues.

We are actively considering various measures. All options remain on the table. Nothing has been ruled out.

Q: With whom are we consulting? What has been their response?

A: We are consulting with our allies, African governments, American business groups, and the broader international community.

I am not going to discuss the specifics of our diplomatic exchanges.

Q: What types of sanctions are under consideration? Do they include banning all new foreign investment in Nigeria, freezing of Nigerian leaders' financial assets in foreign countries, a sports ban, and/or a ban on cultural contacts?

A: The United States is continuing to keep all options under review that could possibly persuade the Government of Nigeria to quicken its pace toward democratic transition and to respect the human rights of the Nigerian people.

I'm not going to either confirm or deny any specific measures under consideration. All economic and non-economic options remain on the table. Nothing has been ruled out.

We believe that multilateral measures would be most effective in sending a message to the Nigerian Government, but we have not ruled out unilateral action.

Q: What sanctions has the U.S. already imposed on Nigeria?

A: To demonstrate U.S. concern over Nigeria's lack of progress toward democratization, we instituted visa restrictions and banned arms sales.

To demonstrate U.S. concern over Nigeria's lack of cooperation in counternarcotics efforts, we terminated all aid except humanitarian/democratization aid through non-governmental entities, and suspended consideration of Nigeria's applications for Exim and OPIC financing.

Nigeria was again denied certification on March 1, 1996.

Q: What about an oil embargo?

A: In order to be effective, an oil embargo would have to be multilateral.

Q: What are your views on Shell's offshore oil exploration and other oil and gas-related investments by other companies, including the American firm, Mobil Corporation?

A: We believe that now is not the time for new investments to go forward.

(If asked) We have listened to the concerns of American businessmen, and we have made our concerns known to them.

Q: What is U.S. policy towards Nigeria?

A: The U.S. seeks to promote the earliest possible restoration of civilian, democratic government and respect for human rights in Nigeria.

We remain concerned about the length of the transition period, about arrests of critics of the government, and about incidents of violence.

Ambassador Carrington returned to Nigeria on March 3 to convey our views to -- and to continue our discussion with -- the Nigerian leadership on what is needed to move forward with a credible democratic transition in Nigeria.

As Ambassador Carrington said, his return does not signal any lessening of U.S. concerns over the transition process or human rights. Nor has it lessened our determination to persuade the Nigerian leadership to reconsider its current policies.

REPUBLICAN NATIONAL MISSILE DEFENSE BILL

Background: Republican leaders in the House and Senate are scheduled to introduce a free-standing bill today that would mandate the deployment by 2003 of a highly effective

National Missile Defense (NMD) that would likely be inconsistent with the ABM Treaty as now constituted.

☐ Objective of the Administration's own NMD program -- as outlined by Secretary Perry a few weeks ago -- is to position U.S. to respond quickly should new strategic threats to U.S. territory emerge.

☐ Under our program, we will have an NMD deployment option ready by 2000 and should we decide then that deployment was required by a long-range threat to our homeland that was materializing sooner than our intelligence community now expects, it could be fielded by 2003.

☐ Regarding the threat, the Intelligence Community (IC) has concluded that a threat to the contiguous United States from proliferant ballistic missiles is unlikely in the next 15 years. Moreover, the threat of attack from Russia is decreasing as we move to a more cooperative relationship involving, among other things, deep reductions in nuclear forces and threat reduction efforts underway as part of the Nunn-Lugar program. In any case, Russia and China face a significant U.S. deterrent. The IC considers the threat from accidental or unauthorized launch from Russia or China as "remote." The Russian "accidental launch" threat is further mitigated by our detargeting agreement, since any accidentally launched missiles would no longer be aimed at American cities.

☐ The new NMD "deployment readiness" program will allow the U.S. to continue the advancement of technology, add new elements to the system, and possibly reduce deployment timeliness.

☐ We oppose making any deployment decision now; deployment decision if/when intelligence indicates emerging threat. Will enable deployment of the best possible system when the threat emerges.

☐ Premature deployment would waste needed investment funds; result in lower technology, poorer-performing defensive system if/when threat does emerge;

place at risk START I and
possibly START II reductions thereby increasing nuclear missile
threat to U.S.

☐ We hope the Congress will not approve this bill.

M S M a i l

DATE-TIME 21 March 96 18:12

FROM Wozniak, Natalie S.

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SUBJECT March 21 Press Guidance [UNCLASSIFIED]

TO Beardsley, Tyler S.
Bujold, Noelle D.
Fuerth, Leon S.
Harding, Bruce D.
Hilty, JoAnne M.
Jordan, Donald L.
Moore, Lori A.
Norris, John J.
Reed, George
Saunders, Richard M.
Schmidt, Sandra E.
Wilhelm, Richard J.
Wise, William M.
Woolston, Ann E.

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TEXT_BODY [[MAR21GUI.DOC : 4705 in MAR21GUI.DOC]]

**ATTACHMENT
FILE DATE** 21 March 96 18:10

**ATTACHMENT
FILE NAME** MAR21GUI.DOC
NATIONAL SECURITY AFFAIRS GUIDANCE

March 21, 1996

Haiti

B-2

UNSCOM/Iraq

Bosnia/Croatia

Pakistan

Russia

China

Lebanon

Israel

Iraq

Northern Ireland

Loose Nukes

Nigeria

Republican National Missile Defense Bill

HAITI: MEETING WITH HAITIAN PRESIDENT RENE PREVAL

The Haitian Economy

Q: We understand that the focus of your meetings this morning was on economic issues.

What is your assessment of the state of the Haitian economy?

A: President Preval and the President had an open discussion this morning on the critical requirement for reform and revitalization of the Haitian economy. He has already made clear his intent to push forward on privatization of the government-owned industries in Port-au-Prince; development of a realistic budget for the Government of Haiti; and agreements with the World Bank, International Monetary Fund and Inter-American Development Bank to free up international economic assistance.

They also discussed a bilateral U.S.-Haitian economic "summit," wherein senior U.S. economic experts would travel to Port-au-Prince for discussions with their Haitian counterparts. This would be modeled loosely on the Economic Summit convened in Little Rock shortly after the 1992 election.

Congressional Holds

Q: The recent letters from Senator Dole and Senator Helms, and restrictions on U.S. assistance to Haiti by the House International Relations Committee and Senate Foreign Relations Committee, seem to be direct attacks on your overall Haiti policy. What is your response to these attacks?

A: The chief focus of Congressional critics of our Haiti policy has been charges that:

a) individuals implicated in politically-related murders in Haiti over the past eighteen months continue to hold appointments in the Haitian National Police, and

b) that the Government of Haiti has been slow to fully investigate such murders.

President Preval has now fired the last of the eight individuals at issue from the police force, has appointed a new Director-General for the HNP, and has pledged to pursue fully the investigations of politically-related murders.

What our Congressional critics fail to acknowledge is that we have in fact restored democracy to Haiti, that we have provided a return to normalcy for the Haitian people, and that we have provided them a chance to rebuild their country and a hope for a more prosperous future.

The Security Situation

Q: There have been a number of incidents within recent weeks of altercations initiated by urban street gangs in Port-au-Prince. In one such incident, in Cite Soleil, eight people were killed. How do you assess the overall security situation?

A: One of the prime tenets of our overall Haiti policy has been recruitment, training and fielding of the new Haitian National Police. That organization is young and inexperienced, and mistakes have been made in a number of

instances.

The HNP has been accepted and is respected in cities, towns and villages throughout Haiti however, and we are confident that as the UN presence ramps down, the HNP will continue to mature into a fully professional police force that will reinforce democratic traditions and uphold the rule of law.

Q: Are you comfortable with the fact that the UN Security Council authorized only a four-month extension to the UNMIH mandate?

A: We are comfortable with it, and want to acknowledge the fact that the government of Canada stepped forward to take charge of the UNMIH military mission. Four months longer was an appropriate compromise for the presence of an international military force. We are working with the UN and the Friends of Haiti in New York to explore options for an extended civilian police advisory presence past the end of UNMIH II.

Redeployment of U.S. Forces

Q: How are the redeployment of U.S. troops and turnover of the UNMIH military mission to Canadian command-and-control proceeding?

A: Our troops have done an absolutely superb job in Haiti, demonstrating once again that they are the best-trained and best-motivated military force in the world today.

The redeployment and transition to Canadian command-and-control is proceeding smoothly and on schedule. Fewer than 500 U.S. troops who were part of UNMIH remain in Haiti. These will finish packing to redeploy completely to their home stations in the United States by April 15.

PRESIDENT'S "21ST B-2" DECISION

Background: In our February 8 announcement of the President's

decisions on the future of the B-2 program, we said that while we would not request money for additional B-2s in our FY 1997 budget, we would direct Defense to study "deep strike" tradeoffs involving options with more than 20 B-2s. We also announced that we would spend the \$493 million that Congress had added to the program in FY 1996 "on procurement of B-2 components, upgrades and modifications that would be of value for the existing fleet" of 20 bombers. Since then, various options have been under review for these funds.

On March 20, the President decided that the \$493 million would be used for one specific, high-payoff "upgrade" -- to convert the first B-2 test prototype ("Air Vehicle One" or "AV-1") into the "21st" deployed B-2. The B-2 program included five test prototypes (AV-1 through AV-5) and the other four AVs have already been upgraded into operational B-2s. Before now, the Air Force had planned to donate AV-1 to a museum.

Northrop has written Secretary Widnall a letter confirming that there is no "fundamental impediment to changing AV-1 to operational configuration" and stating that it is "prepared to propose and negotiate a modification to the existing low rate initial production contract target price of not more than \$493 million." The President has directed the Air Force to negotiate with Northrop Grumman a firm fixed price contractual arrangement to accomplish this upgrade. Obviously, the upgrade of AV-1 will be contingent on this contract being worked out.

Q: What effect will this decision have on the B-2 industrial base?

A: The Air Force has determined that the AV-1 option would result in a substantial rejuvenation of the B-2 vendor base, with most of the \$493 million going to Northrop-Grumman in California. Subcontracts for structural assembly work will also be required with Boeing and Vought and with Hughes for a B-2 radar.

Q: Does this mean that the Administration is now more likely to decide to restart the B-2 production line and build more bombers?

A: No. The situation remains as we described it last month: while we do not rule out more B-2s, we do not believe the case has been made that buying more can be justified, given the high cost and the other modernization and recapitalization priorities facing our Services. Whether that case can be made will be determined by the tradeoff study, which is due the beginning of next year.

Q: Will this decision be supported on the Hill?

A: We certainly believe so. Hill B-2 proponents, including Senator Nunn and Representatives Dicks, Skelton and Harman, have indicated their strong support for this option. This use of the money is certainly consistent with the intent of Congress when it added the \$493 million to our B-2 request last year.

Q: Is there any daylight between the White House and the Pentagon on this? Did the White House force this "21st B-2" on the Defense Department?

A: No and no. Both Secretary Perry and the Air Force recommended this option, as did the NSC.

Q: Why go this route? Why not spend the money on war readiness spares or munitions and communications upgrades?

A: The Administration concluded that this use of the \$493 million clearly produces the "biggest bang for the buck", since it will in one step increase the B-2 force's capability by five percent. A "21st" B-2 would also provide a better margin for unexpected attrition of B-2s in training accidents or contingencies.

Q: Isn't this inconsistent with your announcement last month that you were not going to build additional B-2s?

A: No. There is no inconsistency between the President's February 8 decision and this

option, since this is not a case of building a new B-2 but rather upgrading an existing, sunk-cost asset (the AV-1 test plane) using money we have already committed to expend on the program in one form or the other. In that sense, we will not be "going beyond" the existing program, since the "20 B-2 program" always included 21 "AVs."

Q: What happens next?

A: The next step will be for the Air Force and its acquisition officials to sit down with Northrop-Grumman and negotiate a mutually agreeable firm fixed price contractual arrangement to upgrade Air Vehicle One -- as directed by the President. Unless something unexpected comes up, that contract negotiation should be completed in several weeks.

UNSCOM: EKEUS TESTIMONY ON IRAQ

Background: Rolf Ekeus, the head of the UN Special Commission charged with dismantling Iraq's weapons of mass destruction, testified yesterday that Iraq may still be hiding as many as 16 ballistic missiles, capable of carrying chemical or biological warfare agents.

Q: Do you have any comment on Ambassador Ekeus's testimony on Iraq?

A: Ambassador Ekeus, head of the United Nations Special Commission (UNSCOM), articulated UNSCOM's concerns about Iraq's possible continued possession of Scud missiles; his assessment can stand on its own merits, without our commentary.

UNSCOM is responsible for dismantling Iraq's weapons of mass destruction.

I think it is worthwhile, however, to reemphasize one point made by Ambassador Ekeus on Wednesday. Clearly, the people of Iraq have suffered considerable economic hardship

as a direct result of Saddam's continued refusal to cooperate fully with the UN in accounting for and destroying Iraq's arsenal of weapons of mass destruction. This is a situation that Saddam has the power to remedy.

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release March 20, 1996

STATEMENT BY THE PRESS SECRETARY

Quick Impact Assistance Package for Bosnia Nears Completion

The "Quick Impact" package of urgent assistance to Bosnia-Herzegovina that President Clinton announced at the Paris signing of the Dayton Peace Agreement three months ago is beginning to show results. Nearly all of the \$85.6 million pledged by the President has been awarded and most projects have been successfully completed or are well underway. Further support for civilian implementation of the Bosnian peace agreement is awaiting Congressional approval of urgently needed funds and activities for the region.

The \$85.6 million Quick Impact package announced by President Clinton in Paris on December 14, 1995, funds 36 projects relating to humanitarian assistance, urgent reconstruction, and immediate rebuilding of key infrastructure. Of these projects, 15 have been completed and another 15 are either near completion or ongoing as scheduled. Grants are pending and sites are being selected for the balance of the projects.

The Quick Impact package has helped millions of Bosnians through the harsh winter months and the early stages of their country's rehabilitation. Emergency food and clothing have been delivered; home heating and electricity have been restored; emergency building and

infrastructure repairs have been carried out; employment-generating activities have begun; and efforts to strengthen the Bosnian Federation and repair the human fabric of local communities have been initiated.

"Only when the people of Bosnia can readily see the results of peace will they come to believe that their investment in peace is worthwhile," said President Clinton. "We must work hard in the early phases of implementation to ensure that all Bosnians see that peace brings immediate and tangible awards. I am gratified to see that the Quick Impact package I announced only three months ago is bearing quick results."

The Quick Impact package is designed to jump-start the recovery process and represents the first part of a longer-term international effort to assist in the reconstruction and recovery of Bosnia. On February 21, the President requested \$200 million to fund civilian implementation efforts outlined in the Dayton Peace Accords. This request, which awaits Congressional approval, includes funds for reconstruction, demining, and police monitors and training. Activities funded by the request will focus on areas within the U.S. IFOR sector and Sarajevo.

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THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release March 20, 1996

FACT SHEET

Significant Projects Included in \$85 Million "Quick Impact" Package

Food Aid: Began providing emergency food aid totaling 93,000 metric tons to 1.9 million Bosnians. Reopened bakery that will serve Sarajevo, Tuzla, and other cities (over 100,000,000 loaves of bread baked). Provided funds to feed 60,000 elderly citizens in Tuzla and Zenica.

Food Production: Funded supplies to resume agriculture planting, livestock production, and food processing. Will benefit 250,000 people in Sarajevo, Tuzla, Zenica, and Mostar.

Clothing: Funded project to produce 15,000 winter coats for children in Sarajevo and Gorazde.

Heating: Completed rebuilding 17 of 23 boiler houses in the Sarajevo gas system and replaced 6,000 residence gas connections. Over 120,000 residents benefited.

Water Systems: Repaired water pumps and equipment in Sarajevo, restoring regular water service to 180,000 residents.

Reconstruction: Signed agreement with contractor to begin mass replacement of glass in Sarajevo homes and businesses (over 752,000 square feet in 6 months). Projects on residential building repairs also underway in Sarajevo suburb of Dobrinja and multi-ethnic town of Busovaca.

Hospital Repairs: Completed repairs on hospitals in Sarajevo, including major winterization work, and began repairs on health facilities in two towns.

Road Work: Replaced road signs in Tuzla and set plans for repaving roads in spring.

School Repairs: Began project to renovate elementary schools in Bihac area (e.g., fix pipes, windows, and heating).

Radio Station: Repaired radio station "Kameleon" in Tuzla region. Station operates 24 hours a day and broadcasts VOA, RFE, and local public service programs.

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THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary

STATEMENT BY THE PRESIDENT
ON SIGNING H.R. 2778 PROVIDING TAX BENEFITS FOR
MILITARY PERSONNEL IN "OPERATION JOINT ENDEAVOR"

Today, in recognition of the sacrifices members of the U.S. Armed Forces are making in and around Bosnia, I signed a bill extending special tax benefits to military personnel serving in Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, and Macedonia.

During Vietnam and the Gulf War, tax relief was granted to individuals serving in "combat zones." By extending similar tax benefits to those supporting peace efforts in the former Yugoslavia, this legislation recognizes the unique hardships and risks members of the U.S. Armed Forces face in non-combat missions like the one in Bosnia.

I wish to thank Congress for their overwhelming support and timely passage of this legislation and also for their recognition of the hardships encountered by American troops serving in Operation JOINT ENDEAVOR.

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BOSNIA/CROATIA

IFOR Pullout

- ☐ It remains our position that IFOR can accomplish the implementation of the military aspects of the Dayton Accords in about one year.
- ☐ IFOR's mission has not changed. It is to establish a secure environment and create the conditions within which the parties and the international community can establish a stable and long-lasting peace. That mission is being successfully implemented.

☐ We do not see any need for IFOR to remain in Bosnia after it has accomplished its mission.

If asked about the NYT's Article on the future of the Peace Accords

☐ There is no question that, in order to establish lasting peace in Bosnia, full implementation of the Dayton Accords, both the military and civilian aspects, is essential.

☐ That is why the parties committed themselves in Geneva to build upon the accomplishments of the first three months of implementation and expressed their determination ensure the complete fulfillment of the spirit and letter of the Agreement.

☐ Now that satisfactory compliance with the military aspects of the Agreement has established a framework of security and predictability within which to build civilian structures, the international community is increasing its efforts to provide the people of Bosnia the necessary means to rebuild their lives.

☐ Economic Reconstruction is moving forward. The President's quick-impact package has been implemented (see today's press handout), the World Bank held a successful mini-donors conference in December and a major donors' conference will be held in mid-April. The World Bank is working with the Bosnian Government to clear its arrears for future reconstruction funding, and election planning and implementation is ongoing.

☐ We must remember that only the parties can guarantee the success of the Peace Accords. We are there to provide them the opportunity. No question that there is a lot of work still to be done.

Christopher Meeting in Geneva with Balkan Presidents

☐ Leaders of Bosnia, Croatia and Serbia met in Geneva on Monday at invitation of Secretary Christopher. Contact Group representatives, Italian EU Presidency, Carl Bildt and military commanders also participated.

- ☐ Aim was to give impetus to next phase of implementation of Dayton accords, now that initial military withdrawals have been completed, and to create basis for successful meeting of Contact Group Foreign Ministers with their Balkan counterparts in Moscow on Saturday.
 - ☐ In Geneva, Balkan leaders reaffirmed their commitment to full implementation of spirit and letter of Dayton accords and to laying the groundwork for free and fair elections this summer. Specific commitments included guaranteeing freedom of movement, release of all remaining prisoners, and safe return of refugees and displaced persons.
 - ☐ Especially significant with respect to elections was commitment to ensuring access to the media for all recognized political groupings.
 - ☐ Also note agreement by Milosevic and Tudjman to transfer indicted war criminals to the War Crimes Tribunal in The Hague.
 - ☐ Bosnians and Croats also undertook series of commitments to strengthen the Federation and implement the Dayton and Rome agreements on the establishment of Federation institutions. Next step on Federation is Bonn meeting on March 28, second anniversary of Federation's creation in Washington.
- Arson and Looting in Sarajevo Suburbs
- ☐ Situation in Grbavica (gur-ba-VEET-sa) has stabilized. Federation authority has been established and original residents beginning to return.
 - ☐ We condemn the violent incidents and the wanton destruction of property Bosnian Serbs have left in their wake. We regret that a large number of Bosnian Serbs have left Sarajevo.
 - ☐ Ultimate responsibility lies with Bosnian Serb leaders in Pale who have stirred up fear and distrust in the suburbs with the aim of forcing all Serbs to leave the capital.
 - ☐ The ability of all Bosnian citizens to return to their homes is a central tenet of the peace

process. We hope as transition progresses the citizens of Sarajevo will realize the importance of a unified city and that many Serbs will remain or return.

☐ Bosnian government has worked hard to persuade the Bosnian Serbs to stay. They have granted general amnesty; delayed deployment of armed forces into suburbs by several weeks; agreed to a multiethnic police force; and conducted an extensive media campaign assuring Serb residents of their safety.

☐ IFOR and the International Police Task Force have increased their patrols in Grbavica in order to secure utilities and other facilities and to provide IFOR security for firefighters.

Funding for Bosnia

☐ The Administration sent to Congress a \$991 million reprogramming request to fund a major portion of Bosnia operations. The Administration also sent an additional supplemental/rescission request to the Congress, and will send an additional reprogramming request at a later date, to fund the remainder of these operations through September 30, 1996.

Where will funds come from? How much?

☐ This reprogramming action is financed by inflation savings resulting from revised economic assumptions. The supplemental/rescission action will be financed from classified intelligence programs, while the source of the second reprogramming request is not yet identified. The total amount required for U.S. Bosnia military operations in FY 1996 is just under \$2 billion

☐ The EU and the World Bank are responsible for coordinating donors' support for Bosnia.

☐ The \$200 million rescission/supplemental package, presently

before Congress, is essential to the overall international reconstruction effort.

☐ Although the Europeans are expected to donate the bulk of the needed funds, the U.S. contribution will be important for creating momentum for the International Donors' Conference in April and demonstrating our credible commitment to the people of Bosnia. If Congress does not approve our contribution, then the international donors' conference in April will probably fail.

Reconstruction.

☐ The World Bank approved a plan for Bosnia to become a member of the Bank and expected to lend the country \$450 million over the next four years.

☐ We welcome the decision. This is another important step toward recovery, stability and peace. Helps pave the way for the upcoming Donors' Conference in April.

IFOR Support for Civilian Implementation

☐ NATO, SACEUR, High Rep Bildt, and civilian implementation officials are discussing how IFOR can help support civilian aspects of implementation within the limitations of IFOR's primary mission and available resources.

☐ IFOR Commanders have the authority for supporting tasks, including provision of assistance to War Crimes Tribunal and other international organizations in their humanitarian missions.

Removal of Head of Bosnian Security Agency

☐ We have made clear to Bosnian officials that Bosnian relations with Iran beyond normal diplomatic relations do not contribute to regional stability. These ties also impede the development of our relations with Bosnia.

☐ The presence of any terrorist training elements is unacceptable.

☐ The Bosnian government has assured us that all such activities will come to an immediate halt.

☐ Removal of Alispahic, the Head of Bosnian Agency for Investigation and Documentation's (BAID), is encouraging given evidence of BAID's continued links with Iranian forces and intelligence personnel.

☐ The Dayton Agreement is very clear. It requires that all foreign forces, including individual advisors, freedom fighters, trainers, volunteers, and personnel from neighboring and other States be withdrawn from Bosnia-Herzegovina.

☐ The discovery of the suspected terrorist training site at Fojnica was clear evidence that foreign forces were still operating in Bosnia-Herzegovina despite assurances by BAID to the contrary.

Request to Serbian officials by Tribunal to hand over War-Crimes Suspects

☐ The parties agreed at Dayton and reaffirmed their commitment in Rome to comply with any order or request of the Tribunal for the arrest, detention, surrender of or access to persons involved in committing war crimes.

☐ We expect that all parties will honor their commitments to the Dayton Accords. This is a key item on Secretary Christopher's agenda in Geneva today

☐ The issue of the two Serbs who have admitted to involvement in the Srebrenica atrocities was raised by Assistant Secretaries of State Shattuck and Kornblum when they met with President Milosevic in Belgrade last week.

☐ Shattuck met with the two suspects, and they were interviewed by a representative of the War Crimes Tribunal as well.

☐ We are encouraged by Milosevic's cooperation and expect him to follow through on his assurance that the two suspects will be transferred to the Tribunal in The Hague.

PAKISTAN

Q: Has the Administration decided to ship conventional arms to Pakistan under the Brown Amendment?

A: No final decision has been made. We are consulting with members of the House and Senate on how best to proceed.

The Brown Amendment opens up a range of cooperation possibilities that had been precluded by previous legislation.

We believe that proceeding with some of this assistance could be helpful in strengthening USG influence with Pakistan on other issues of interest, such as counter-narcotics and non-proliferation.

There is a subset of programs that Brown opens up that would be precluded should we make a decision that our non-proliferation laws have been violated, such as IMET, OPIC and TDA.

While we have made no decision on the non-proliferation issue, we are not considering allowing these programs to go forward in our discussions with the Congress.

Q: Have you decided not to punish either country for China's transfer of ring magnets to the Pakistani nuclear program?

A: No final decision has been made. We now have a nonproliferation team in China, which is raising this issue, and have also approached Pakistan. Once these discussions conclude, we will make decisions based on the law and facts as we understand them.

Q: Did the Administration withhold embarrassing evidence about the ring magnets to help passage of Brown?

A: No.

RUSSIA/NIS

Current Items

Russian Poultry Sanctions

- ☐ Negotiations start today with Russian officials; seek quick and comprehensive resolution of trade dispute.
- ☐ Continue to rely heavily on Prime Minister Chernomyrdin's assurances that cessation of trade will not take effect. Remain concerned about conflicting Russian news reports over past week. Negotiations critical to ensure that trade stays on track.
- ☐ Have recourse to Section 301 trade measures if needed; Administration currently examining modalities for their potential application.
- ☐ Believe that U.S. poultry, and its inspection system, are as safe and rigorous as that of any poultry-producing nation in the world.

Duma Vote on Belovezhskoye Accords

- ☐ On March 15 Duma passed nonbinding resolutions to repeal Supreme Soviet's ratification of December 1991 Belovezhskoye Accord, which led to dissolution of USSR and to recognize March 17, 1991 referendum that called for preservation of Soviet Union.
- ☐ Neither resolution has legal effect. Yeltsin denounced them as unconstitutional, irresponsible and inflammatory. Yeltsin stated integration among NIS should be voluntary, with respect for individual states and without pressure from any side.
- ☐ U.S. recognizes NIS as sovereign, independent nations and deals with them as such. Reject any attempt to call into question their sovereignty. Support good, cooperative relations among NIS. As for integration, should be based on equality, voluntary and outward-looking.

Alleged "Zavtra" Transcript of January 26 POTUS-Yeltsin Telcon

- ☐ The President and Yeltsin spoke by phone on January 26. White House Spokesman McCurry summarized the main points of the call at that day's press briefing.
- ☐ We do not comment in detail on private diplomatic exchanges between the President and other leaders and do not intend to comment on the veracity of the alleged transcript.

General Items

\$10.2 Billion IMF Program for Russia, Impact of Protectionist Measures

- ☐ IMF-Russia agreement sets clear course for next stage of Russian reform. Encourage Russia to follow through with key policy steps they agreed to take prior to IMF board's final approval of program in late March. Have noted with concern recent statements on protectionist measures that could violate IMF conditions.
- ☐ If Russia follows through with its commitments, expect that, by time IMF board meets to approve program, Russia will have had three months of solid economic performance in 1996, building on exceptional performance in 1995 when Russia met or exceeded all IMF targets.
- ☐ Commend IMF focus on good economic policy. Program sets forth economic guidelines we would back for any government.

Russian Presidential Election

- ☐ June election for Russian people to decide, exercising democratic habits that are increasingly taking hold in their country. Not for us to intrude on choice of future Russian leader. As elsewhere, we will work with any democratically-elected leadership on the basis of its policies.
- ☐ We remain steady in our policy of active engagement with Russia to support democracy, economic reform and Russia's integration, and to promote

cooperation to advance common foreign and security policy goals.

☐ Working to advance common interests: nuclear disarmament; detargeting; new trade, investment opportunities. Engagement remains in strong interests of both nations.

Chechnya

☐ Strongly believe cycle of violence must be broken. Our consistent position has been that only reliable path to peace is negotiated settlement that takes interests of all parties into account. Hope that Russian government, as it has previously indicated, will soon put forward plan for peaceful resolution to Chechen conflict.

Russia and NATO

- ☐ U.S. and Russia have different views on logic of NATO enlargement. Have ongoing dialogue with Russians on this issue.
- ☐ For our part, we intend to manage enlargement process in deliberate, transparent manner that strengthens security, stability of Europe as a whole. Russia a key player in building stable, undivided Europe. Our goal is to develop strong, cooperative NATO-Russia relationship in parallel with NATO's process of taking in new members.

CHINA

CHINA AND NUCLEAR WEAPONS

Background: On C-SPAN March 17, Win Lord dismissed the rumor that China would use nuclear weapons against the United States. There has been no threat by China that it would use nuclear weapons against the United States. This is disinformation by low-level Chinese authorities stemming from current tensions in the Taiwan Strait. We learned of this through informal conversations with a private U.S. citizen who had been traveling in Beijing.

Q: How do you comment on reports about China's threat to use nuclear weapons against

the United States?

A: There has been no threat from China that it would use nuclear weapons against the United States. This report has no official basis.

The Chinese have told us officially that this does not represent their policy.

THE TAIWAN STRAIT

Background: There continue to be stories of escalating tension in the Strait despite the fact that the missile tests have been concluded. Hong Kong press sources misinterpreted statements by China's Premier Li Peng made at the close of the PRC legislative session, "If someone makes a show of force in the Taiwan Strait, that will not only be a futile act, but it also will make the situation all the more complicated." These comments were standard warnings against foreign interference in the Taiwan issue and did not represent a new policy.

Q: Can you comment on Chinese "threats" against U.S. forces operating near Taiwan?

A: I will not comment on specific movements of U.S. naval assets. However, our naval presence is a prudent effort to show our interest in sustaining peace and stability in the Taiwan Strait.

(If pressed): The U.S. reserves the right to move its naval forces in international waters at any time.

THE OKINAWA RAPE

Background: On March 17, a Okinawan woman was raped by an unidentified assailant. She was treated for knife wounds and reported to police that her assailant was a young non-Japanese person, but she has not been able to identify him from various records from the U.S. military.

Q: How do you comment on the most recent rape incident on Okinawa?

A: We are aware that a rape was reported over the weekend. There is no evidence to indicate that a servicemember was involved.

Because the alleged incident occurred outside the jurisdiction of the military, the matter is being investigated by the Okinawa City Police. They have assumed jurisdiction of the reported incident.

Military investigative services are cooperating with the Okinawa City Police.

TAIWAN ARMS SALES

Background: The annual arms sales talks with Taiwan take place this week in Washington. There likely will be reporting that Taiwan is requesting expedited sales and deliveries of new weapons systems. Taiwan's wish list includes a number of weapons systems which we believe they do not need to sustain an adequate defense. The situation in the Taiwan Strait has not led us to conclude that we should accelerate sales of new systems or deliveries of past purchases. Taiwan is having difficulty absorbing military technology it already has received.

Q: Can you comment on the U.S.-Taiwan discussions on arms sales?

A: The U.S. conducts annual arms sales discussions with Taiwan in the context of our obligations under the Taiwan Relations Act to assist Taiwan in maintaining an adequate self-defense.

This year's talks were scheduled well in advance of the current activities in the Strait. The talks involved experts from both sides.

Both sides agree not to discuss the details of the talks. Proper notifications will be made to Congress concerning any sales.

Q: Will the U.S. be providing new weapons systems to Taiwan as a result of the arms sales talks taking place this week?

A: In accordance with U.S. law (the Taiwan Relations Act) the administration and the

Congress determine which defense articles and services Taiwan needs in order to maintain a sufficient self-defense capability.

We have an annual process through which we discuss these issues with Taiwan.

This year's talks are scheduled for 19 March. This date was set some time ago through normal and routine scheduling consultations.

Both the U.S. and Taiwan authorities agree not to discuss the specific details of the talks. Announcements of any sales approved by the U.S. and agreed to by Taiwan will be notified to Congress and announced in normal fashion.

CHINESE THREAT TO USE NUCLEAR WEAPONS AGAINST LOS ANGELES

Points

☐ We will continue to monitor the situation in the Taiwan Straits very closely.

☐ We have had a series of high level meetings during the past several weeks with the Chinese.
We have made clear our position on rising tensions in the Taiwan Straits.

☐ During all of these meetings we have urged the Chinese government to exercise maximum restraint.

☐ At no time have the Chinese threatened military action against the United States.

If asked where the reports of these threats came from:

☐ There never has been any official communication with the United States government or any of its representatives.

CHINA/TAIWAN

☐ There is no ambiguity about our policy on Taiwan's security; grave consequences would flow from a use of force against Taiwan, and we have made clear our determination to see that the future of Taiwan is worked out in a peaceful manner.

☐ A resort to force with respect to Taiwan would directly involve American national interests and would carry grave risks. There should be no ambiguity about our posture in Beijing, Taipei or anywhere else.

☐ We have not concluded that there is any imminent threat to Taiwan, and that we understand the Taiwan authorities have reached the same conclusion.

☐ We are urging restraint by Beijing, while also making clear to Taiwan's leaders that restraint is in their interest. We oppose provocation by either side. We strongly urge both sides to resume their high-level dialogue.

☐ PRC authorities have stated publicly, as well as to us in diplomatic exchanges, that there is no change in their intention to seek a peaceful resolution of the Taiwan question. They have not, however, ruled out the use of force in certain circumstances. However, we have no reason to believe the PRC plans to use force against any part of Taiwan.

☐ We continue to monitor the military situation around Taiwan. The USS INDEPENDENCE battle group remains positioned in international waters near Taiwan. The USS NIMITZ and elements of her battle group are due to arrive in the Western Pacific late next week.

LEBANON

RELEASE OF SUSPECTS IN DEATH OF AMBASSADOR MELOY

Q: What is your reaction to reports that the Lebanese government has released the two convicted suspects in the assassination of Ambassador Meloy in Beirut in 1976?

A: We are disappointed that accomplices to the murder of U.S. diplomats have been acquitted of murder charges and given amnesty for their role in the kidnappings.

The timing of their acquittal and amnesty is particularly unfortunate at a time of special international focus on the need for greater cooperation against terrorism.

ISRAEL

ISRAELI BORDER FENCE

Q: What is the U.S. position on the Israeli proposal to erect a high-tech fence between Israeli and Palestinian areas? Will we support the project financially or otherwise?

A: Israel is clearly wrestling with a difficult security problem. It is considering a number of options.

We are providing certain equipment to help the Israelis deal with explosives-detection. That's the principal focus of our efforts. Our efforts do not focus on the construction of a fence.

Q: Wouldn't a fence prejudice the Declaration of Principles principle that territorial issues are a subject for permanent status negotiations between Israelis and Palestinians?

A: That's a hypothetical question. Again, I'm simply not going to get into reported proposals.

Q: Why is the U.S. continuing to provide funds to the PLO in the wake of the terror attacks?

A: Cutting off aid to the Palestinian Authority at this time would be short-sighted and self-defeating.

Chairman Arafat and the Palestinian Authority have begun to take deliberate steps to bring those responsible for these acts to justice and to prevent further attacks.

Denying aid to the Palestinians now would not increase Israeli

security.

ON FREEDOM OF ACTION

□ The Israelis are engaged in a struggle against violence and terror, a struggle which has claimed the lives of innocent citizens. They have the right to take steps necessary to defend themselves against these outrages.

□ The President has made very clear that the United States will stand with Prime Minister Peres and the people of Israel as, along with other the peacemakers, they confront this critical challenge.

□ Chairman Arafat is taking important steps to combat terror; in coordination and cooperation with Israel, there must be a sustained, decisive effort to dismantle the terrorist infrastructure.

(If pressed on "legality" of Israeli actions)

□ Israel and the Palestinians are both facing a critical threat from the enemies of peace to the peace process and to their hopes for a better future. It is imperative that everything possible be done to confront terror. I am not going to elaborate further.

IRAQ: ANNOUNCEMENT OF ROUND 3 OF 986 TALKS

Q: Do you have any reaction to reports that Iraqi and UN officials will meet again April 8 for another round of talks on UNSCR 986?

A: As we have said in the past, we want to see 986 implemented. We helped draft it, and its implementation would help relieve the hardships being suffered by many Iraqis.

Q: What about reports that the only remaining obstacle in the talks is the purchase and distribution of humanitarian assistance to northern Iraq?

A: Resolution 986 is explicit that the humanitarian situation in northern Iraq is to be handled by the UN humanitarian program currently operating there. This program has been very effective in providing humanitarian relief to the North for the

past five years; it can
certainly continue the job under 986.

NORTHERN IRELAND

If asked about a meeting with Adams

☐ We remain in contact with Adams, as with all the party leaders. Beyond that, I am not going to go into details.

Loyalist Statement Warning of Retaliation for IRA Attacks

☐ Praise loyalists restraint to date.

☐ Hope that loyalists will continue to stand firmly against violence as they have done so far. Do not believe that responding to violence with violence is right or effectual; will only increase the toll of death, destruction and hatred.

IRA Claims Responsibility for Bomb in Dumpster March 9

☐ We condemn the latest act of terrorism. Fortunately no one was hurt.

☐ No excuse or reason for campaign of violence. Will lead nowhere but to destruction and hatred.

☐ Only way forward is thorough political process. Talks begin June 10 -- cease-fire must be restored.

☐ We support the efforts of the two governments to move to talks so a lasting and just settlement can be achieved.

U.S. Response to Bombings

☐ Strongly condemn attacks. Hope those responsible brought to justice swiftly.

☐ Sympathy and prayers go out to victims and their families.

☐ Deeply concerned that IRA has resumed violence. People of Northern Ireland clearly want

peace. No one has right to deny them that.

- ☐ Cannot allow terrorists to derail a peace process so overwhelmingly supported by the people of Northern Ireland.
- ☐ Will do everything we can to assist the two governments in continuing their search for peace.
- ☐ Note that loyalists paramilitaries have shown restraint in not responding to the breach of the cease-fire and the bombs in London.
- ☐ Welcome the firmness they are showing, which accords with the wishes of the people of Northern Ireland for peace.

Response to IRA Statements

- ☐ Call on those who have resorted to violence to restore the cease-fire immediately.
- ☐ Another "25 years of war" would be senseless and incomprehensible. Only negotiation and dialogue can achieve a just and lasting settlement in Northern Ireland.
- ☐ Setting of date for all-party talks of June 10 is a milestone for the peace process. Call on all parties to take full advantage of this opportunity to achieve a just and lasting settlement.

IRA Reiteration of No Cease-Fire

- ☐ If raised: The peace process is continuing; we hope the IRA will recognize that that is the way forward and restore the cease-fire.

"Proximity Talks"

- ☐ (Note: Sinn Fein delegation was refused admittance in accordance with British and Irish policy of no ministerial contact): Understand that British and Irish government policy is not to have ministerial contacts with Sinn Fein until the cease-fire is restored. Contacts at the official level continue, and we hope Sinn Fein will make its views known through those channels.

☐ Hope that the unionist parties will take full advantage of this opportunity for dialogue on how to move the peace process forward.

Adams Visa

☐ Have issued Adams a three-month multiple-entry visa.

☐ Has undertaken not to raise funds. If he did, we would revoke his visa.

☐ Adams will travel to U.S. at critical time for peace process. Vital that cease-fire be restored. Important that he hear how anxious American people for peace in Northern Ireland.

☐ Believe Adams has a vital role to play in advancing the process.

Do you have any regrets about issuing Adams a visa or your involvement in the peace process?

☐ No regrets about support we have given and will continue to give to search for lasting peace in Northern Ireland. Many people are alive today because of the 17-month cease-fire. People have new hope and confidence in the peace process, in spite of the resumption of violence.

Is Adams in control of the IRA?

☐ Do not have insight into inner workings of IRA, but believe Adams is influential within republican movement.

U.S. Role

☐ President stays in touch with two prime ministers by phone and letter. Spoke with them February 23 on their efforts to get peace process back on track.

☐ NSA has been in close touch two governments and party leaders (including Gerry Adams) all along, and on an intensified basis since the cease-fire was broken.

☐ Have urged them to keep eye on goal of inclusive negotiations leading to just and lasting

peace. Have also vouched for good faith of two governments.

White House Meetings?

- ☐ Since the cease-fire was broken, we decided there will be no meetings with Adams at the White House or other government departments.
- ☐ No plans for meetings with any other USG officials.

Major/Bruton Announcement

- ☐ Pleased with announcement, which is a significant step forward for the peace process.
President has issued a statement welcoming it.

- ☐ Process provides clear path to substantive all-party negotiations on a lasting settlement starting June 10.
- ☐ Continue to call on those who have resorted to violence and terror to respect the wishes of the people of Northern Ireland and restore the cease-fire.
- ☐ If asked about Sinn Fein or SDLP opposition to elections: Understand that the elective process will include all parties in Northern Ireland. We would hope for the widest possible participation in all aspects of the process leading to talks.
- ☐ If asked: We do not have a view on what kind of elective process is appropriate for Northern Ireland. That is a matter primarily for the parties and the British Government. But we call on the parties to participate fully in the process announced as the best chance of creating a lasting peace.

President's Phone Calls

- ☐ President spoke with both Prime Minister Major and Prime Minister Bruton on February 23 to discuss their efforts to get the Northern Ireland peace process back on track. He reiterated his commitment to supporting that effort.

Fundraising

(Background: The Financial Times ran an article February 20 implying that there was something

unexpected or sinister about the fact that some of the funds raised had been transferred to Ireland. Friends of Sinn Fein is suing the FT over that report. Way the system works is that some of the funds are used for expenses of local Sinn Fein office; some is transferred to bank in Dublin for political expenses of Sinn Fein in Ireland. That has been the understanding since permission to fundraise was granted in March of 1995.)

☐ DOJ and Treasury monitor funds raised here by Friends of Sinn Fein. For details on how the system works, I refer you to them.

Sinn Fein Currently Fundraising?

☐ There are currently no Sinn Fein fundraisers with visa waivers in the U.S.

Troops Back to Northern Ireland?

(Background: HMG is sending 500 troops back to Northern Ireland. They had withdrawn 1600 during the cease-fire.)

☐ British are responsible for security in Northern Ireland.

Why did Adams call Lake February 9? Did Lake have advance warning?

☐ He alerted us to disturbing rumors he was hearing, but nothing specific.

☐ Call came shortly before the bomb went off.

LOOSE NUKES: SECURITY OF NUCLEAR MATERIALS IN THE FSU

☐ Administration aware of and working to address concerns over security of nuclear materials in the Former Soviet Union.

☐ Our concern reflected in \$70 million FY-96 budget for improving nuclear materials security in

FSU and plans (detailed in recent GAO report) for \$400 million program over 7 year period.

☐ Cooperative programs currently underway with all appropriate governments. Cooperation by host nations -- including Russia -- is excellent.

☐ Nuclear material security frequent topic of discussion by Presidents Clinton/Yeltsin and Vice President Gore/Prime Minister Chernomyrdin. VP and PM recently submitted joint report to Presidents on our cooperative efforts -- see Hyde Park statement.

☐ Last year, President Clinton consolidated overall management of programs to improve nuclear material security in NSC.

☐ Rate of progress is extremely rapid -- information correct just months ago is seriously dated today.

☐ Over the past year, agreements put in place and work started at more than 35 locations in Russia and FSU, or about 75% of all known locations where weapons-useable material believed to be stored.

☐ Over past year, U.S. and Russia completed projects protecting more than 8 tons of material -- enough for hundreds of nuclear bombs. In past six months, U.S. and Russia agreed to improve nuclear material security at 17 additional locations, including some large defense-related facilities.

☐ Administration agrees with need for funding; current FY-97 budget request is \$95 million; call on Congress to support Administration's efforts.

☐ U.S. experts never denied access at any facility where we have agreement on improving in nuclear material security.

☐ While valuable, Harvard/Graham Allison study cited by Washington Times based on data collected a year ago and fails to reflect many developments. Even new GAO report based on data collected several months ago.

☐ For up-to-date information on on-the-ground efforts, direct you

to Department of Energy.

NIGERIA: SANCTIONS

Q: Are we seeking tougher sanctions against Nigeria?

A: Since the annulled elections in 1993, we have been engaged in close consultation with the international community on the full range of issues and options related to Nigeria.

The U.S. imposed additional measures against Nigeria following the execution of Ken Saro-Wiwa and his eight colleagues. At that time, we indicated we would review further measures to move Nigeria towards democracy; that review process continues.

We are actively considering various measures. All options remain on the table. Nothing has been ruled out.

Q: With whom are we consulting? What has been their response?

A: We are consulting with our allies, African governments, American business groups, and the broader international community.

I am not going to discuss the specifics of our diplomatic exchanges.

Q: What types of sanctions are under consideration? Do they include banning all new foreign investment in Nigeria, freezing of Nigerian leaders' financial assets in foreign countries, a sports ban, and/or a ban on cultural contacts?

A: The United States is continuing to keep all options under review that could possibly persuade the Government of Nigeria to quicken its pace toward democratic transition and to respect the human rights of the Nigerian people.

I'm not going to either confirm or deny any specific measures under consideration. All economic and non-economic options remain on the table. Nothing has been ruled out.

We believe that multilateral measures would be most effective in sending a message to the Nigerian Government, but we have not ruled out unilateral action.

Q: What sanctions has the U.S. already imposed on Nigeria?

A: To demonstrate U.S. concern over Nigeria's lack of progress toward democratization, we instituted visa restrictions and banned arms sales.

To demonstrate U.S. concern over Nigeria's lack of cooperation in counternarcotics efforts, we terminated all aid except humanitarian/democratization aid through non-governmental entities, and suspended consideration of Nigeria's applications for Exim and OPIC financing.

Nigeria was again denied certification on March 1, 1996.

Q: What about an oil embargo?

A: In order to be effective, an oil embargo would have to be multilateral.

Q: What are your views on Shell's offshore oil exploration and other oil and gas-related investments by other companies, including the American firm, Mobil Corporation?

A: We believe that now is not the time for new investments to go forward.

(If asked) We have listened to the concerns of American businessmen, and we have made our concerns known to them.

Q: What is U.S. policy towards Nigeria?

A: The U.S. seeks to promote the earliest possible restoration of civilian, democratic government and respect for human rights in Nigeria.

We remain concerned about the length of the transition period, about arrests of critics of the government, and about incidents of violence.

Ambassador Carrington returned to Nigeria on March 3 to convey

our views to -- and
to continue our discussion with -- the Nigerian leadership on
what is needed to move
forward with a credible democratic transition in Nigeria.

As Ambassador Carrington said, his return does not signal any
lessening of U.S.
concerns over the transition process or human rights. Nor has it
lessened our
determination to persuade the Nigerian leadership to reconsider
its current policies.

REPUBLICAN NATIONAL MISSILE DEFENSE BILL

Background: Republican leaders in the House and Senate are
scheduled to introduce a
free-standing bill today that would mandate the deployment by
2003 of a highly effective
National Missile Defense (NMD) that would likely be inconsistent
with the ABM Treaty as now
constituted.

□ Objective of the Administration's own NMD program -- as outlined
by Secretary Perry a few
weeks ago -- is to position U.S. to respond quickly should new
strategic threats to U.S.
territory emerge.

□ Under our program, we will have an NMD deployment option ready
by 2000 and should we
decide then that deployment was required by a long-range threat
to our homeland that was
materializing sooner than our intelligence community now expects,
it could be fielded by 2003.

□ Regarding the threat, the Intelligence Community (IC) has
concluded that a threat to the
contiguous United States from proliferant ballistic missiles is
unlikely in the next 15 years.
Moreover, the threat of attack from Russia is decreasing as we
move to a more cooperative
relationship involving, among other things, deep reductions in
nuclear forces and threat
reduction efforts underway as part of the Nunn-Lugar program. In
any case, Russia and
China face a significant U.S. deterrent. The IC considers the
threat from accidental or
unauthorized launch from Russia or China as "remote." The

Russian "accidental launch" threat is further mitigated by our detargeting agreement, since any accidentally launched missiles would no longer be aimed at American cities.

☐ The new NMD "deployment readiness" program will allow the U.S. to continue the advancement of technology, add new elements to the system, and possibly reduce deployment timeliness.

☐ We oppose making any deployment decision now; deployment decision if/when intelligence indicates emerging threat. Will enable deployment of the best possible system when the threat emerges.

☐ Premature deployment would waste needed investment funds; result in lower technology, poorer-performing defensive system if/when threat does emerge; place at risk START I and possibly START II reductions thereby increasing nuclear missile threat to U.S.

☐ We hope the Congress will not approve this bill.

M S M a i l

DATE-TIME 22 March 96 19:47
FROM Wozniak, Natalie S.
CLASSIFICATION UNCLASSIFIED
SUBJECT For Panetta Pre-Brief, Etc. [UNCLASSIFIED]

TO Baker, Jane E.
Baldwin, Kenneth
Bass, Peter E.
Cicio, Kristen K.
Dohse, Fred J.
Hall, Wilma G.
Harmon, Joyce A.
Joshi, M. Kay
Kessinger, Jodi
Millison, Cathy L.
Sens, Andrew D.
Veit, Katherine M.
Wiley, Mary C.

CARBON_COPY Cullin, Brian P.
Fetig, James L.
Friedrich, M. K.
Hilliard, Brenda I.
Johnson, David T.
Naplan, Steven J.
Schuker, Jill A.
Wozniak, Natalie S.

TEXT_BODY

Please pass to:

Berger -- for Panetta
Harmon -- for Trip

Latest press guidance (as of 7:45 pm Friday, March 22) --

[[MAR22GUI.DOC : 4895 in MAR22GUI.DOC]]

Press guidance prepared for Ohio Media Roundtable --

[[OHIO-RT.DOC : 4896 in OHIO-RT.DOC]]

**ATTACHMENT
FILE DATE**

22 March 96 19:39

**ATTACHMENT
FILE NAME**

MAR22GUI.DOC
NATIONAL SECURITY AFFAIRS GUIDANCE

March 22, 1996

Haiti

B-2

UNSCOM/Iraq

Bosnia/Croatia

Pakistan

Russia

China

Taiwanese Elections

Lebanon

Israel

Iraq

Northern Ireland

Loose Nukes

Liberia

Republican National Missile Defense Bill

Greece

South Pacific Nuclear Free Zone Treaty

Terrorism

HAITI: MEETING WITH HAITIAN PRESIDENT RENE PREVAL

The Haitian Economy

Q: We understand that the focus of your meetings this morning was on economic issues.

What is your assessment of the state of the Haitian economy?

A: President Preval and the President had an open discussion this morning on the critical requirement for reform and revitalization of the Haitian economy. He has already made clear his intent to push forward on privatization of the government-owned industries in Port-au-Prince; development of a realistic budget for the Government of Haiti; and agreements with the World Bank, International Monetary Fund and Inter-American Development Bank to free up international economic assistance.

They also discussed a bilateral U.S.-Haitian economic "summit," wherein senior U.S. economic experts would travel to Port-au-Prince for discussions with their Haitian counterparts. This would be modeled loosely on the Economic Summit convened in Little Rock shortly after the 1992 election.

Congressional Holds

Q: The recent letters from Senator Dole and Senator Helms, and restrictions on U.S. assistance to Haiti by the House International Relations Committee and Senate Foreign Relations Committee, seem to be direct attacks on your overall Haiti policy. What is your response to these attacks?

A: The chief focus of Congressional critics of our Haiti policy has been charges that:

- a) individuals implicated in politically-related murders in Haiti over the past eighteen months continue to hold appointments in the Haitian National Police, and
- b) that the Government of Haiti has been slow to fully investigate such murders.

President Preval has now fired the last of the eight individuals at issue from the police force, has appointed a new Director-General for the HNP, and has pledged to pursue fully the investigations of politically-related murders.

What our Congressional critics fail to acknowledge is that we have in fact restored democracy to Haiti, that we have provided a return to normalcy for the Haitian people, and that we have provided them a chance to rebuild their country and a hope for a more prosperous future.

The Security Situation

Q: There have been a number of incidents within recent weeks of altercations initiated by urban street gangs in Port-au-Prince. In one such incident, in Cite Soleil, eight people were killed. How do you assess the overall security situation?

A: One of the prime tenets of our overall Haiti policy has been recruitment, training and fielding of the new Haitian National Police. That organization is young and inexperienced, and mistakes have been made in a number of instances.

The HNP has been accepted and is respected in cities, towns and villages throughout Haiti however, and we are confident that as the UN presence ramps down, the HNP will continue to mature into a fully professional police force that will reinforce democratic traditions and uphold the rule of law.

Q: Are you comfortable with the fact that the UN Security Council authorized only a four-month extension to the UNMIH mandate?

A: We are comfortable with it, and want to acknowledge the fact that the government of Canada stepped forward to take charge of the UNMIH military mission. Four months longer was an appropriate compromise for the presence of an international military force. We are working with the UN and the Friends of Haiti in New York to explore options for an extended civilian police advisory presence past the end of UNMIH II.

Redeployment of U.S. Forces

Q: How are the redeployment of U.S. troops and turnover of the

UNMIH military mission
to Canadian command-and-control proceeding?

A: Our troops have done an absolutely superb job in Haiti,
demonstrating once again that
they are the best-trained and best-motivated military force in
the world today.

The redeployment and transition to Canadian command-and-control
is proceeding
smoothly and on schedule. Fewer than 500 U.S. troops who were
part of UNMIH remain
in Haiti. These will finish packing to redeploy completely to
their home stations in the
United States by April 15.

PRESIDENT'S "21ST B-2" DECISION

Background: In our February 8 announcement of the President's
decisions on the future of the
B-2 program, we said that while we would not request money for
additional B-2s in our FY 1997
budget, we would direct Defense to study "deep strike" tradeoffs
involving options with more
than 20 B-2s. We also announced that we would spend the \$493
million that Congress had
added to the program in FY 1996 "on procurement of B-2
components, upgrades and
modifications that would be of value for the existing fleet" of
20 bombers. Since then, various
options have been under review for these funds.

On March 20, the President decided that the \$493 million would be
used for one specific,
high-payoff "upgrade" -- to convert the first B-2 test prototype
("Air Vehicle One" or "AV-1")
into the "21st" deployed B-2. The B-2 program included five test
prototypes (AV-1 through
AV-5) and the other four AVs have already been upgraded into
operational B-2s. Before now, the
Air Force had planned to donate AV-1 to a museum.

Northrop has written Secretary Widnall a letter confirming that
there is no "fundamental
impediment to changing AV-1 to operational configuration" and
stating that it is "prepared to
propose and negotiate a modification to the existing low rate

initial production contract target price of not more than \$493 million." The President has directed the Air Force to negotiate with Northrop Grumman a firm fixed price contractual arrangement to accomplish this upgrade. Obviously, the upgrade of AV-1 will be contingent on this contract being worked out.

Q: What effect will this decision have on the B-2 industrial base?

A: The Air Force has determined that the AV-1 option would result in a substantial rejuvenation of the B-2 vendor base, with most of the \$493 million going to Northrop-Grumman in California. Subcontracts for structural assembly work will also be required with Boeing and Vought and with Hughes for a B-2 radar.

Q: Does this mean that the Administration is now more likely to decide to restart the B-2 production line and build more bombers?

A: No. The situation remains as we described it last month: while we do not rule out more B-2s, we do not believe the case has been made that buying more can be justified, given the high cost and the other modernization and recapitalization priorities facing our Services. Whether that case can be made will be determined by the tradeoff study, which is due the beginning of next year.

Q: Will this decision be supported on the Hill?

A: We certainly believe so. Hill B-2 proponents, including Senator Nunn and Representatives Dicks, Skelton and Harman, have indicated their strong support for this option. This use of the money is certainly consistent with the intent of Congress when it added the \$493 million to our B-2 request last year.

Q: Is there any daylight between the White House and the Pentagon on this? Did the White House force this "21st B-2" on the Defense Department?

A: No and no. Both Secretary Perry and the Air Force recommended this option, as did the NSC.

Q: Why go this route? Why not spend the money on war readiness spares or munitions and communications upgrades?

A: The Administration concluded that this use of the \$493 million clearly produces the "biggest bang for the buck", since it will in one step increase the B-2 force's capability by five percent. A "21st" B-2 would also provide a better margin for unexpected attrition of B-2s in training accidents or contingencies.

Q: Isn't this inconsistent with your announcement last month that you were not going to build additional B-2s?

A: No. There is no inconsistency between the President's February 8 decision and this option, since this is not a case of building a new B-2 but rather upgrading an existing, sunk-cost asset (the AV-1 test plane) using money we have already committed to expend on the program in one form or the other. In that sense, we will not be "going beyond" the existing program, since the "20 B-2 program" always included 21 "AVs."

Q: What happens next?

A: The next step will be for the Air Force and its acquisition officials to sit down with Northrop-Grumman and negotiate a mutually agreeable firm fixed price contractual arrangement to upgrade Air Vehicle One -- as directed by the President. Unless something unexpected comes up, that contract negotiation should be completed in several weeks.

UNSCOM: EKEUS TESTIMONY ON IRAQ

Background: Rolf Ekeus, the head of the UN Special Commission charged with dismantling Iraq's weapons of mass destruction, testified yesterday that Iraq may still be hiding as many as 16 ballistic missiles, capable of carrying chemical or biological

warfare agents.

Q: Do you have any comment on Ambassador Ekeus's testimony on Iraq?

A: Ambassador Ekeus, head of the United Nations Special Commission (UNSCOM), articulated UNSCOM's concerns about Iraq's possible continued possession of Scud missiles; his assessment can stand on its own merits, without our commentary.

UNSCOM is responsible for dismantling Iraq's weapons of mass destruction.

I think it is worthwhile, however, to reemphasize one point made by Ambassador Ekeus on Wednesday. Clearly, the people of Iraq have suffered considerable economic hardship as a direct result of Saddam's continued refusal to cooperate fully with the UN in accounting for and destroying Iraq's arsenal of weapons of mass destruction. This is a situation that Saddam has the power to remedy.

BOSNIA/CROATIA

IFOR Pullout

- ☐ It remains our position that IFOR can accomplish the implementation of the military aspects of the Dayton Accords in about one year.
- ☐ IFOR's mission has not changed. It is to establish a secure environment and create the conditions within which the parties and the international community can establish a stable and long-lasting peace. That mission is being successfully implemented.
- ☐ We do not see any need for IFOR to remain in Bosnia after it has accomplished its mission.
- ☐ The United States and our allies are committed to making Dayton work. Speculation about

other eventualities is just that: speculation. Not only is it premature, but we believe counter-productive.

□ Many of the military tasks of the initial phase of Dayton have been successfully completed.

We are at the beginning of a second phase in which the focus of international effort will be the critical challenge of civilian implementation.

On the Question of Withdrawal

It is our expectation that IFOR will remain at its current strength through the elections.

If asked about the NYT's Article on the future of the Peace Accords

□ There is no question that, in order to establish lasting peace in Bosnia, full implementation of the Dayton Accords, both the military and civilian aspects, is essential.

□ That is why the parties committed themselves in Geneva to build upon the accomplishments of the first three months of implementation and expressed their determination ensure the complete fulfillment of the spirit and letter of the Agreement.

□ Now that satisfactory compliance with the military aspects of the Agreement has established a framework of security and predictability within which to build civilian structures, the international community is increasing its efforts to provide the people of Bosnia the necessary means to rebuild their lives.

□ Economic Reconstruction is moving forward. The President's quick-impact package has been implemented (see today's press handout), the World Bank held a successful mini-donors conference in December and a major donors' conference will be held in mid-April. The World Bank is working with the Bosnian Government to clear its arrears for future reconstruction funding, and election planning and implementation is ongoing.

□ We must remember that only the parties can guarantee the success of the Peace Accords.

We are there to provide them the opportunity. No question that there is a lot of work still to be done.

Funding for Bosnia

☐ The Administration sent to Congress a \$991 million reprogramming request to fund a major portion of Bosnia operations. The Administration also sent an additional supplemental/rescission request to the Congress, and will send an additional reprogramming request at a later date, to fund the remainder of these operations through September 30, 1996.

Where will funds come from? How much?

☐ This reprogramming action is financed by inflation savings resulting from revised economic assumptions. The supplemental/rescission action will be financed from classified intelligence programs, while the source of the second reprogramming request is not yet identified. The total amount required for U.S. Bosnia military operations in FY 1996 is just under \$2 billion

☐ The EU and the World Bank are responsible for coordinating donors' support for Bosnia.

☐ The \$200 million rescission/supplemental package, presently before Congress, is essential to the overall international reconstruction effort.

☐ Although the Europeans are expected to donate the bulk of the needed funds, the U.S. contribution will be important for creating momentum for the International Donors' Conference in April and demonstrating our credible commitment to the people of Bosnia. If Congress does not approve our contribution, then the international donors' conference in April will probably fail.

Reconstruction.

☐ The World Bank approved a plan for Bosnia to become a member of the Bank and expected to lend the country \$450 million over the next four years.

☐ We welcome the decision. This is another important step toward recovery, stability and peace. Helps pave the way for the upcoming Donors' Conference in April.

IFOR Support for Civilian Implementation

☐ NATO, SACEUR, High Rep Bildt, and civilian implementation officials are discussing how IFOR can help support civilian aspects of implementation within the limitations of IFOR's primary mission and available resources.

☐ IFOR Commanders have the authority for supporting tasks, including provision of assistance to War Crimes Tribunal and other international organizations in their humanitarian missions.

Removal of Head of Bosnian Security Agency

☐ We have made clear to Bosnian officials that Bosnian relations with Iran beyond normal diplomatic relations do not contribute to regional stability. These ties also impede the development of our relations with Bosnia.

☐ The presence of any terrorist training elements is unacceptable.

☐ The Bosnian government has assured us that all such activities will come to an immediate halt.

☐ Removal of Alispahic, the Head of Bosnian Agency for Investigation and Documentation's (BAID), is encouraging given evidence of BAID's continued links with Iranian forces and intelligence personnel.

☐ The Dayton Agreement is very clear. It requires that all foreign forces, including individual advisors, freedom fighters, trainers, volunteers, and personnel from neighboring and other States be withdrawn from Bosnia-Herzegovina.

☐ The discovery of the suspected terrorist training site at Fojnica was clear evidence that

foreign forces were still operating in Bosnia-Herzegovina despite assurances by BAID to the contrary.

PAKISTAN

Q: Has the Administration decided to ship conventional arms to Pakistan under the Brown Amendment?

A: No final decision has been made. We are consulting with members of the House and Senate on how best to proceed.

The Brown Amendment opens up a range of cooperation possibilities that had been precluded by previous legislation.

We believe that proceeding with some of this assistance could be helpful in strengthening USG influence with Pakistan on other issues of interest, such as counter-narcotics and non-proliferation.

There is a subset of programs that Brown opens up that would be precluded should we make a decision that our non-proliferation laws have been violated, such as IMET, OPIC and TDA.

While we have made no decision on the non-proliferation issue, we are not considering allowing these programs to go forward in our discussions with the Congress.

Q: Have you decided not to punish either country for China's transfer of ring magnets to the Pakistani nuclear program?

A: No final decision has been made. We now have a nonproliferation team in China, which is raising this issue, and have also approached Pakistan. Once these discussions conclude, we will make decisions based on the law and facts as we understand them.

Q: Did the Administration withhold embarrassing evidence about the ring magnets to help passage of Brown?

A: No.

RUSSIA/NIS

Current Items

Russian Poultry Sanctions

- ☐ Negotiations ongoing with Russian officials; seek quick and comprehensive resolution of trade dispute.
- ☐ Continue to rely heavily on Prime Minister Chernomyrdin's assurances that cessation of trade will not take effect. Remain concerned about conflicting Russian news reports over past week. Negotiations critical to ensure that trade stays on track.
- ☐ Have recourse to Section 301 trade measures if needed; Administration currently examining modalities for their potential application.
- ☐ Believe that U.S. poultry, and its inspection system, are as safe and rigorous as that of any poultry-producing nation in the world.

Duma Vote on Belovezhskoye Accords

- ☐ On March 15 Duma passed nonbinding resolutions to repeal Supreme Soviet's ratification of December 1991 Belovezhskoye Accord, which led to dissolution of USSR and to recognize March 17, 1991 referendum that called for preservation of Soviet Union.
- ☐ Neither resolution has legal effect. Yeltsin denounced them as unconstitutional, irresponsible and inflammatory. Yeltsin stated integration among NIS should be voluntary, with respect for individual states and without pressure from any side.
- ☐ U.S. recognizes NIS as sovereign, independent nations and deals with them as such. Reject

any attempt to call into question their sovereignty. Support good, cooperative relations among NIS. As for integration, should be based on equality, voluntary and outward-looking.

Alleged "Zavtra" Transcript of January 26 POTUS-Yeltsin Telcon

- ☐ The President and Yeltsin spoke by phone on January 26. White House Spokesman McCurry summarized the main points of the call at that day's press briefing.
- ☐ We do not comment in detail on private diplomatic exchanges between the President and other leaders and do not intend to comment on the veracity of the alleged transcript.

General Items

\$10.2 Billion IMF Program for Russia, Impact of Protectionist Measures

- ☐ IMF-Russia agreement sets clear course for next stage of Russian reform. Encourage Russia to follow through with key policy steps they agreed to take prior to IMF board's final approval of program in late March. Have noted with concern recent statements on protectionist measures that could violate IMF conditions.
- ☐ If Russia follows through with its commitments, expect that, by time IMF board meets to approve program, Russia will have had three months of solid economic performance in 1996, building on exceptional performance in 1995 when Russia met or exceeded all IMF targets.
- ☐ Commend IMF focus on good economic policy. Program sets forth economic guidelines we would back for any government.

Russian Presidential Election

- ☐ June election for Russian people to decide, exercising democratic habits that are increasingly taking hold in their country. Not for us to intrude on choice of future Russian leader. As

elsewhere, we will work with any democratically-elected leadership on the basis of its policies.

□ We remain steady in our policy of active engagement with Russia to support democracy, economic reform and Russia's integration, and to promote cooperation to advance common foreign and security policy goals.

□ Working to advance common interests: nuclear disarmament; detargeting; new trade, investment opportunities. Engagement remains in strong interests of both nations.

Chechnya

□ Strongly believe cycle of violence must be broken. Our consistent position has been that only reliable path to peace is negotiated settlement that takes interests of all parties into account. Hope that Russian government, as it has previously indicated, will soon put forward plan for peaceful resolution to Chechen conflict.

Russia and NATO

□ U.S. and Russia have different views on logic of NATO enlargement. Have ongoing dialogue with Russians on this issue.

□ For our part, we intend to manage enlargement process in deliberate, transparent manner that strengthens security, stability of Europe as a whole. Russia a key player in building stable, undivided Europe. Our goal is to develop strong, cooperative NATO-Russia relationship in parallel with NATO's process of taking in new members.

CHINA

TAIWAN ELECTIONS

-- U.S. stands for democracy and free and fair elections as a matter of principle. And encourage the democratic process wherever it occurs in the world.

-- We will have a reaction on the elections tomorrow.

THE TAIWAN STRAIT

Background: There continue to be stories of escalating tension in the Strait despite the fact that the missile tests have been concluded. Hong Kong press sources misinterpreted statements by China's Premier Li Peng made at the close of the PRC legislative session, "If someone makes a show of force in the Taiwan Strait, that will not only be a futile act, but it also will make the situation all the more complicated." These comments were standard warnings against foreign interference in the Taiwan issue and did not represent a new policy.

Q: Can you comment on Chinese "threats" against U.S. forces operating near Taiwan?

A: I will not comment on specific movements of U.S. naval assets. However, our naval presence is a prudent effort to show our interest in sustaining peace and stability in the Taiwan Strait.

(If pressed): The U.S. reserves the right to move its naval forces in international waters at any time.

TAIWAN ARMS SALES

Background: The annual arms sales talks with Taiwan take place this week in Washington. There likely will be reporting that Taiwan is requesting expedited sales and deliveries of new weapons systems. Taiwan's wish list includes a number of weapons systems which we believe they do not need to sustain an adequate defense. The situation in the Taiwan Strait has not led us to conclude that we should accelerate sales of new systems or deliveries of past purchases. Taiwan is having difficulty absorbing military technology it already has received.

Q: Can you comment on the U.S.-Taiwan discussions on arms sales?

A: The U.S. conducts annual arms sales discussions with Taiwan in the context of our obligations under the Taiwan Relations Act to assist Taiwan in maintaining an adequate

self-defense.

This year's talks were scheduled well in advance of the current activities in the Strait.

The talks involved experts from both sides.

Both sides agree not to discuss the details of the talks. Proper notifications will be made to Congress concerning any sales.

Q: Will the U.S. be providing new weapons systems to Taiwan as a result of the arms sales talks taking place this week?

A: In accordance with U.S. law (the Taiwan Relations Act) the administration and the Congress determine which defense articles and services Taiwan needs in order to maintain a sufficient self-defense capability.

We have an annual process through which we discuss these issues with Taiwan.

This year's talks are scheduled for 19 March. This date was set some time ago through normal and routine scheduling consultations.

Both the U.S. and Taiwan authorities agree not to discuss the specific details of the talks. Announcements of any sales approved by the U.S. and agreed to by Taiwan will be notified to Congress and announced in normal fashion.

CHINESE THREAT TO USE NUCLEAR WEAPONS AGAINST LOS ANGELES

Points

- ☐ We will continue to monitor the situation in the Taiwan Straits very closely.
- ☐ We have had a series of high level meetings during the past several weeks with the Chinese. We have made clear our position on rising tensions in the Taiwan Straits.
- ☐ During all of these meetings we have urged the Chinese government to exercise maximum restraint.

☐ At no time have the Chinese threatened military action against the United States.

If asked where the reports of these threats came from:

☐ There never has been any official communication with the United States government or any of its representatives.

CHINA/TAIWAN

☐ There is no ambiguity about our policy on Taiwan's security; grave consequences would flow from a use of force against Taiwan, and we have made clear our determination to see that the future of Taiwan is worked out in a peaceful manner.

☐ A resort to force with respect to Taiwan would directly involve American national interests and would carry grave risks. There should be no ambiguity about our posture in Beijing, Taipei or anywhere else.

☐ We have not concluded that there is any imminent threat to Taiwan, and that we understand the Taiwan authorities have reached the same conclusion.

☐ We are urging restraint by Beijing, while also making clear to Taiwan's leaders that restraint is in their interest. We oppose provocation by either side. We strongly urge both sides to resume their high-level dialogue.

☐ PRC authorities have stated publicly, as well as to us in diplomatic exchanges, that there is no change in their intention to seek a peaceful resolution of the Taiwan question. They have not, however, ruled out the use of force in certain circumstances. However, we have no reason to believe the PRC plans to use force against any part of Taiwan.

☐ We continue to monitor the military situation around Taiwan. The USS INDEPENDENCE battle group remains positioned in international waters near Taiwan. The USS NIMITZ and elements of her battle group are due to arrive in the Western Pacific late next week.

TAIWANESE ELECTIONS

Q: What is your reaction to Lee Teng-hui winning the Taiwanese presidential election today?

A: We congratulate the people of Taiwan for successfully carrying out their first direct elections of president and vice president. The democratic transformation of Taiwan over the past 10 years is truly impressive.

We congratulate President Lee and all candidates who prevailed in electoral contests and have earned the trust of the voters to serve in important offices.

We hope that we will see tensions in the Strait subside and that Taiwan and the PRC each will take steps to restore constructive dialogue and stability.

LEBANON

RELEASE OF SUSPECTS IN DEATH OF AMBASSADOR MELOY

Q: What is your reaction to reports that the Lebanese government has released the two convicted suspects in the assassination of Ambassador Meloy in Beirut in 1976?

A: We are disappointed that accomplices to the murder of U.S. diplomats have been acquitted of murder charges and given amnesty for their role in the kidnappings.

The timing of their acquittal and amnesty is particularly unfortunate at a time of special international focus on the need for greater cooperation against terrorism.

ISRAEL

ON FREEDOM OF ACTION

□ The Israelis are engaged in a struggle against violence and terror, a struggle which has claimed the lives of innocent citizens. They have the right to take steps necessary to defend themselves against these outrages.

□ The President has made very clear that the United States will stand with Prime Minister Peres and the people of Israel as, along with other the peacemakers, they confront this critical challenge.

□ Chairman Arafat is taking important steps to combat terror; in coordination and cooperation with Israel, there must be a sustained, decisive effort to dismantle the terrorist infrastructure.

(If pressed on "legality" of Israeli actions)

□ Israel and the Palestinians are both facing a critical threat from the enemies of peace to the peace process and to their hopes for a better future. It is imperative that everything possible be done to confront terror. I am not going to elaborate further.

IRAQ: ANNOUNCEMENT OF ROUND 3 OF 986 TALKS

Q: Do you have any reaction to reports that Iraqi and UN officials will meet again April 8 for another round of talks on UNSCR 986?

A: As we have said in the past, we want to see 986 implemented. We helped draft it, and its implementation would help relieve the hardships being suffered by many Iraqis.

Q: What about reports that the only remaining obstacle in the talks is the purchase and distribution of humanitarian assistance to northern Iraq?

A: Resolution 986 is explicit that the humanitarian situation in northern Iraq is to be handled by the UN humanitarian program currently operating there. This program has been very effective in providing humanitarian relief to the North for the past five years; it can

certainly continue the job under 986.

NORTHERN IRELAND

British Election Announcement

- ☐ Another step toward the goal of talks on a lasting settlement that will begin June 10.
- ☐ Not our role to endorse any particular electoral system or type of elected forum. We welcome the electoral process because it leads to talks.
- ☐ Hope all parties will participate in the process leading to talks.

Paisley Meeting

- ☐ Paisley met with NSA Lake March 21: President dropped by. Discussed status of process.
- ☐ Know Paisley's views on a role for the U.S. in Northern Ireland peace process (he is against it), but think it important to have exchange of views with all NI leaders. Pleased he came to White House.

If asked about a meeting with Adams

- ☐ We remain in contact with Adams, as with all the party leaders. Beyond that, I am not going to go into details.

Loyalist Statement Warning of Retaliation for IRA Attacks

- ☐ Praise loyalists restraint to date.
- ☐ Hope that loyalists will continue to stand firmly against violence as they have done so far. Do not believe that responding to violence with violence is right or effectual; will only increase the toll of death, destruction and hatred.

IRA Claims Responsibility for Bomb in Dumpster March 9

- ☐ We condemn the latest act of terrorism. Fortunately no one was hurt.

☐ No excuse or reason for campaign of violence. Will lead nowhere but to destruction and hatred.

☐ Only way forward is thorough political process. Talks begin June 10 -- cease-fire must be restored.

☐ We support the efforts of the two governments to move to talks so a lasting and just settlement can be achieved.

U.S. Response to Bombings

☐ Strongly condemn attacks. Hope those responsible brought to justice swiftly.

☐ Sympathy and prayers go out to victims and their families.

☐ Deeply concerned that IRA has resumed violence. People of Northern Ireland clearly want peace. No one has right to deny them that.

☐ Cannot allow terrorists to derail a peace process so overwhelmingly supported by the people of Northern Ireland.

☐ Will do everything we can to assist the two governments in continuing their search for peace.

☐ Note that loyalists paramilitaries have shown restraint in not responding to the breach of the cease-fire and the bombs in London.

☐ Welcome the firmness they are showing, which accords with the wishes of the people of Northern Ireland for peace.

Response to IRA Statements

☐ Call on those who have resorted to violence to restore the cease-fire immediately.

☐ Another "25 years of war" would be senseless and incomprehensible. Only negotiation and dialogue can achieve a just and lasting settlement in Northern Ireland.

☐ Setting of date for all-party talks of June 10 is a milestone

for the peace process. Call on all parties to take full advantage of this opportunity to achieve a just and lasting settlement.

IRA Reiteration of No Cease-Fire

☐ If raised: The peace process is continuing; we hope the IRA will recognize that that is the way forward and restore the cease-fire.

LOOSE NUKES: SECURITY OF NUCLEAR MATERIALS IN THE FSU

☐ Administration aware of and working to address concerns over security of nuclear materials in the Former Soviet Union.

☐ Our concern reflected in \$70 million FY-96 budget for improving nuclear materials security in FSU and plans (detailed in recent GAO report) for \$400 million program over 7 year period.

☐ Cooperative programs currently underway with all appropriate governments. Cooperation by host nations -- including Russia -- is excellent.

☐ Nuclear material security frequent topic of discussion by Presidents Clinton/Yeltsin and Vice President Gore/Prime Minister Chernomyrdin. VP and PM recently submitted joint report to Presidents on our cooperative efforts -- see Hyde Park statement.

☐ Last year, President Clinton consolidated overall management of programs to improve nuclear material security in NSC.

☐ Rate of progress is extremely rapid -- information correct just months ago is seriously dated today.

☐ Over the past year, agreements put in place and work started at more than 35 locations in Russia and FSU, or about 75% of all known locations where weapons-useable material believed to be stored.

- ☐ Over past year, U.S. and Russia completed projects protecting more than 8 tons of material -- enough for hundreds of nuclear bombs. In past six months, U.S. and Russia agreed to improve nuclear material security at 17 additional locations, including some large defense-related facilities.
- ☐ Administration agrees with need for funding; current FY-97 budget request is \$95 million; call on Congress to support Administration's efforts.
- ☐ U.S. experts never denied access at any facility where we have agreement on improving in nuclear material security.
- ☐ While valuable, Harvard/Graham Allison study cited by Washington Times based on data collected a year ago and fails to reflect many developments. Even new GAO report based on data collected several months ago.
- ☐ For up-to-date information on on-the-ground efforts, direct you to Department of Energy.

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release March 22, 1996

STATEMENT BY THE PRESS SECRETARY

Ambassador Dane Smith, the President's Special Envoy to Liberia, will travel tomorrow to the region for consultations aimed at restoring momentum to the peace process. The United States is deeply concerned by the continued violence in Liberia and lack of progress in implementing the Abuja Peace Accord. Recent fighting in various parts of the country and increased weapons flows into Monrovia and the countryside threaten the peace process. Thousands of innocent

men, women and children continue to fall victim to random factional violence.

Despite initial promising signs, the Council of State (COS) in recent months has failed to uphold its commitment to the principles and guidelines agreed at Abuja in August on disarmament, demobilization and the timely holding of national elections. In particular, the factions have not disengaged and prepared for disarmament, nor are they presently cooperating with each other or with the West African peacekeeping force (ECOMOG). The United States calls upon all Liberians to recommit themselves immediately to peace.

The United States has strongly and consistently supported efforts to end the war and return Liberia to peaceful, democratic civilian rule. The United States, along with other donors, is providing important logistic support to the ECOMOG peacekeepers as well as substantial humanitarian assistance. We continue to support the efforts of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) to achieve full and timely implementation of the Abuja Peace Accord. However, continued U.S. support and engagement depends on respect for the cease-fire and substantial progress by all concerned parties in upholding the Abuja Accord.

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REPUBLICAN NATIONAL MISSILE DEFENSE BILL

Background: Republican leaders in the House and Senate are scheduled to introduce a free-standing bill today that would mandate the deployment by 2003 of a highly effective National Missile Defense (NMD) that would likely be inconsistent with the ABM Treaty as now constituted.

□ Objective of the Administration's own NMD program -- as outlined by Secretary Perry a few weeks ago -- is to position U.S. to respond quickly should new strategic threats to U.S.

territory emerge.

☐ Under our program, we will have an NMD deployment option ready by 2000 and should we decide then that deployment was required by a long-range threat to our homeland that was materializing sooner than our intelligence community now expects, it could be fielded by 2003.

☐ Regarding the threat, the Intelligence Community (IC) has concluded that a threat to the contiguous United States from proliferant ballistic missiles is unlikely in the next 15 years. Moreover, the threat of attack from Russia is decreasing as we move to a more cooperative relationship involving, among other things, deep reductions in nuclear forces and threat reduction efforts underway as part of the Nunn-Lugar program. In any case, Russia and China face a significant U.S. deterrent. The IC considers the threat from accidental or unauthorized launch from Russia or China as "remote." The Russian "accidental launch" threat is further mitigated by our detargeting agreement, since any accidentally launched missiles would no longer be aimed at American cities.

☐ The new NMD "deployment readiness" program will allow the U.S. to continue the advancement of technology, add new elements to the system, and possibly reduce deployment timeliness.

☐ We oppose making any deployment decision now; deployment decision if/when intelligence indicates emerging threat. Will enable deployment of the best possible system when the threat emerges.

☐ Premature deployment would waste needed investment funds; result in lower technology, poorer-performing defensive system if/when threat does emerge; place at risk START I and possibly START II reductions thereby increasing nuclear missile threat to U.S.

☐ We hope the Congress will not approve this bill.

GREECE: FAA SECURITY NOTICE ABOUT ATHENS AIRPORT

Q: Is it true that Department of Transportation Secretary Pena has determined that security at Athens airport is inadequate? What is the White House reaction?

A: We understand that Secretary Pena has determined that Hellenikon International Airport in Athens needs to implement more effective security measures in order to be fully consistent with standards set by the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO).

His determination was based on an inspection procedure mandated by a law enacted by Congress in 1985. Our understanding is that under the terms of the legislation, which is designed to ensure the safety and security of the traveling public, Secretary Pena had no recourse but to take the action he did.

The Department of Transportation has told us that U.S. and foreign air carriers that operate between the United States and Greece are providing additional security measures that counter the deficiencies identified at Athens airport. The Department believes that these additional measures provide adequate security for the traveling public under ICAO standards.

The Department of Transportation can provide you with additional details.

We wish to stress that the decision by the Department of Transportation was based on purely technical criteria. It is in no way a reflection on the excellent relations that exist between the United States and Greece.

We have already made clear our strong willingness and desire to work closely with Greek authorities to help ensure that Athens airport is quickly brought fully up to ICAO standards.

Secretary Pena has advised us that the Greek authorities have

already made significant progress in improving security at the airport.

Q: Will the Department of Transportation decision have any effect on the First Lady's trip to Bosnia, Turkey and Greece?

A: There is no connection between this decision and announcement and the First Lady's trip.

The First Lady will make a good will visit to Greece during her trip to the region next week, during which she will attend the Olympic torch lighting ceremony.

Mrs. Clinton is looking forward to a productive visit aimed at strengthening the close ties between the U.S. and Greece, and between the American and Greek peoples.

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release March 22, 1996

STATEMENT BY THE PRESS SECRETARY

United States, France and the United Kingdom to Sign Protocols of the South Pacific Nuclear Free Zone Treaty

The governments of France, the United Kingdom and the United States will sign the three Protocols of the South Pacific Nuclear Free Zone Treaty in Suva, Fiji on March 25. This Treaty, which is also known as the Treaty of Rarotonga, creates a nuclear free zone in the South Pacific by prohibiting the testing, manufacture, acquisition and stationing of nuclear explosive devices in the territory of parties to the Treaty and the dumping of radioactive wastes at sea.

The Treaty has three Protocols. Under Protocol 1, the United States pledges not to manufacture, station, or test nuclear explosive devices in American territories within the Zone created by the Treaty, i.e., American Samoa and Jarvis Island. Under Protocol 2, the United States pledges not to use or threaten to use any nuclear explosive device against any party to the Treaty of Rarotonga or against any territory of a Protocol party within the Zone. Under Protocol 3, the United States pledges not to test any nuclear explosive device anywhere within the Zone.

The signing of these Protocols reflects a number of positive developments that have occurred over the past 10 years. The end of the Cold War, the collapse of the Soviet Union, sharp reductions in the number of nuclear weapons and their delivery systems, indefinite extension of and near universal adherence to the Treaty on the Nonproliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT) and progress on a comprehensive test ban treaty have all led to a more stable strategic environment in which further progress can be made on arms control and nonproliferation measures.

Signing the Protocols for the United States will be the Honorable Don Gevirtz, Ambassador of the United States of America to Fiji, Nauru, Tonga and Tuvalu. In his remarks, Ambassador Gevirtz will stress the important role that the nations of the South Pacific and the South Pacific Forum play in the international arena on arms control and nonproliferation measures and will cite specifically their strong support for indefinite extension of the NPT.

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release March 22, 1996

JOINT STATEMENT BY THE GOVERNMENTS OF THE FRENCH
REPUBLIC,
THE UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN

IRELAND,
AND THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
ON THE SIGNING OF THE PROTOCOLS
TO THE SOUTH PACIFIC NUCLEAR FREE ZONE TREATY

The governments of the French Republic, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and the United States of America will sign on Monday, March 25, 1996 the three additional protocols to the South Pacific Nuclear Free Zone Treaty, which is also known as the Treaty of Rarotonga.

Last year's NPT Review and Extension Conference agreed that internationally recognized nuclear weapon free zones, based on arrangements freely arrived at among the states of the region concerned, enhance international peace and security. The Conference also agreed that the cooperation of all the nuclear weapon states and their respect and support for the relevant protocols is necessary for the maximum effectiveness of such zones and the relevant protocols.

Our decision to sign the protocols to the Treaty of Rarotonga demonstrates our clear support for a nuclear weapon free zone in the South Pacific.

It is also an important further milestone in demonstrating our commitment to nuclear nonproliferation.

It underlines our wish to see a permanent end to nuclear testing throughout the world. It will give a further boost to the negotiations for a comprehensive test ban treaty, which we believe should be completed in the first half of 1996.

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THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release March 22, 1996

FACT SHEET

South Pacific Nuclear Free Zone Treaty

The South Pacific Nuclear Free Zone Treaty, which is also known as the Treaty of Rarotonga, establishes a nuclear free zone in the South Pacific. The Treaty prohibits the testing, manufacture, acquisition and stationing of nuclear explosive devices in the territory of parties to the Treaty and the dumping of radioactive wastes at sea.

The Treaty also requires all parties to apply full scope International Atomic Energy Agency safeguards to all their peaceful nuclear activities. A comprehensive control system has been established to verify compliance with the Treaty and there are mechanisms, including provision for mandatory on-site inspection, to assure compliance.

The Treaty affirms the right of each party to decide for itself whether to allow visits by foreign ships and aircraft to its ports and airfields. It also explicitly upholds the freedom of navigation on the high seas and passage through territorial waters guaranteed by international law.

The Treaty has three Protocols. Under Protocol 1, the United States, France and the United Kingdom are required to apply the basic provisions of the Treaty to their respective territories in the zone established by the Treaty. The Treaty will therefore apply to American Samoa and Jarvis Island. Under Protocol 2, the United States, France, the United Kingdom, the Russian Federation and China agree not to use or threaten to use nuclear explosive devices against any party to the Treaty or to each others territories located within the zone. Under Protocol 3, the United States, France, the United Kingdom, the Russian Federation and China agree not to test nuclear explosive devices within the zone established by the Treaty.

The Treaty was opened for signature on August 6, 1985 in Rarotonga, the largest island in the Cook Islands. All members of the South Pacific Forum are eligible to accede to the Treaty. The Treaty entered into force December 11, 1986. The Protocols were opened for signature on

August 8, 1986 in Suva, Fiji.

The following states and freely associated governments have acceded to the Treaty: Australia, Cook Islands, Fiji, Kiribati, Nauru, New Zealand, Niue, Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands, Tuvalu, Vanuatu and Western Samoa. China and Russia are party to Protocols 2 and 3 of the Treaty but did not accede to Protocol 1 since neither has territories within the zone.

TERRORISM: CAPTURE OF ACHILLE LAURO TERRORIST IN SPAIN

☐ We welcome the capture in Spain of Majed Al Molqi, Leon Klinghoffer's killer aboard the Achille Lauro.

☐ We thank the Spanish Government for its swift action in apprehending Molqi.

☐ We are determined that this notorious killer of an American citizen not escape again and that he serve his entire sentence.

If asked why we did not prosecute him:

☐ The U.S. had statutory basis to prosecute the Achille Lauro terrorists in 1985, but dropped charges in light of the Italian prosecution.

☐ Italian authority to prosecute derived from the fact that the Achille Lauro was an Italian flag ship, not because the ship was in Italian waters at the time of the incident.

☐ Majed Al Molqi was sentenced in 1986 by an Italian court to 30 years in prison, not/not a life sentence.

☐ The GOI Justice Minister passed his recommendation to the Court of Cassation (Supreme Court OK appeals) March 12 for disciplinary action against Parole Judge Laura Longo.

**ATTACHMENT
FILE NAME****OHIO-RT.DOC
PRESIDENTIAL PRESS GUIDANCE FOR OHIO MEDIA ROUNDTABLE**

March 23, 1996

China/Taiwan

Bosnia

CHINA/TAIWAN**TAIWAN ELECTION RESULTS**

- ☐ We congratulate the people of Taiwan for successfully carrying out their first direct elections for president and vice president.
- ☐ The real winners are the people, who exercised their democratic rights to choose their leaders.

BEIJING REACTION

Likely to be negative -- highly critical of Lee Teng-hui for efforts to gain more international prestige, trip to Cornell. They consider he is trying to establish Taiwan independence.

- ☐ Hope that tensions in Taiwan Strait ease now that elections are over.
- ☐ We have urged both sides to practice restraint, avoid provocative activities in advance of election.
- ☐ Now that they're over, we urge even more strongly that the two sides make serious and visible efforts to demonstrate goodwill, resume a constructive dialogue, restore stability in the region, work peacefully to resolve problems.

U.S. MILITARY PRESENCE IN REGION

Becoming more controversial, with Chinese accusing U.S. of

"gunboat diplomacy." May be asked what role they played in election, how long they will stay, etc.

☐ U.S. naval forces are in region to register our interest in the preservation of peace and stability. They are not a threat to anyone. They do not represent us "taking sides."

OVERALL RELATIONS WITH CHINA

☐ We are committed to having as positive a relationship with China as we can. It is an important country, and a strong, vibrant relationship with China will contribute not only to long-term interests of our two peoples, but also to regional and global stability and prosperity.

☐ There are several serious problems that we confront, but we believe they are manageable.

☐ The best way to do that is by communicating honestly, listening carefully, and working seriously.

BOSNIA

IFOR PULLOUT

☐ Remains our position that IFOR can accomplish the implementation of the military aspects of the Dayton Accords in about one year.

☐ IFOR's mission has not changed. It is to establish a secure environment and create the conditions within which the parties and the international community can establish a stable and long-lasting peace. That mission is being successfully implemented.

☐ I do not see any need for IFOR to remain in Bosnia after it has accomplished its mission.

☐ The United States and our allies are committed to making Dayton work.

☐ Many of the military tasks of the initial phase of Dayton have been successfully completed.

We are at the beginning of a second phase in which the focus of international effort will be the critical challenge of civilian implementation.

ON THE QUESTION OF WITHDRAWAL

☐ It is our expectation that IFOR will remain at its current strength through the elections.

FUTURE OF THE PEACE ACCORDS

☐ There is no question that in order to establish lasting peace in Bosnia, full implementation of the Dayton Accords, both the military and civilian aspects, is essential.

☐ That is why the parties committed themselves in Geneva to build upon the accomplishments of the first three months of implementation and expressed their determination to ensure the complete fulfillment of the spirit and letter of the Agreement.

☐ Now that satisfactory compliance with the military aspects of the Agreement has established a framework of security and predictability within which to build civilian structures, the international community is increasing its efforts to provide the people of Bosnia the necessary means to rebuild their lives.

☐ Economic Reconstruction is moving forward. Our quick impact package has been implemented, the World Bank held a successful mini-donors conference in December and a major donors conference will be held in mid-April. The World Bank is working with the Bosnian Government to clear its arrears for future reconstruction funding, and election planning and implementation is ongoing.

☐ We must remember that only the parties can guarantee the success of the Peace Accords. We are there to provide them the opportunity. No question that there is a lot of work still to be done.