

Exchange Mail

DATE-TIME 05/12/2000 3:35:24 PM
FROM Andreasen, Steven P. (DEFENSE)
CLASSIFICATION UNCLASSIFIED
SUBJECT RE: DRAFT RESPONSE TO VP'S QUESTION RE ABM SUCCESSION
[UNCLASSIFIED]
TO Black, Steven K. (VP)
CARBON_COPY Krass, Caroline D. (LEGAL)

TEXT_BODY

Steve -- let me look at this, provide a mark-up to Caroline, and then send it to you. Hopefully, all before 5:00 ...

-----Original
Message-----
From: Black, Steven K. (VP)
Sent: Friday, May 12,
2000 14:41 PM
To: @DEFENSE - Defense Policy; @RUSSIA - Russia/Ukraine;
@LEGAL - Legal Advisor; @LEGISLAT - Legislative Affairs
Subject: DRAFT
RESPONSE TO VP'S QUESTION RE ABM SUCCESSION [UNCLASSIFIED]

I have
been directed to send the following to the Vice President tonight.
Please note that I am characterizing the Administration's position
at the very bottom of the piece. If you disagree with what I've
written, or otherwise have comments, I need to hear from you this
afternoon. Thank you. Steven Black

There is nothing particularly
complicated about the essence of Senator Helms' argument concerning
Russia's legal status as ABM Treaty successor to the Soviet Union.
His assertion is that the ABM Treaty expired when the Soviet Union
collapsed in 1991.

However, the 1997 Memorandum of Understanding
on ABM Treaty succession (signed on Sept 26, 1997 by Secretary Albright
and her Russian, Kazakstani, Ukrainian and Belarussian counterparts)
established that Russia, Kazakstan, Ukraine and Belarus are the legal
successors to the Soviet Union.

When the Senate gave its advice

and consent to the CFE Flank Document in May 1997, one of the 14 conditions the Senate imposed (Condition 9) requires the President to submit the 1997 ABM MOU to the Senate for advice and consent. The President's response to the Senate in May 1997 pointed out that it is

clearly within the President's authorities to determine the successor States to a treaty when the original Party dissolves, and to make the adjustments required to accomplish such succession, and to enter into agreements for this purpose.

The President added that

throughout our history the executive branch has made a large number of determinations concerning the succession of new States to the treaty rights and obligations of their predecessors. The ABM Succession MOU negotiated by the United States effectuated no substantive change in the ABM Treaty requiring Senate advice and consent. Nonetheless, in light of my commitment to agree to seek Senate approval of the Demarcation Agreements associated with the ABM Treaty, I have, without prejudice to the legal principles involved, certified, consistent with Condition (9), that I will submit any agreement concluded on ABM Treaty succession to the Senate for advice and consent.

Critics of the 1997 MOU argue that the agreement imposes restrictions on just four of the 15 states now occupying the territory of the former Soviet Union, and that any of the 11 states not party to the MOU are free to develop and deploy an ABM system. They also argue that the Standing Consultative Commission, originally established to operate on the basis of consensus between the two ABM Treaty partners, has now been altered in such a way as to permit the U.S. to be isolated and outvoted by the other four members. Somewhat disingenuously, the same critics also complain that the MOU subordinates the security interests of Belarus, Kazakstan, and Ukraine to those of Russia by permitting Russia to take advantage of the privilege extended by the Treaty to deploy a single ABM system, defining the word "capital" to mean "Moscow," and in general encouraging Russia to establish hegemony over the "near abroad."

Bottom line:

The Administration's position is that Russia obviously remains a party to the ABM Treaty. If the Senate declines to ratify the MOU on ABM succession, then there might be some legal question about whether Kazakstan, Ukraine and Belarus are also successors. The Administration has not undertaken any legal assessments that would address some of the other criticisms articulated by opponents of the ABM Treaty and its associated MOU on succession.

Exchange Mail

DATE-TIME 05/12/2000 4:37:48 PM
FROM Binnendijk, Johannes A. (Hans) (DEFENSE)
CLASSIFICATION UNCLASSIFIED
SUBJECT RE: DRAFT RESPONSE TO VP'S QUESTION RE ABM SUCCESSION
[UNCLASSIFIED]
TO Black, Steven K. (VP)
CARBON_COPY Krass, Caroline D. (LEGAL)

TEXT_BODY

Steve, I would check this carefully with Caroline Krass. I would add the point that we never had a question about Russia being the successor state for ABM, as they were the Soviet Union's successor for most other items, including debt. The reason we negotiated the 1997 agreements (check with Caroline) is that we wanted the other three to be successors as well. The way you have written the note now leaves that uncertain. Hans

-----Original Message-----

From: Black,
Steven K. (VP)
Sent: Friday, May 12, 2000 2:41 PM
To: @DEFENSE
- Defense Policy; @RUSSIA - Russia/Ukraine; @LEGAL - Legal Advisor;
@LEGISLAT - Legislative Affairs
Subject: DRAFT RESPONSE TO VP'S
QUESTION RE ABM SUCCESSION [UNCLASSIFIED]

I have been directed
to send the following to the Vice President tonight. Please note
that I am characterizing the Administration's position at the very
bottom of the piece. If you disagree with what I've written, or
otherwise have comments, I need to hear from you this afternoon.
Thank you. Steven Black

There is nothing particularly complicated
about the essence of Senator Helms' argument concerning Russia's
legal status as ABM Treaty successor to the Soviet Union. His assertion
is that the ABM Treaty expired when the Soviet Union collapsed in
1991.

However, the 1997 Memorandum of Understanding on ABM Treaty
succession (signed on Sept 26, 1997 by Secretary Albright and her

Russian, Kazakstani, Ukrainian and Belarussian counterparts) established that Russia, Kazakstan, Ukraine and Belarus are the legal successors to the Soviet Union.

When the Senate gave its advice and consent to the CFE Flank Document in May 1997, one of the 14 conditions the Senate imposed (Condition 9) requires the President to submit the 1997 ABM MOU to the Senate for advice and consent. The President's response to the Senate in May 1997 pointed out that it is

clearly within the President's authorities to determine the successor States to a treaty when the original Party dissolves, and to make the adjustments required to accomplish such succession, and to enter into agreements for this purpose.

The President added that

throughout our history the executive branch has made a large number of determinations concerning the succession of new States to the treaty rights and obligations of their predecessors. The ABM Succession MOU negotiated by the United States effectuated no substantive change in the ABM Treaty requiring Senate advice and consent. Nonetheless, in light of my commitment to agree to seek Senate approval of the Demarcation Agreements associated with the ABM Treaty, I have, without prejudice to the legal principles involved, certified, consistent with Condition (9), that I will submit any agreement concluded on ABM Treaty succession to the Senate for advice and consent.

Critics of the 1997 MOU

argue that the agreement imposes restrictions on just four of the 15 states now occupying the territory of the former Soviet Union, and that any of the 11 states not party to the MOU are free to develop and deploy an ABM system. They also argue that the Standing Consultative Commission, originally established to operate on the basis of consensus between the two ABM Treaty partners, has now been altered in such a way as to permit the U.S. to be isolated and outvoted by the other four members. Somewhat disingenuously, the same critics also complain that the MOU subordinates the security interests of Belarus, Kazakstan, and Ukraine to those of Russia by permitting Russia to take advantage of the privilege extended by the Treaty to deploy a single ABM system, defining the word "capital" to mean "Moscow," and in general encouraging Russia to establish hegemony over the "near abroad."

Bottom line:

The Administration's position is that Russia obviously remains a party to the ABM Treaty. If the Senate declines to ratify the MOU on ABM succession, then there might be some legal question about whether Kazakstan, Ukraine and Belarus are also successors. The

Administration has not undertaken any legal assessments that would address some of the other criticisms articulated by opponents of the ABM Treaty and its associated MOU on succession.

Exchange Mail

DATE-TIME 05/12/2000 5:09:52 PM
FROM Black, Steven K. (VP)
CLASSIFICATION UNCLASSIFIED
SUBJECT Memo to VP on ABM Succession [UNCLASSIFIED]
TO Saunders, Richard M. (VP)
Roberts, Michael W. (VP)

CARBON_COPY**TEXT_BODY**

TRANSLATED_ATTACHMENT Memo to VP on ABM Succession.doc

May 12, 2000

INFORMATION MEMORANDUM TO THE VICE PRESIDENT

SUBJECT: ABM SUCCESSION

FROM: LEON FUERTH

The essence of Senator Helms' argument concerning Russia's legal status (or rather, lack thereof) as ABM Treaty successor to the Soviet Union is the assertion that the ABM Treaty expired when the Soviet Union collapsed in 1991; by definition, there can be no "successor states" to an expired Treaty. Moreover, Helms has asserted that in the absence of Senate advice and consent to the 1997 Memorandum of Understanding on Succession (see below), there are no recognized parties to the ABM Treaty.

Since the break-up of the Soviet Union both the Bush and Clinton Administrations have made clear that the ABM Treaty is among the arms control treaties with the Former Soviet Union that remain in effect. That said, following the break-up of the Soviet Union, it was necessary to reach agreement as to which, if

any, former
Soviet States -- in addition to Russia -- would continue the USSR's
rights and
obligations under the ABM Treaty. The negotiations on succession
which began in
1993 were aimed at resolving this particular question formally and
finally. On
Sept 26, 1997, Secretary Albright and her Russian, Kazakstani,
Ukrainian and
Belarussian counterparts signed a Memorandum of Understanding on
ABM Treaty
succession. Article I of the 1997 MOU provides that, upon entry into
force of
the MOU on Succession, Russia, Kazakstan, Ukraine and Belarus will
be the parties
to the ABM Treaty. The 1997 ABM MOU has not yet entered into
force because none
of the parties, including the United States, has deposited its instrument
of
ratification.

While negotiating the MOU, the Administration took the position that
matters of
treaty succession are a prerogative of the executive branch, and that
once
agreed, the MOU would not require Senate advice and consent.
Senator Helms did
not accept this view, and at his instigation, when the Senate gave its
advice and
consent to the CFE Flank Document in May 1997, one of the 14
conditions the
Senate imposed (Condition 9) states that the President must submit the
1997 ABM
MOU to the Senate for advice and consent. The President's response
to the Senate
in May 1997 pointed out that it is

clearly within the President's authorities to determine the successor
States to a
treaty when the original Party dissolves, and to make the adjustments
required to
accomplish such succession, and to enter into agreements for this
purpose.

The President added that

throughout our history the executive branch has made a large number
of
determinations concerning the succession of new States to the treaty

rights and obligations of their predecessors. The ABM Succession MOU negotiated by the United States effectuated no substantive change in the ABM Treaty requiring Senate advice and consent. Nonetheless, in light of my commitment to agree to seek Senate approval of the Demarcation Agreements associated with the ABM Treaty, I have, without prejudice to the legal principles involved, certified, consistent with Condition (9), that I will submit any agreement concluded on ABM Treaty succession to the Senate for advice and consent.

Exchange Mail

DATE-TIME 05/12/2000 5:15:30 PM
FROM Black, Steven K. (VP)
CLASSIFICATION UNCLASSIFIED
SUBJECT RE: DRAFT RESPONSE TO VP'S QUESTION RE ABM SUCCESSION
[UNCLASSIFIED]
TO Krass, Caroline D. (LEGAL)

CARBON_COPY Andreassen, Steven P. (DEFENSE)
Binnendijk, Johannes A. (Hans) (DEFENSE)
Cullom, Philip H. (DEFENSE)
Hill, Roseanne M. (DEFENSE)
Metzinger, Erin M. (DEFENSE)
Mitchell, Rebecca (Julie) J. (DEFENSE)
Peterman, David (Brian) (DEFENSE)
Pimentel, Betsy J. (DEFENSE)
Witkowsky, Anne A. (DEFENSE)
Allen, Charles A. (LEGAL)
Baker, James E. (LEGAL)
DeRosa, Mary B. (LEGAL)
Hunerwadel, Joan S. (LEGAL)
Krass, Caroline D. (LEGAL)
Scharfen, Jonathan R. (LEGAL)
Williams, Mary C. (ADMIN)
Burrell, Christina L. (LEGIS)
Lackey, Miles M. (LEGIS)
Shapiro, Daniel B. (LEGIS)
Tavlarides, Mark J. (LEGIS)
Walldorff, Rebecca L. (LEGIS)
Barnett, Cheryl E. (RUE)
Brzezinski, Mark F. (RUE)
Elkind, Jonathan H. (RUE)
Hinckley, Steedman (VP)
Massey, Stephen M. (RUE/INTERN)
Medish, Mark C. (RUE)
Tedstrom, John E. (RUE)
Weiss, Andrew S. (RUE)
Williams, Mary C. (ADMIN)

TEXT_BODY Thank you very much.

-----Original Message-----
From: Krass,

Caroline D. (LEGAL)
Sent: Friday, May 12, 2000 4:56 PM
To: Black,
Steven K. (VP)
Cc: @DEFENSE - Defense Policy; @LEGAL - Legal Advisor;
@LEGISLAT - Legislative Affairs; @RUSSIA - Russia/Ukraine
Subject: FW:
DRAFT RESPONSE TO VP'S QUESTION RE ABM SUCCESSION
[UNCLASSIFIED]
Importance: High

Steve:

Please see below a revised version of your response, which Steve
Andreasen and I drafted together. Thanks.

The essence of Senator

Helms' argument concerning Russia's legal status (or rather, lack thereof) as ABM Treaty successor to the Soviet Union is the assertion that the ABM Treaty expired when the Soviet Union collapsed in 1991; by definition, there can be no "successor states" to an expired Treaty. Moreover, Helms has asserted that in the absence of Senate advice and consent to the 1997 Memorandum of Understanding on Succession (see below), there are no recognized parties to the ABM Treaty.

Since

the break-up of the Soviet Union both the Bush and Clinton Administrations have made clear that the ABM Treaty is among the arms control treaties with the Former Soviet Union that remain in effect. That said, following the break-up of the Soviet Union, it was necessary to reach agreement as to which, if any, former Soviet States -- in addition to Russia -- would continue the USSR's rights and obligations under the ABM Treaty. The negotiations on succession which began in 1993 were aimed at resolving this particular question formally and finally. On Sept 26, 1997, Secretary Albright and her Russian, Kazakstani, Ukrainian and Belarussian counterparts signed a Memorandum of Understanding on ABM Treaty succession. Article I of the 1997 MOU provides that, upon entry into force of the MOU on Succession, Russia, Kazakstan, Ukraine and Belarus will be the parties to the ABM Treaty. The 1997 ABM MOU has not yet entered into force because none of the parties, including the United States, has deposited its instrument of ratification.

While negotiating the MOU, the Administration took the position that matters of treaty succession are a prerogative of the executive branch, and that once agreed, the MOU would not require Senate advice and consent. Senator Helms did not accept this view, and at his instigation, when the Senate gave its advice and consent to the CFE Flank Document in May 1997, one of the 14 conditions the Senate imposed (Condition 9) states that the President must submit the 1997 ABM MOU to the Senate for advice and consent. The President's response

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Critics of the 1997 MOU

argue two points: (1) the U.S. should not do anything to "revive" a dead treaty; or (2) that it is unwise to permit the number of parties to the ABM Treaty to grow from 2 to 5, as the U.S. would then be required to gain the agreement of not only Russia -- but Ukraine, Belarus, and Kazakhstan -- to any changes to the ABM Treaty to permit a limited National Missile Defense. In addition to rejecting the argument that the Treaty has expired and making the basic case for why the ABM Treaty is still in our national interest, we have noted that our track-record in working with Ukraine, Belarus and Kazakhstan in implementing important arms control treaties like START I and INF is very good (i.e., there is no reason to expect they would reject amendments to the ABM Treaty agreed to by the United States and Russia); moreover, excluding these countries from ABM might cause them to reassess their commitments under START, INF or even the NPT.

Bottom

line: The Administration's position is that the ABM Treaty remains in force and that Russia obviously remains a party to the ABM Treaty. If the Senate declines to ratify the MOU on ABM succession, then there might be some ambiguity about the extent to which states other than Russia are Parties to the ABM Treaty; however, the ABM Treaty would continue in force.

-----Original Message-----

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Steven K. (VP)

Sent: Friday, May 12, 2000 14:41 PM
To: @DEFENSE
- Defense Policy; @RUSSIA - Russia/Ukraine; @LEGAL - Legal Advisor;
@LEGISLAT - Legislative Affairs
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QUESTION RE ABM SUCCESSION [UNCLASSIFIED]

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Exchange Mail

DATE-TIME 05/17/2000 7:17:17 PM

FROM Wozniak, Natalie S. (PRESS)

CLASSIFICATION UNCLASSIFIED

SUBJECT State Department Press Guidance - May 17, 2000 [UNCLASSIFIED]

TO Anderson, Brooke D. (NSCCOMM)
Brown, Katherine A. (PRESS/INTERN)
Crowley, Philip J. (PRESS)
Gobush, Matthew N. (VP)
Hammer, Michael A. (PRESS)
Hoelzer, Jennifer I. (PRESS/INTERN)
Stockwell, David B. (PRESS)
Wozniak, Natalie S. (PRESS)
Aragoncillo, Leandro A. (VP)
Babbitt, James F. (VP)
Beardsley, Tyler S. (VP)
Black, Steven K. (VP)
Bolan, Christopher J. (VP)
Davidson, Leslie K. (VP)
Dennett, Todd H. (VP)
Fuerth, Leon S. (VP)
Gobush, Matthew N. (VP)
Hinckley, Steedman (VP)
Orfini, Michael H. (VP)
Osius, Theodore G. (VP)
Roberts, Michael W. (VP)
Saunders, Richard M. (VP)
Woolston, Ann E. (VP)
Anderson, Brooke D. (NSCCOMM)
Crowley, Philip J. (PRESS)
Matthews, Sonyia (SPCHW)

Sleder, Nicholas A. (NSCCOMM/INTERN)

CARBON_COPY

TEXT_BODY

TRANSLATED_ATTACHMENT

05-17-2000 FINAL GUIDANCES.doc

PRESS

GUIDANCES CONTENTS WEDNESDAY, MAY 17, 2000

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Russian Relations

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West Africa

Serbia -- Regime Crackdown on Independent

Media in Serbia

Media Note -- Department of State and The Coalition

For American Leadership Abroad To

Hold National Foreign Policy

Conference For Leaders of Non-Governmental Organizations

AFRICA Sierra Leone -- Situation Update / Reverend

Jackson's Trip / Capture of Foday Sankoh / Update on UNAMSIL Troop Deployments /

Arrival of U.S. Air Force Team / Status of Detained Peacekeeping Troops

-- UN Peacekeepers

Ethiopia / Eritrea -- Situation Along Border / Anti-

American Demonstrations / UN

Sanctions / Status of OAU Peace Plan/

Protection of U.S. Citizens

Zimbabwe -- Violence and Land Occupations /

International Election Monitors /

U.S. Assistance

Congo -- World Policy Institute Report

Region -- Conflict Diamonds

EAST ASIA Burma -- Congressional Resolutions
Japan -- Reported Comments by PM Mori

EUROPE Russia / Serbia -- Yugoslav Defense Minister Ojdanic
Visit
Serbia (FRY) -- Independent Studio B Closed by
Regime
Slovakia -- Slovak Accession to the OECD
Kyrgyzstan -- Conviction of Daniyar Usenov
Germany -- Draft Slave Labor Agreement
North Ireland -- Peace Process

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Lebanon -- Shebaa Farms
Israel / PA -- Arrest of Mohamed Deif
Egypt -- Status of Egypt Air 990 Investigation
Iran -- World Bank Loans / US Opposition

WESTERN Cuba -- Elian Gonzales / Number of Political
HEMISPHERE Prisoners
Colombia -- FARC Killing / Peace Talks
Argentina -- Senior Officials Involved in Drug
Trafficking
Haiti -- Rice Corporation of Haiti Dispute
Dominican Republic -- Presidential Election
Guatemala -- INS Dallas Temporarily Detains Nobel
Laureate Rigoberta Menchu
Mexico -- US-Mexico Binational Commission
Meeting / Border Vigilantism

MISCELLANEOUS UN -- Amb Holbrooke's Call for UN
Overhaul/Reform of the UN Peacekeeping Finance System
Human Rights -- Committee Against Torture /

Conclusions and Recommendations /
Child Labor
Arms Control -- National Missile Defense /
Ship Based-Defense System

THERE WAS A DAILY PRESS BRIEFING TODAY

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE
Office of the Spokesman

For Immediate Release May 17, 2000

2000/564

NOTICE TO THE PRESS

17th US-Mexico Binational Commission

The U.S.-Mexico Binational Commission will hold its 17th annual meeting at the Department of State on Thursday, May 18. The event, which alternates between Washington and Mexico City, will be hosted this year by Secretary of State Madeleine K. Albright. In addition to opening and closing plenaries, the Commission affords an opportunity for 15 working groups, often chaired at the cabinet level, to meet on the full range of issues in the bilateral relationship. This annual meeting also will be the occasion for a bilateral meeting between Secretary Albright and Mexican Foreign Secretary Rosario Green Macias. We expect more than 125 Mexican and at least 200 U.S. participants at the day-long event.

Secretary of State Albright and Foreign Secretary Green will address the opening plenary of the 17th US-Mexico Binational Commission in the State Department's Loy Henderson Auditorium at 9:00 a.m. on Thursday, May 18. The opening plenary will be open for press coverage.

Pre-set time for cameras and still photographers is 7:30 a.m.

(enter via 23rd Street entrance)

Writers will be escorted in at 8:20 a.m., and should be in place by 8:30 a.m.

(enter via 23rd Street entrance)

Later in the day Secretary Albright and Foreign Secretary Green will participate in a joint press conference, and they will both attend and participate in the final public event of the day, the closing plenary session. Both the press conference and the closing plenary will be held in the Loy Henderson Auditorium. The time of the press conference is 4:00 p.m., and the closing plenary session is 4:35 p.m.

Pre-set time for the press conference and closing plenary:

Pre-set time for cameras is 2:45 p.m. - 3:45 p.m.

Pre-set time for writers is 3:30 p.m. - 3:45 p.m.

Final access for all press is 3:45 p.m.

Media representatives who wish to cover these events must present for admission either (1) a U.S. Government press ID (U.S. Department of State, White House, Department of Defense, Capitol Hill, or Foreign Press Center), (2) a media-issued photo ID card, or (3) a letter on official letterhead from their news organization verifying their employment as a journalist, accompanied by a photo ID (driver's license or passport).

For further information, please contact the Department of State Office of Press Relations at (202) 647-2492.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE
Office of the Spokesman
For Immediate Release May 17, 2000
2000/572

NOTICE TO THE PRESS

Special Background Briefing on US-Russia Relations

On Thursday, May 18, a Senior State Department Official will brief journalists ON BACKGROUND on U.S. relations with the Russian Republic, prior to President Clinton's upcoming trip to Moscow. This briefing will take place at 11:15 a.m.

in the State Department press briefing room (room 2118). Following opening remarks, the Senior State Department Official will respond to questions from the press.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE
OFFICE OF THE SPOKESMAN

For Immediate Release May 17, 2000
2000/571

STATEMENT BY RICHARD BOUCHER

REGIME CRACKDOWN ON INDEPENDENT MEDIA IN SERBIA

The Belgrade regime's move today to silence Serbia's independent media represents a major step in efforts to preserve Milosevic's dictatorship. This night-time police raid smacks of desperate, Bolshevik oppression.

The United States strongly condemns the Belgrade regime's crackdown on the independent press and the democratic opposition in Serbia. Next week, Secretary of State Madeleine Albright will consult our allies in Europe to determine what joint actions we will take in response to this blatant attack on the independent media. She will also meet with foreign ministers of states neighboring Serbia to coordinate further responses.

Today, we will add six judges and prosecutors who have taken repressive actions against independent media to our visa ban list and will ask the EU to do the same. We will continue to monitor and add other names to the list. We will also immediately add family members of several top officials of the regime to our visa ban list and encourage the EU to do the same.

We will continue to review further actions to take to demonstrate our support for the independent media and people of Serbia. We understand that citizens of

Serbia have said they will protest the government's action. Their courage and activism should be a signal to those around the Milosevic family that the people of Serbia have grown tired of the regime and its repression.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE
Office of the Spokesman

For Immediate Release May 17,
2000
2000/569
MEDIA NOTE

Department of State and The Coalition for American Leadership Abroad
TO HOLD NATIONAL FOREIGN POLICY CONFERENCE
FOR LEADERS OF NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

On Friday, May 19, 2000, the Department of State and The Coalition for American Leadership Abroad (COLEAD) will co-host the National Foreign Policy Conference for Leaders of Non-governmental Organizations, from 9:00 a.m. to 4:45 p.m., in the State Department's Dean Acheson Auditorium. The conference aims to increase public awareness and understanding of current foreign policy issues, to encourage public engagement in the policy process, and to provide opportunities to exchange views with officials who formulate and implement policy.

More than 640 representatives of non-governmental organizations (NGOs) nationwide will attend the conference thanks to the support of 27 cooperating NGOs involved in planning to ensure a great diversity and breadth of participation. (A list follows.)

Key conference speakers include: Secretary of State Madeleine K. Albright, Department Spokesman Richard Boucher, COLEAD President Harry C. Blaney, III; Deputy Administrator for U.S. Agency for International Development Harriet C. Babbitt; Assistant Secretary for Population, Refugees and Migration Julia V. Taft; Under Secretary for Public Diplomacy and Public Affairs Evelyn S. Lieberman; Under Secretary for Global Affairs Frank E. Loy, and Under Secretary for Political Affairs Thomas R. Pickering. (A conference schedule follows.)

The conference is OPEN PRESS except the Workshops. Media representatives will be escorted from the 23rd Street Lobby. Pre-set for cameras: 8:00 a.m. or 12:00 Noon.

Media representatives should have (1) a U.S. Government press ID (U.S. Department of State; White House, Department of Defense, Capitol Hill, or Foreign Press Center), (2) a media-issued photo ID card, or (3) a letter on official letterhead from his or her news organization verifying employment as a journalist, accompanied by a photo ID (driver's license or passport).

For logistical details or to arrange coverage, contact: U.S. Department of State, Office of Press Relations, phone (202) 647-2492.

For information about conference participants and interview availability, contact: U.S. Department of State, Office of Regional Media and Press Outreach, phone (202) 647-0001.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE
AND
THE COALITION FOR AMERICAN LEADERSHIP ABROAD

PRESENT A
NATIONAL FOREIGN POLICY CONFERENCE
FOR
LEADERS OF NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE
Friday, May 19, 2000
9:00 a.m. - 4:45 p.m.

Dean Acheson Auditorium

8:00 - 9:00 a.m. Coffee/Registration

9:00 - 9:05 a.m. Welcome

9:05 - 9:10 a.m. Harry C. Blaney, III
President
Coalition for American
Leadership Abroad

9:10 - 9:25 a.m. Resources for American
Leadership

Madeleine K. Albright
Secretary of State

9:30 - 10:15 a.m. The Role of AID

Harriet C. Babbitt
Deputy Administrator
U.S. Agency for International
Development

- 2 -

10:30 - 11:15 a.m. Refugee Issues

Julia V. Taft (invited)
Assistant Secretary for
Population, Refugees and Migration

11:15 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. America Reaching Out

Evelyn S. Lieberman

Under Secretary for Public
Diplomacy and Public Affairs

12:15 - 1:45 p.m. Lunch

Frank E. Loy
Under Secretary for
Global Affairs

2:15 - 3:00 p.m. Points of Crisis:
Colombia, Nigeria, Balkans

Thomas R. Pickering
Under Secretary for
Political Affairs

3:00 - 3:05 p.m. Closing Remarks

Richard Boucher
Department Spokesman

3:05 - 3:30 p.m. BREAK

3:30 - 4:45 p.m. Workshops (CLOSED PRESS)

- * An International Exchange Dialogue: Building Success through Effective Partnering
- * Regional Challenges: Africa, Asia and the Western Hemisphere
- * Promoting Democracy and Human Rights Around the World
- * Security in the 21st Century: Peacekeeping and Conflict Resolution

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COOPERATING ORGANIZATIONS

Academy for Educational Development
Africa-America Institute
Alliance for International Education and Cultural Exchange
American Councils for International Education
American Foreign Service Association
Associates of the American Foreign Service Worldwide
Business Alliance for International Economic Development
CARE
Fulbright Association
Global Health Council
Goals for Americans Foundation
International Development Conference
Institute of International Education
InterAction
Maryland Global Affairs Coalition
National Council for International Visitors
National Peace Corps Association
Partners for the Americas
Patterson School of Diplomacy and International Commerce
Physicians for Social Responsibility
Public Diplomacy Foundation
Sister Cities International
United Nations Association

USIA Alumni Association
U.S. Committee for United Nations Development Program
World Affairs Councils of America
World Federalist Association
World Learning

AF/IO PRESS GUIDANCE
May 17, 2000

SIERRA LEONE

SUMMARY POINTS

- * Freetown quiet.
- * Embassy open; AMB Melrose and core staff in Freetown.
- * Foday Sankoh taken into custody of Sierra Leone authorities, flown by British helicopter to undisclosed location for his safety where he remains under Sierra Leonean custody.
- * Special Envoy Jackson departs today for region (Nigeria, Liberia, Guinea, Mali, Sierra Leone, security conditions permitting).
- * Over 300 UN personnel remain hostage.
- * U.S. Air Force team arrived in Freetown on May 15 to survey Lungi airfield.

Q: What is the situation in Sierra Leone today?

A:

- * FREETOWN REMAINS QUIET.
- * THE U.S. EMBASSY IS OPEN. AMBASSADOR MELROSE AND CORE STAFF ARE IN FREETOWN.
- * THE EMBASSY IS IN TOUCH WITH THE FEW DOZEN U.S. CITIZENS WHO REMAIN IN FREETOWN AND WHO HAVE NOT REQUESTED EVACUATION ASSISTANCE AT THIS TIME.

Q: What is the status of Rev. Jackson's trip?

A: PRESIDENTIAL SPECIAL ENVOY JESSE JACKSON WILL DEPART WASHINGTON THIS EVENING FOR WEST AFRICA. HIS MISSION IS TO REINFORCE AND SHOW THE STRONG SUPPORT OF THE ADMINISTRATION FOR EFFORTS OF THE UNITED NATIONS AND REGIONAL LEADERS TO SECURE THE RELEASE OF THE UN HOSTAGES, AND END THE CRISIS IN SIERRA LEONE. HE HAS ASKED FOR MEETINGS WITH HEADS OF STATE AND OTHER KEY PLAYERS IN THE REGION.

Q: What information do you have on the capture of Foday Sankoh and what will happen to him now?

A:
* OUR BEST INFORMATION IS THAT SANKOH APPEARED IN A FREETOWN NEIGHBORHOOD EARLY ON THE MORNING OF MAY 17 AND THAT SIERRA LEONE POLICE TOOK HIM INTO CUSTODY. FOR HIS SAFETY, SANKOH WAS TRANSPORTED TO AN UNDISCLOSED LOCATION WHERE HE REMAINS IN THE CUSTODY OF THE SIERRA LEONE POLICE.

* WE UNDERSTAND THAT THE GOVERNMENT OF SIERRA LEONE HAS NOT YET MADE ANY DECISIONS REGARDING SANKOH.

(If asked only):

Q: Is it true Sankoh was wounded? Do you have details?

A: I MUST REFER YOU TO THE GOVERNMENT OF SIERRA LEONE FOR THOSE DETAILS.

(If asked only):

Q: What will Sankoh's role be now?

A: THE U.S. BELIEVES THAT THIS IS A QUESTION FOR THE GOVERNMENT AND THE PEOPLE OF SIERRA LEONE TO DECIDE. WE ARE NOT AWARE OF ANY DECISIONS ABOUT SANKOH'S FUTURE ROLE IN SIERRA LEONE AND IN THE PEACE PROCESS.

(If asked only):

Q: Will Sankoh be charged with crimes committed since the signing of the Lome Peace Agreement?

A: THERE HAVE BEEN NO DECISIONS ON THIS ISSUE. THE U.S. BELIEVES THAT THERE MUST BE BOTH PEACE AND JUSTICE. THAT MEANS THERE SHOULD BE ACCOUNTABILITY.

Q. Do you have an update on UNAMSIL troop deployments?

A. THERE ARE NOW 9525 UNAMSIL TROOPS DEPLOYED.

* THAT TOTAL IS INCREASING DAILY AS THE ACCELERATED DEPLOYMENT OF JORDANIAN AND INDIAN TROOPS CONTINUES.

* THE INDIAN CONTINGENT OF 1,427 WILL BY MAY 20 AND THE JORDANIAN CONTINGENT WILL ARRIVE BEGINNING MAY 21 WHICH WILL BRING UNAMSIL TO ITS MANDATED STRENGTH OF 11,100 BY THE END OF MAY.

Q: What details do you have on the arrival of a U.S. Air Force team in Freetown?

A: THE U.S. AIR FORCE TEAM IS PERFORMING A SURVEY OF LUNGI AIRFIELD IN THE EVENT THE UN AND THE UNITED STATES DETERMINE THAT U.S. MILITARY SHOULD AIRLIFT UNAMSIL ELEMENTS INTO SIERRA LEONE.

(If asked):

WE HAVE DISCUSSED THE PRESENCE OF THESE ELEMENTS IN SIERRA LEONE WITH THE U.S. CONGRESS, CONSISTENT WITH THE WAR POWERS RESOLUTION.

Q: Do we have an update on the status of the released and/or still detained troops?

A.

* ACCORDING TO OUR BEST INFORMATION, THERE ARE STILL APPROXIMATELY 322 UN TROOPS EITHER DETAINED OR UNACCOUNTED FOR.

* OF THE 139 DETAINEES WHO WERE RELEASED INTO LIBERIA, 93 HAVE RETURNED TO FREETOWN, AND THE REMAINING 46 WILL BE AIRLIFTED OUT TODAY.

* ACCORDING TO THE INFORMATION WE HAVE, NONE OF THE RELEASED DETAINEES HAS REQUIRED IMMEDIATE MEDICAL ATTENTION.

Q: What is the status of U.S. assistance to Nigerian forces? Will they deploy, and if so, will they do so under UN auspices or as a regional force?

A:

* WE CONTINUE TO WORK WITH THE REGION, THE UN, THE UK AND OTHER INTERESTED PARTIES ON THESE ISSUES.

* A TEAM OF U.S. LOGISTICS SPECIALISTS IS IN NIGERIA WORKING WITH THEIR EXPERTS ON WHAT NEEDS THEY WOULD HAVE FOR SUPPORT IN ORDER TO DEPLOY.

* NO DECISIONS HAVE BEEN MADE.

Drafted: AF/W:BWDalton, 7-2214
I/DALTONB/SIERRA LEONE/PG 5.17

Cleared:

AF:SERice

AF:HFJeter-INFO

AF:SPWilkinson-OK

AF/RA:MBittrick-ok

AF/RA:LSegesvary-OK

P:EBarks-Ruggles-OK

EUR/UBI:NDean-INFO

S/WCI:PProsper-OK on text but wants "accountability" in answer, not as "if pressed"

DRL:REhrenreich-OK

DRL:DDearborn-INFO

CA/PA:NBudig-OK

USUN/W:GHarris-OK

USUN:AGrunder-ok

IO Press Guidance

May 17, 2000

SIERRA LEONE: UN PEACEKEEPING

Q: Do we have an update on the status of the released and/or still detained troops?

A. AS BEST AS CAN BE DETERMINED, THERE ARE STILL APPROXIMATELY 322 UN TROOPS EITHER DETAINED OR UNACCOUNTED FOR.

* OF THE 139 DETAINEES WHO WERE RELEASED INTO LIBERIA, 93 HAVE RETURNED TO FREETOWN, AND THE REMAINING 46 WILL BE AIRLIFTED OUT TODAY.

* THE RETURNING DETAINEES ARE REPORTEDLY IN REASONABLE SHAPE WITH NONE REQUIRING IMMEDIATE ATTENTION.

Q. Do you have an update on UNAMSIL troop deployments?

A. THERE ARE NOW 9525 UNAMSIL TROOPS DEPLOYED.

* THAT TOTAL IS INCREASING DAILY AS THE ACCELERATED DEPLOYMENT OF JORDANIAN AND INDIAN TROOPS CONTINUES.

* THE INDIAN CONTINGENT OF 1,427 WILL BY MAY 20 AND THE JORDANIAN CONTINGENT WILL ARRIVE BEGINNING MAY 21 WHICH WILL BRING UNAMSIL TO ITS MANDATED STRENGTH OF 11,100 BY THE END OF MAY.

Drafted: IO/PHO:/KBrown
(SEPHOKXB/Sl51100 press guidance) 05/17/2000 6-7736

Cleared: IO:WBWood
IO/PHO:GGray
IO/UNP:HThomas

AF/W:BDalton
USUN/W:GHarris

AF Press Guidance
May 17, 2000

ETHIOPIA/ERITREA

* ETHIOPIAN FORCES IN ERITREAN TOWN OF BARENTU (NORTH OF BADME) AND MOVING EAST
TOWARD MENDEFERA

* NO FURTHER ANTI-U.S. DEMONSTRATIONS IN ADDIS ABABA

* NORMAL OPERATIONS AT EMBASSY ADDIS ABABA AND AUTHORIZED DEPARTURE AT EMBASSY
ASMARA

* U.S. AND OTHER UNSC MEMBERS WORKING AT UNSC FOR STRONGER MEASURES TO END
FIGHTING

Q: What is the situation along the Ethiopia/Eritrea border today?

A: HEAVY FIGHTING CONTINUES ALONG THE WESTERN FRONT NORTH OF BADME, AND THAT THE
ETHIOPIAN ADVANCE CONTINUES. WE UNDERSTAND ETHIOPIAN FORCES HAVE OCCUPIED THE
TOWN OF BARENTU, THIRTY KILOMETERS NORTHWEST OF THE FORMER ERITREAN FRONT LINES
AT THE MEREB RIVER, AND ARE APPROACHING MENDEFERA, 40 KM SOUTH OF ASMARA.
-- BOTH ETHIOPIA AND ERITREA REPORT THAT AN ETHIOPIAN HELICOPTER WAS DOWNED MAY
15. THERE ARE NO RELIABLE REPORTS OF CASUALTIES OR OTHER AIRCRAFT AND EQUIPMENT

LOSSES.

Q: Have there been any more anti-American disturbances in Addis Ababa?

A: THERE HAVE BEEN NO ANTI-AMERICAN DEMONSTRATIONS IN ADDIS ABABA SINCE MAY 15,
AND GOVERNMENT OF ETHIOPIA HAS ASSURED OUR AMBASSADOR THAT VIOLENCE AGAINST U.S.
CITIZENS OR FACILITIES WILL NOT BE TOLERATED.

Q: What are we doing to stop the fighting?

A: WE DEPLORE THE UNJUSTIFIED AND UNNECESSARY RESUMPTION OF HOSTILITIES. THE
UNITED STATES URGENTLY CALLS ON BOTH ETHIOPIA AND ERITREA TO END THE
FIGHTING NOW
AND IMMEDIATELY RESUME TALKS WITHOUT PRECONDITIONS UNDER THE AUSPICES OF
THE
ORGANIZATION OF AFRICAN UNITY (OAU).
-- WE SUPPORTED LAST FRIDAY'S UNSC RESOLUTION 1297 CONDEMNING THE RENEWED
FIGHTING BETWEEN ETHIOPIA AND ERITREA, AND ARE PRESSING FOR MORE VIGOROUS
STEPS
BY THE SECURITY COUNCIL IN VIEW OF ONGOING HOSTILITIES. WE ARE CONSULTING
WITH
OUR UNSC PARTNERS ON THE BEST AND MOST EFFECTIVE COUNCIL ACTION AT THIS
TIME.
-- WE AND THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY BELIEVE THAT THE OAU PEACE PLAN
OFFERS A
FAIR, JUST, AND DURABLE SOLUTION TO THE CONFLICT, AND REMAINING DIFFERENCES
REGARDING IMPLEMENTATION ARRANGEMENTS CAN BE RESOLVED THROUGH
CONTINUED OAU
MEDIATION. THE UNITED STATES HAS ACTIVELY WORKED FOR A PEACEFUL RESOLUTION
OF
THIS DISPUTE SINCE IT BEGAN NEARLY TWO YEARS AGO.
-- WE, THE UNITED NATIONS SECURITY COUNCIL, THE EUROPEAN UNION, AND THE REST
OF

THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY WILL CONTINUE TO WORK WITH AND IN SUPPORT OF THE OAU TO HELP END THIS TRAGIC AND UNNECESSARY CONFLICT AND REACH A DURABLE PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT.

Q: Will the UNSC meet today on this? What's our position on UN sanctions on the two countries?

A: THE SECURITY COUNCIL WILL AGAIN MEET TODAY FOR FURTHER CONSULTATIONS ON A NEW UNSC RESOLUTION TO PRESS FOR AN IMMEDIATE END TO HOSTILITIES AND A SPEEDY RETURN TO PEACE TALKS. WE BELIEVE A STRONG RESOLUTION IS NECESSARY IN VIEW OF MILITARY OPERATIONS NOW UNDERWAY.

Q: What is the status of the OAU peace plan?

A: BOTH PARTIES HAVE ACCEPTED THE OAU FRAMEWORK AGREEMENT AND MODALITIES FOR IMPLEMENTATION.

-- ETHIOPIA HAS SAID IT IS UNABLE TO ACCEPT TECHNICAL ARRANGEMENTS TO IMPLEMENT

THE OAU PEACE ACCORD AS ORIGINALLY DRAFTED.

-- ERITREA HAS ACCEPTED THE TECHNICAL ARRANGEMENTS.

-- ETHIOPIA INDICATES IT IS WILLING TO PARTICIPATE IN NEW PEACE TALKS, DESPITE MILITARY OPERATIONS NOW UNDERWAY.

-- WE AND THE REST OF THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY CONTINUE TO BELIEVE IN THE

FAIRNESS OF THE OAU PEACE PROCESS AND ARE CONVINCED THAT THIS PROCESS IS THE ONLY

WAY TO A PRINCIPLED AND DURABLE RESOLUTION OF THE CONFLICT.

Q: What is the U.S. Government doing to protect U.S. citizens?

A: AMERICANS HAVE BEEN WARNED AGAINST TRAVEL TO ERITREA AND TO CONSIDER DEFERRING TRAVEL TO ETHIOPIA.

-- NORMAL OPERATIONS CONTINUE AT OUR EMBASSY IN ADDIS ABABA.

-- OUR EMBASSY IN ASMARA HAS BEEN PLACED ON AUTHORIZED DEPARTURE STATUS, WHICH
ALLOWS AMERICAN CITIZEN STAFF OF THE EMBASSY AND THEIR FAMILIES TO LEAVE ON A
VOLUNTARY BASIS.
-- THERE ARE ABOUT 20 U.S. CITIZEN STAFF AND FAMILY MEMBERS AT OUR EMBASSY IN
ASMARA, AND ABOUT 160 STAFF AND FAMILY IN ADDIS ABABA.
-- THERE ARE ROUGHLY 2000 PRIVATE AMERICAN CITIZENS KNOWN TO THE EMBASSY
RESIDENT
IN ETHIOPIA AND ABOUT 200 IN ERITREA.
-- WE ARE CAREFULLY MONITORING THE SITUATION AND TAKING FULL PRECAUTIONS
TO
ASSURE THE SAFETY OF ALL AMERICANS IN ETHIOPIA AND ERITREA.
-- OUR EMBASSIES ARE IN TOUCH WITH THE AMERICAN COMMUNITY THROUGH
EMBASSY WARDEN
SYSTEMS AND INFORMAL TOWN MEETING GATHERINGS.
-- BOTH CAPITALS ARE CALM, AND INTERNATIONAL AIRLINES CONTINUE SERVICE TO
BOTH
CITIES.

IF ASKED:

Q: How many American staff or family members have left Eritrea since Authorized
Departure was approved May 12?

A: NO MEMBERS OF THE AMERICAN EMBASSY STAFF HAVE YET VOLUNTEERED TO
DEPART
ASMARA.

Background: Heavy fighting continues north of the Mereb River and former
Eritrean lines at the Badme front. Ethiopian forces appear to have occupied the
town of Barentu and environs and are approaching Mendefera. No significant
fighting is reported for other fronts along the Ethiopia/Eritrea border.
Fighting at this time is limited to areas near the border and involves only
well-disciplined formed combat units.

The international community has been working persistently and vigorously to in
support of the OAU peace process since hostilities along the Ethiopia/Eritrea

border resumed last year. Both sides have now accepted the OAU Framework Agreement and an OAU proposal for modalities to implement the Framework Agreement. There is consensus on some of the provisions of Technical Arrangements to implement the peace plan, while others still await agreement to secure the mutual acceptance of the full document by both parties.

On May 12 the UNSC adopted a resolution (UNSC 1297) condemning renewed hostilities and calling for renewed peace talks. The USG, OAU, and UNSC are holding urgent consultations and the international community is working together to determine most effective next steps, including a stronger UNSC resolution, if hostilities continue. We, the United Nations Security Council, the European Union, and the rest of the international community will work with and in support of the OAU to help end this tragic and unnecessary conflict and reach a durable peaceful settlement of the border dispute.

There have been no further anti-American demonstrations in Addis Ababa, and Prime Minister Meles has assured our Ambassador that further demonstrations of this kind will not be permitted. Both Embassies Addis Ababa and Asmara are closely following security issues and military developments. Embassy Addis Ababa is operating normally, but Embassy Asmara has been placed on Authorized Departure status owing to the proximity of heavy fighting. No Asmara employees have yet opted to leave since departure was authorized. Our embassies will assure that Americans are fully informed of evolving circumstances and new security considerations that may follow. Both capitals are calm and international airline service has not yet been affected in either Asmara or Addis Ababa. Consular travel warnings recommend that travelers consider deferring travel to Ethiopia and avoid travel to Eritrea.

DRAFT: AF/E:JKNIGHT 6-4679
Ethiopia-Eritrea 000517

Clear: AF:SERice
AF/E:JMillington
AF/E:SEiriz
P:EBarks-Ruggles
DRL:MSeidenstricker
IO/UNP:WASanton

Press Guidance

May 17, 2000

ZIMBABWE

- * Violence and farm occupations continue in Zimbabwe.
- * The U.S. will fund international and domestic observers for June 24-25 parliamentary elections.
- * Invaded lumber company has shut down following ZANU-PF intimidation.
- * U.S. protesting violence privately at highest levels and publicly through statements, guidance. U.S. suspended aid to land reform, sending election monitors.

Q: Can you provide an update on farm occupations and violence in Zimbabwe?

A:

* NEW FARMS CONTINUE TO BE OCCUPIED. FARMERS AND FARM WORKERS CONTINUE TO BE HARASSED, BEATEN AND INTIMIDATED BY SUPPORTERS OF THE RULING ZIMBABWE AFRICAN NATIONAL UNION-PATRIOTIC FRONT (ZANU-PF) WHO ARE LEADING THE OCCUPATIONS. * CIVIL SERVANTS, TEACHERS AND OTHERS SUSPECTED OF SUPPORTING OPPOSITION PARTIES HAVE BEEN HARASSED AND BEATEN BY ZANU-PF SUPPORTERS. * TWENTY-TWO ZIMBABWEANS, ALMOST ALL OF THEM SUPPORTERS OF THE OPPOSITION MOVEMENT FOR DEMOCRATIC CHANGE, HAVE BEEN KILLED IN THE PAST TWO MONTHS. * PRESIDENT MUGABE HAS CALLED FOR AN END TO VIOLENCE ON OCCUPIED FARMS BUT THE GOVERNMENT OF ZIMBABWE HAS TAKEN FEW STEPS TO CURTAIL THE VIOLENCE AGAINST

FARMERS, CIVIL SERVANTS, AND OPPOSITION PARTY SUPPORTERS OR TO ARREST AND PROSECUTE THE PERPETRATORS.

* THE GOVERNMENT OF ZIMBABWE HAS PROVIDED MATERIAL SUPPORT TO THE OCCUPIERS AND HAS NOT CALLED FOR AN END TO THE OCCUPATIONS.

Q: Will the U.S. send election monitors?

A:

* WE ARE IN THE PROCESS OF PROVIDING CONGRESSIONAL NOTIFICATION OF OUR INTENTION TO PROVIDE FUNDING FOR INTERNATIONAL ELECTION MONITORS FOR THE PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS IN ZIMBABWE.

* WE ARE ALSO FUNDING TRAINING FOR DOMESTIC MONITORS FROM NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS AND POLITICAL PARTIES IN ZIMBABWE. U.S. EFFORTS WILL PRODUCE ENOUGH TRAINED MONITORS TO ENSURE THE PRESENCE OF SEVERAL ZIMBABWEAN MONITORS AT EVERY POLLING STATION IN THE COUNTRY.

Q: Can you provide facts and comment on the invasion of a Zimbabwean lumber company?

A.

* BORDERS LUMBER COMPANY NEAR THE EASTERN ZIMBABWEAN TOWN OF CHIMANIMANI WAS INVADED BY SUPPORTERS OF THE RULING ZANU-PF PARTY ON MAY 16. THE INVADERS DEMANDED THAT WHITE MANAGERS BE REPLACED AND THAT COMPANY EMPLOYEES DECLARE

LOYALTY TO ZANU-PF. SOME OF THE COMPANY'S 3500 EMPLOYEES WERE ASSAULTED AND OPERATIONS HAVE NOW CEASED.

* WE UNDERSTAND THAT THE COMPANY WILL NOT REOPEN UNTIL IT RECEIVES ASSURANCES

FROM THE GOVERNMENT REGARDING SECURITY FOR ITS EMPLOYEES AND OPERATIONS.

* THE INVASIONS IS A FURTHER EXAMPLE OF THE GROWING INTOLERANCE AND THE BREAKDOWN

OF THE RULE OF LAW THAT HAS CHARACTERIZED THE ACTIONS OF ZANU-PF
SUPPORTERS SINCE

FARM OCCUPATIONS BEGAN IN FEBRUARY.

* WE CALL AGAIN ON THE GOVERNMENT TO REVERSE THIS TREND BY IMPLEMENTING
COURT

ORDERS CALLING ON POLICE TO EVICT OCCUPIERS FROM FARMS, PROSECUTING
PERPETRATORS

OF VIOLENCE, AND ACCEPTING ITS RESPONSIBILITY TO PROTECT THE POLITICAL AND
HUMAN

RIGHTS OF ALL ZIMBABWEANS.

* THE GOVERNMENT'S FAILURE TO TAKE SUCH ACTION WILL HAVE GRAVE
CONSEQUENCES FOR
ALL ZIMBABWEANS.

Q: What is the U.S. doing about the situation in Zimbabwe?

A:

* WE ARE DEEPLY CONCERNED BY THE POLITICAL VIOLENCE THAT HAS LED TO THE
DEATHS OF

AT LEAST 22 ZIMBABWEANS. WE HAVE BEEN IN TOUCH WITH THE HIGHEST LEVELS OF
THE

GOVERNMENT OF ZIMBABWE TO URGE AN END TO THE VIOLENCE AND RESPECT FOR THE
RULE OF

LAW IN ZIMBABWE.

* WE HAVE PUBLICLY AND PRIVATELY URGED ALL PARTIES TO EXERCISE RESTRAINT
AND

AVOID VIOLENT CONFRONTATION.

* WE CALL ON ALL PARTIES TO RESPECT THE RULE OF LAW AND THE
CONSTITUTIONALLY

GUARANTEED RIGHT OF ALL ZIMBABWEANS TO FORM AND SUPPORT POLITICAL PARTIES
OF

THEIR CHOOSING.

* THE UNITED STATES HAS ALSO PROTESTED THE ILLEGAL OCCUPATION OF
COMMERCIAL FARMS

AND URGED THE GOVERNMENT OF ZIMBABWE TO IMPLEMENT COURT ORDERS CALLING

ON THE
POLICE TO EVICT THE FARM OCCUPIERS.
* WE SUPPORT LEGAL AND TRANSPARENT LAND REFORM ACCORDING TO THE
PRINCIPLES
REACHED AT THE 1998 DONORS CONFERENCE ON LAND. THE UNITED STATES HAS
SUSPENDED
FURTHER TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TO THE LAND REFORM AND REDISTRIBUTION
PROGRAM UNTIL
THE GOVERNMENT OF ZIMBABWE RETURNS TO THOSE PRINCIPLES.
* WE ARE FUNDING DOMESTIC AND INTERNATIONAL ELECTION MONITORS TO HELP
INSURE THAT
ZIMBABWEANS CAN EXPRESS THEIR PREFERENCE IN THE PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS
SCHEDULED
FOR JUNE 24-25.

Q: Can you comment on Mugabe's order to end farm invasions and his announcement
of a committee to distribute farmland?

A:

* PRESIDENT MUGABE'S MAY 12 CALL FOR AN END TO VIOLENCE IS AN IMPORTANT FIRST
STEP. THE GOVERNMENT OF ZIMBABWE MUST NOW TAKE ACTION TO RESTORE THE RULE
OF LAW
BY RESPECTING COURT ORDERS AND EVICTING THE OCCUPIERS, ENDING POLITICALLY
MOTIVATED VIOLENCE, AND PROSECUTING PERPETRATORS OF VIOLENCE WHO HAVE
CLAIMED 22
LIVES OVER THE PAST TWO MONTHS.
* WE ARE NOT AWARE OF ANY STATEMENT BY PRESIDENT MUGABE CALLING FOR AN
END TO THE
ILLEGAL FARM OCCUPATIONS.
* MUGABE ALSO ANNOUNCED THE CREATION OF A COMMISSION TO REDISTRIBUTE
FARMLAND.
WE CALL ON THE GOVERNMENT TO RETURN TO THE LEGAL AND TRANSPARENT PROCESS

ESTABLISHED AT THE 1998 LAND CONFERENCE.

CONTEXT

- * 846 commercial farms are currently occupied.
- * Occupiers, led by war vets, are targeting farmers and laborers suspected of supporting opposition MDC party.
- * 22 Zimbabweans, primarily supporters of the opposition Movement for Democratic Change (MDC) have died in the past two months.
- * Mugabe called for end to farm violence 5/12, but it continues, especially in provinces near Harare.
- * The Government of Zimbabwe announced on May 15 that parliamentary elections will be held June 24-25. Electoral rules provide advantages to the ruling ZANU-PF party.
- * ZANU-PF supporters have targeted opposition supporters and broken up opposition rallies and meetings.
- * Mugabe contends Movement for Democratic Change employs violence, but almost all victims are MDC supporters.
- * USG intends to provide \$300,000 to fund international election monitors in Zimbabwe.
- * USAID is providing Congressional notification for this proposal.
- * We will work with NGOs to formulate programs that address the needs in Zimbabwe. NDI and IRI have expressed strong interest in submitting proposals.
- * Nelson Mandela urged Africans to stand up to tyranny in a recent speech in

Johannesburg.

Drafted: AF/S:CGurney
J:Zimbabwe for SecState 000516

Cleared: AF/S:Arender
AF/S:Dbooth
AF/RA:Twooods
P:Barks-Ruggles
DRL:PHiggins
NSC:NDempsey (info)
AF/RA:Lsegasvary
AF/RA:LDiPalma

AF PRESS GUIDANCE
May 17, 2000

DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO

Q: Can you comment on a recent report by World Policy Institute Report that the United States helped build the arsenals of eight of the nine governments involved in the DRC conflict?

A:

* THE UNITED STATES IS NOT PROVIDING ARMS TO ANY OF THE COMBATANTS IN THE WAR IN CONGO.

* THE STATEMENT THAT THE UNITED STATES HELPED BUILD THE ARSENALS OF COUNTRIES INVOLVED IN THE CONFLICT IS AT BEST MISLEADING. WE HAVE NOT PROVIDED LETHAL ASSISTANCE OR SOLD WEAPONS TO ANY COUNTRY IN THE GREAT LAKES REGION SINCE WELL BEFORE THE START OF THE CURRENT CONFLICT.

* IF YOU LOOK AT THE WEAPONS BEING USED BY THE BELLIGERENTS, IT BECOMES READILY APPARENT THE OVERWHELMING MAJORITY OF THESE ARMS ARE NOT OF U.S. ORIGIN.

* AS IS WELL KNOWN, DURING THE COLD WAR, BOTH THE UNITED STATES AND THE SOVIET UNION PROVIDED ECONOMIC AND MILITARY ASSISTANCE TO SEVERAL COUNTRIES ON THE CONTINENT.

* WE WOULD HAVE TO SEE THE ENTIRE REPORT AND STUDY IT TO DETERMINE EXACTLY WHAT THE REPORT CLAIMS WAS DONE WITH THE MILITARY ASSISTANCE RECEIVED BY THE EIGHT COUNTRIES CITED.

* WE DO NOT HAVE A COPY OF THE REPORT, NOR DO WE KNOW PRECISELY WHICH EIGHT COUNTRIES THE REPORT REFERS TO.

CONTEXT: PRESS REPORTS STATE THE WORLD POLICY INSTITUTE HAS ISSUED A REPORT CLAIMING THE U.S. HAS "HELPED BUILD THE ARSENALS" OF EIGHT OUT OF NINE COUNTRIES DIRECTLY INVOLVED IN THE DRC CONFLICT. WE DO NOT HAVE A COPY OF THE REPORT AND CANNOT VERIFY THE CONTEXT OR WHAT EIGHT COUNTRIES IT REFERS TO. THE UNITED STATES IS NOT SELLING ARMS OR PROVIDING LETHAL ASSISTANCE TO ANY OF THE BELLIGERENTS IN THE DRC CONFLICT. THE UNITED STATES HAS NOT PROVIDED ANY LETHAL EQUIPMENT TO ANY OF THE BELLIGERENT NATIONS SINCE WELL BEFORE THE START OF THE CURRENT WAR. WE DID PROVIDE MILITARY ASSISTANCE TO SEVERAL COUNTRIES IN THE REGION DURING THE COLD WAR, AS DID THE SOVIET UNION. IT IS LIKELY THAT MANY OF THE COLD WAR ERA U.S. WEAPONS ARE NO LONGER OPERATIVE. THE OVERWHELMING MAJORITY

OF THE ARMS USED BY THE BELLIGERENTS ARE SOVIET TYPE WEAPONS FROM EASTERN EUROPE,
IRAN, LIBYA OR NORTH KOREA.

Drafted AF/C:HHAND 7-1637

Doc: J: \PRESS GUIDANCE\Congo-Kinshasa\Congo 000517

Cleared:

AF/E:R ZUNIGA-ok

AF/C:C Neary-OK

AF/C: R Meece-ok

PM/RSAT: Gcolvin-ok

S/P:P Byers-ok

AF/RA: MBITTRICK-OK

P:E Barks-Ruggles-info

NSC: Gsmith-INFO

Approved

AF:SERICE

Diamonds Press Guidance

Q: What is the U.S. doing about the conflict diamonds problem?

A: -- WE ARE ACUTELY AWARE OF THE WAYS IN WHICH INSURGENT GROUPS --PARTICULARLY IN SIERRA LEONE, ANGOLA AND THE CONGO -- HAVE USED CONTROL OF DIAMOND-MINING AREAS TO PURCHASE WEAPONS AND FUND CONFLICT.

-- THE DEPARTMENT AND THE ADMINISTRATION HAS BEEN OUT IN FRONT ON THIS ISSUE

FOR
MORE THAN A YEAR. SECRETARY ALBRIGHT HIGHLIGHTED THE CONFLICT DIAMONDS
PROBLEM
IN AN ADDRESS TO THE UN SECURITY COUNCIL LAST SEPTEMBER AND AGAIN WITH HER
G-8
COLLEAGUES AT THE DECEMBER BERLIN MINISTERIAL ON CONFLICT PREVENTION.

-- TOGETHER WITH THE UNITED KINGDOM, THE U.S. LED THE PUSH TO INCLUDE THE
ISSUE
OF "CONFLICT DIAMONDS" ON THE AGENDA FOR THE G-8 MEETING IN OKINAWA.

-- THE PROBLEM OF CONFLICT DIAMONDS IS EXTREMELY COMPLEX AND ANY EFFECTIVE
APPROACH TO DEALING WITH THIS ISSUE WILL NEED TO INVOLVE A PARTNERSHIP OF
LEGITIMATE DIAMOND-PRODUCING STATES, DIAMOND-CONSUMING AND MARKETING
STATES, AND
THE DIAMOND INDUSTRY ITSELF.

-- IT IS ALSO CRITICALLY IMPORTANT THAT ANY EFFORTS MADE TO ADDRESS THE
CONFLICT
DIAMONDS PROBLEM NOT HARM THE STABLE MARKET DEMOCRACIES IN AFRICA --
PARTICULARLY
BOTSWANA, NAMIBIA AND SOUTH AFRICA -- WHO DEPEND HEAVILY ON GEMSTONE
DIAMOND
PRODUCTION.

-- ON MAY 11-12, THE SOUTH AFRICAN GOVERNMENT HOSTED A CONFERENCE ON
CONFLICT
DIAMONDS IN KIMBERLY IN WHICH THE UNITED STATES, AFRICAN DIAMOND
PRODUCERS, THE
UNITED KINGDOM, BELGIUM, DEBEERS, AND OTHER ACTORS CONCERNED WITH THE
DIAMONDS
ISSUE TOOK PART.

-- PARTICIPANTS REACHED AGREEMENT IN PRINCIPLE ON FOUR KEY POINTS:

* THE IMPORTANCE OF ESTABLISHING A GLOBAL CERTIFICATION SCHEME FOR
DIAMONDS.

* THE NEED FOR A FORMAL CODE OF CONDUCT TO GOVERN THE PRACTICES OF THE INDUSTRY,
PRODUCING STATES AND MARKETING CENTERS.

* CREATION OF AN INDEPENDENT MONITORING AGENCY TO SUPERVISE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE
CERTIFICATION SCHEME AND THE CODE OF CONDUCT.

* ESTABLISHING A WORKING GROUP TO MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS ON SPECIFIC MECHANISMS FOR
IMPLEMENTING THESE AGREEMENTS.

-- WE WELCOME THESE IMPORTANT AND FAR-REACHING DECISIONS AND INTEND TO WORK
CLOSELY WITH THE SOUTH AFRICAN GOVERNMENT AND OTHERS TO SUPPORT FULL IMPLEMENTATION OF THE KIMBERLY RECOMMENDATIONS.

DRAFTED:
S/P:MPALMER

CLEARED:

AF:HJETER (OK)
AF/S:DBOOTH (OK)
AF/W:BDALTON (OK)
IO:NBROWN (OK)
E:APENCE (INFO)
EB:SMULLER (OK)
PA:PREEKER (OK)
P:EBARKS-RUGGLES (OK)

EAP PRESS GUIDANCE
MAY 17, 2000

BURMA: CONGRESSIONAL RESOLUTION

Q: --What is your view on the Congressional resolutions on Burma introduced by Senators Moynihan and McConnell and Congressmen Porter and Lantos?

A: -- WE WELCOME THIS BIPARTISAN RESOLUTION AS ANOTHER SIGN OF THE LONGSTANDING MUTUAL INTEREST WE SHARE WITH CONGRESS IN PRESSURING THE MILITARY JUNTA IN BURMA TO:

IMPROVE ITS HUMAN RIGHTS PRACTICES,

BEGIN A MEANINGFUL DIALOGUE WITH THE DEMOCRATIC OPPOSITION AND ETHNIC MINORITIES,

AND INCREASE EFFORTS TO CEASE THE PRODUCTION AND TRAFFICKING OF NARCOTICS.

-- THIS MONTH MARKS THE 10TH ANNIVERSARY OF BURMA'S 1990 ELECTIONS, WHICH THE DEMOCRATIC OPPOSITION, LED BY THE NATIONAL LEAGUE FOR DEMOCRACY (NLD), WON BY AN OVERWHELMING MAJORITY.

(MORE)

-- WE DEEPLY DEPLORE THE FACT THAT BURMA'S MILITARY REGIME REFUSES TO FOLLOW THROUGH ON THE RESULTS OF THOSE FREE AND FAIR ELECTIONS AND HAS THWARTED ALL ATTEMPTS TO CONVENE A PARLIAMENT AND FORM A DEMOCRATIC GOVERNMENT.

-- WE FURTHER REGRET THAT THE REGIME HAS CHOSEN TO COMMEMORATE THE ANNIVERSARY WITH YET ANOTHER WAVE OF MASS ARRESTS OF DEMOCRATIC

OPPOSITION PARTY
MEMBERS.

-- WE CALL ON THE GOVERNMENT OF BURMA TO RELEASE ALL POLITICAL PRISONERS,
INCLUDING MORE THAN FIFTY MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT-ELECT HELD IN DETENTION
FOR OVER
18 MONTHS WITHOUT CHARGE, AND CEASE ITS HARASSMENT AND INTIMIDATION OF
DEMOCRATIC
OPPOSITION PARTY MEMBERS.

*****CONTEXT: On May 16, identical versions of a concurrent
resolution on Burma were introduced in the House and Senate. The resolution
calls upon the Burmese regime to guarantee basic freedoms to its people, accept a
political dialogue with the National League for Democracy (NLD) and other Burmese
political leaders; and to comply with human rights agreements and resolutions
emanating from such bodies as the United Nations General Assembly, the European
Union, and the International Labor Organization. The resolution was announced at
a May 16 event, sponsored by the National Endowment for Democracy, honoring the
NLD and commemorating the 10th anniversary of the 1990 elections in Burma. The
NLD won an overwhelming majority in those free and fair elections, but the
military junta has never honored the results.

O:BCLTV/Qs & As and guidance/Burma resolution 5-17-00
drafted: EAP/BCLTV:WPMurphy (7-0056)

approved: EAP: NSilver, acting
cleared: EAP/BCLTV:SVillarosa ok
EAP/PA:KBailes
P:DSields
DRL/BA:MSchall
EAP/RSP:ERunning
H:JBuczacki

EAP PRESS GUIDANCE

May 17, 2000

UPDATE: JAPAN - REPORTED COMMENTS BY PM MORI

Q: Do you have any update on the comments of PM Mori that Japan "is a divine country with the emperor at its center?" Is he refusing to apologize for his remarks? What about calls for his resignation?

A: -- PRIME MINISTER MORI HAS PUBLICLY STATED "HIS HEARTFELT APOLOGY" FOR HIS REMARKS IN RESPONSE TO QUESTIONING FROM THE JAPANESE PARLIAMENT.

IF ASKED

WE HAVE SEEN THE REPORT THAT SOME OPPOSITION PARTIES ARE CALLING FOR HIS RESIGNATION. THE CHOICE OF JAPAN'S PRIME MINISTER IS A MATTER FOR THE JAPANESE PEOPLE.

*****CONTEXT: There were numerous reports May 16 on Prime Minister Mori's remarks that called Japan "a divine country with the emperor at its center." There has been a political and public uproar over Mori's statement with the opposition calling for his resignation and members of his own LDP worried about the effect on next month's elections. Both the Chinese and South Korean governments lodged formal protests. Mori faced questions in the Upper House of the Diet on May 17 over his remarks. Mori has a history of making controversial public statements. While offering an apology, he has not retracted his remarks.

Drafted:MKeller 7-4741 05/17/2000

P:J\Press\MoriGaffe

Cleared: EAP:SRoth
EAP:RDeming (ok)
EAP/J:RWhite (ok)

P:DSields (ok)
D:TCynkin (ok)
S/P:MPalmer (ok)

EUR GUIDANCE
SERBIA (FRY)
May 17, 2000

SERBIA: INDEPENDENT STUDIO B CLOSED BY REGIME

Q: WHAT DO YOU EXPECT THE PUBLIC REACTION TO BE TO THE SERBIAN GOVERNMENT'S
CRACKDOWN ON THE MEDIA?

* WE UNDERSTAND THAT THE SERBIAN OPPOSITION MET TODAY TO DISCUSS A
RESPONSE.
THEY HAVE ASKED THE CITIZENS OF SERBIA TO GATHER IN FRONT OF THE CITY
ASSEMBLY IN
BELGRADE TO PROTEST THE CRACKDOWN ON THE INDEPENDENT MEDIA UNTIL LIVE
BROADCASTS
OF STUDIO B, INDEX, AND B292 RESUME.

* THEY HAVE ALSO CALLED FOR DEMOCRATICALLY CONTROLLED MUNICIPALITIES TO
HOLD
SPECIAL ASSEMBLIES AND ORGANIZES MARCHES TOMORROW IN RESPONSE TO THE
CRACKDOWN.

* THEY HAVE FURTHER CALLED ON CITIZENS TO ENGAGE IN ACTS OF CIVIL
DISOBEDIENCE,
STREET MARCHES, WORK STOPPAGES TO EXPRESS THEIR FRUSTRATION.

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Background: Studio B, the most important opposition television outlet in Serbia, was closed down by police last night. At the same time, B2-92 radio and another radio station were closed. This closure comes after a series of regime actions against Studio B in recent months. In March Studio B's transmitter and other equipment were destroyed and two Studio B employees were hurt. In January, a transmitter was sabotaged, halving the number of potential viewers, and frequencies have been jammed. The station has also been sued for libel by authorities several times under Serbia's restrictive information law and has been fined for "illegally" re-broadcasting programs of Radio B292.

EUR/PPA: P.Frayne/TSwitzer

EUR/SCE: T.Countryman

S/SA:

S: OBrien

Drafted: EUR/SCE: AFaro

U:FARO/Press Q&A's/ 5-17 Studio B closed

Cleared: EUR:JSwigert

EUR PRESS GUIDANCE

SLOVAKIA

MAY 17, 2000

SLOVAK ACCESSION TO THE OECD

Q: Is the Financial Times correct that the U.S. is blocking Slovakia's entry to the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD)?

* NO, THAT'S NOT CORRECT. THE U.S. HAS BEEN A STRONG SUPPORTER OF SLOVAKIA'S ACCESSION TO THE ORGANIZATION FOR ECONOMIC COOPERATION AND DEVELOPMENT (OECD).

* WE ARE WORKING TO ENSURE THAT A FULLY PREPARED SLOVAKIA JOINS THE OECD.

* OECD MEMBER COUNTRIES HAVE NOT COME TO AGREEMENT ON THE TIMING OF SLOVAKIA'S

ACCESSION.

Q: WHAT IS THE U.S. POSITION ON THE TIMING OF SLOVAKIA'S OECD MEMBERSHIP?

* THE TIMING WILL BE DETERMINED THROUGH A PROCESS OF CONSULTATION AMONG THE OECD MEMBERSHIP AND THE GOVERNMENT OF SLOVAKIA.

* WE WERE THE FIRST OECD COUNTRY TO CALL FOR SLOVAKIA'S EVENTUAL ENTRY INTO THE ORGANIZATION, AND WE WILL CONTINUE TO SUPPORT THEIR ASPIRATIONS.

* THE UNITED STATES RECOGNIZES AND APPLAUDS THE SIGNIFICANT PROGRESS ON ECONOMIC REFORM ACHIEVED BY THE DZURINDA GOVERNMENT.

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CONTEXT: The OECD is nearing a decision on Slovak accession. Slovakia has passed the technical reviews and awaits a decision by the OECD Council (ambassadors of member countries). The USG supports Slovak accession, but has doubts about whether it is appropriate by the Slovak-desired June time frame. We have concerns about the readiness of the Slovak economy for accession. We have demarched other OECD members to gauge support for seeking further progress on key reforms with the prospect of a Council review of accession prior to the end of the year. Our demarches have upset the Slovaks, who perceive a reversal of U.S. support and pressure to delay on other members.

U:\ChrittonAG\PG Slovakia OECD.doc

Drafted: USOECD:Mkelly-EUR/NCE: A Chritton

Cleared: EUR/NCE: J Rabens

EUR/NCE: C Dunnett

PPA: P Frayne

Treasury:CAtkinson

EUR/ERA: J Fennerty

EB:JMullinax

EUR GUIDANCE
GERMANY
MAY 11,2000

GERMANY: DRAFT SLAVE LABOR AGREEMENT

Q: What are the facts on the May 12 draft agreement for slave labor compensation?

* IT WOULD BE PREMATURE TO DISCUSS THE DETAILS OF THE DRAFT AGREEMENT, AS IT IS STILL UNDER DISCUSSION AMONG THE NEGOTIATING PARTIES AND HAS NOT BEEN FINALIZED.

Q: When will discussions continue?

* A MEETING BETWEEN THE U.S. AND GERMAN SIDES IS SCHEDULED FOR MAY 22 IN WASHINGTON TO DISCUSS THE FEW REMAINING ISSUES.

Q: What issues specifically remain to be resolved?

* TECHNICAL ISSUES SUCH AS THE MECHANISM BY WHICH GERMAN FIRMS CAN BE PROTECTED FROM FURTHER LITIGATION IN U.S. COURTS.

DRAFT: EUR/OHI: JLMANNING; X7-8287
CLEAR: EUR/OHI: JBECKER ok
L/CID: RBETTAUER
EUR/AGS: JWARLICK
EUR/PPA: SELBOW

EUR PRESS GUIDANCE
NORTHERN IRELAND
May 17, 2000

Northern Ireland Peace Process

Q: What is your reaction to the British Government's publication yesterday of implementing legislation for the Patten Report? Since both sides have criticized the bill, doesn't this signal the peace process is again in crisis?

* WE NOTE THAT LEGISLATION TO IMPLEMENT THE PATTEN REPORT HAS BEEN INTRODUCED IN

THE BRITISH PARLIAMENT AND WILL BE DEBATED.

* WE STRONGLY SUPPORT GOOD FRIDAY AGREEMENT'S GOAL OF ESTABLISHING A POLICE FORCE

THAT ENJOYS THE SUPPORT OF THE COMMUNITY AS A WHOLE.

* RECENT DEVELOPMENTS OFFER UNPRECEDENTED OPPORTUNITY TO RESTORE INSTITUTIONS

AND RENEW MOMENTUM TOWARD FULL IMPLEMENTATION OF THE AGREEMENT.

* STRONGLY URGE THE PARTIES NOT TO SQUANDER THIS OPPORTUNITY.

(Background: On May 5, the British and Irish Prime Ministers announced a plan that would enable reinstatement of the suspended Northern Ireland institutions on May 22, and described the steps needed to achieve full implementation of the Good Friday Agreement by June 2001. On May 6, the IRA responded positively to the proposal and, in an unprecedented move, said it would put its weapons "completely and verifiably beyond use." The Ulster Unionist Party (UUP) Council is scheduled to meet May 20 to decide whether to accept the two governments' plan and return to government with Sinn Fein. Council acceptance is not assured due to controversy surrounding the proposed name change of the Royal Ulster Constabulary (RUC) as called for under the Patten Commission Report on Policing Reform. Implementing legislation for the Patten Report, introduced at Westminster May 15, defers the decision on the new title of the police service

until next year -- thus angering both unionists and nationalists and calling into question whether the UUP will hold its Council meeting on Saturday. A negative vote at the Council meeting could signal the end of the Good Friday Agreement.)

NORTHERN IRELAND PRESS GUIDANCE 05/17/2000

DRAFTED: EUR/UBI:PNELSON-DOUVELIS 76585

CLEARED: EUR/UBI:ABORG
NSC:RNORLAND OK
EUR/PPA:SELBOW

NEA Press Guidance
Wednesday, May 17, 2000

LEBANON: SHEBAA FARMS

Q: SYRIA HAS NOW PUBLICLY ENDORSED LEBANON'S POSITION ON THE DISPUTE OVER THE SHEBAA FARMS AND ISRAEL'S WITHDRAWAL FROM LEBANON? WHAT'S YOUR POSITION ON THIS ISSUE? IS LEBANON'S CLAIM VALID, OR DO YOU SEE THIS AS A PRETEXT FOR LEBANON AND SYRIA TO ATTACK ISRAEL AFTER A WITHDRAWAL?

-- WE'VE SEEN THESE REPORTS.

-- UNSCR 425 CALLS FOR THE WITHDRAWAL OF ISRAELI FORCES FROM LEBANESE TERRITORY AND REQUESTS THE SECRETARY GENERAL TO REPORT ON ITS IMPLEMENTATION.

-- THE LINE OF WITHDRAWAL WILL BE DETERMINED BY THE UN FOR THE PURPOSE OF VERIFYING THE WITHDRAWAL OF ISRAELI FORCES.

-- WE EXPECT THE UN WILL ADDRESS THIS ISSUE IN ITS
REPORT.

NEA PRESS GUIDANCE

WEDNESDAY, MAY 17, 2000

PEACE PROCESS: STOCKHOLM TALKS

Q: NOW THAT ISRAEL'S MINISTER FOR INTERNAL SECURITY SHLOMO BEN AMI HAS
CONFIRMED THE TALKS WITH THE PALESTINIANS IN STOCKHOLM, CAN YOU TELL US
MORE
ABOUT THEM? IS IT TRUE THAT THEY'VE BEGUN TO DRAFT A FRAMEWORK AGREEMENT?
WILL
THE TALKS BE CONTINUING IN STOCKHOLM, OR ARE THEY GOING TO MOVE ELSEWHERE?

-- I'VE GOT NOTHING MORE TO SAY ON THIS SUBJECT.

-- PALESTINIANS AND ISRAELIS ARE TALKING WITH EACH OTHER IN DIFFERENT WAYS
AND AT
DIFFERENT LEVELS. I'M SIMPLY NOT GOING TO GET INTO WHO'S DOING WHAT AND
WHERE
AND WHEN.

-- BOTH OF THE PARTIES ARE FOCUSED ON TRYING TO REACH AGREEMENT ON THE
ISSUES OF
PERMANENT STATUS. THEY ARE ENGAGED IN SERIOUS NEGOTIATIONS. THERE IS A
STRONG
DETERMINATION TO MOVE AHEAD AND REACH AN AGREEMENT THAT ENDS THE
CONFLICT.

Q: WAS THE U.S. INVOLVED IN THE TALKS AT STOCKHOLM?

-- OVER THE LAST SEVERAL YEARS, WE'VE BEEN INVOLVED IN HELPING THE ISRAELIS
AND

PALESTINIANS WORK THROUGH A VARIETY OF INTERIM AND PERMANENT STATUS ISSUES, AND

WE'RE GOING TO CONTINUE TO PLAY THAT ROLE.

Q: WHY THE RETICENCE TO TALK ABOUT THIS? IT'S BEEN CONFIRMED BY THE PARTIES, SO WHY WON'T YOU ANSWER OUR QUESTIONS?

-- THE PARTIES ARE FOCUSING ON A SERIOUS EFFORT TO OVERCOME GAPS AND REACH AGREEMENT. THAT'S THE IMPORTANT POINT AND WHERE THE FOCUS SHOULD BE, NOT ON THE WHO, WHAT, WHERE AND WHEN.

-- (IF PRESSED) WE DON'T THINK THAT IT'S IN THE INTERESTS OF THE NEGOTIATIONS TO GET INTO A PUBLIC DISCUSSION OF THESE ISSUES.

Q: WHAT ABOUT DENNIS'S TRAVEL? WHAT ARE HIS PLANS? IS HE STILL IN THE REGION? WILL HE BE GOING TO STOCKHOLM?

-- AMBASSADOR ROSS AND DEPUTY SPECIAL MIDDLE EAST COORDINATOR AARON MILLER WILL BE RETURNING TO WASHINGTON THIS EVENING.

NEA PRESS GUIDANCE
WEDNESDAY, MAY 17, 2000

ISRAEL/PALESTINIAN AUTHORITY: ARREST OF MOHAMED DEIF

Q: ANY COMMENT ON THE ARREST OF MOHAMED DEIF? CAN YOU CONFIRM THAT THE PALESTINIANS HAVE HIM? WILL WE ASK THAT HE BE EXTRADITED?

-- THE PALESTINIANS HAVE TOLD US THAT THEY HAVE APPREHENDED MOHAMED DEIF.

-- MOHAMED DEIF HAS BEEN IMPLICATED IN NUMEROUS TERRORIST ATTACKS, INCLUDING THOSE THAT HAVE RESULTED IN THE DEATHS OF AMERICAN CITIZENS.

-- THE U.S. PLACES THE HIGHEST PRIORITY ON SEEING THAT THE KILLERS OF AMERICANS

ARE BROUGHT TO JUSTICE, AND WE HAVE STRESSED THIS POINT TO THE PALESTINIANS.

-- WE CONSIDER DEIF'S ARREST AN IMPORTANT AND POSTIVE STEP BY THE PALESTINIANS.

Q: WILL YOU PUSH FOR THE EXTRADITION OF DEIF TO THE U.S. OR FOR HIS TRANSFER TO ISRAEL?

-- WE HAVE STRESSED TO THE PALESTINIANS THE IMPORTANCE WE ATTACH TO SEEING DEIF BROUGHT TO JUSTICE.

-- THIS IS A PENDING LAW ENFORCEMENT MATTER, AND I CAN'T COMMENT FURTHER.

NEA Press Guidance
Wednesday, May 17, 2000

EGYPT: STATUS OF EGYPT AIR 990 INVESTIGATION

Q: WHAT IS THE STATUS OF THE EGYPT AIR 990 INVESTIGATION? ARE THE EGYPTIANS BLOCKING THE RELEASE OF A REPORT BECAUSE THEY DON'T LIKE THE FINDINGS?

-- U.S. AND EGYPTIAN INVESTIGATORS CONTINUE TO COOPERATE IN AN EFFORT TO DETERMINE THE CAUSE OF THE EGYPT AIR 990 CRASH.

-- THIS INVESTIGATION IS ONGOING. NO FINAL CONCLUSIONS HAVE BEEN REACHED.

Q: BUT WHEN ARE THEY GOING TO FINISH; WHEN ARE THEY GOING TO PRODUCE SOME RESULTS?

-- FOR FURTHER INFORMATION ABOUT THE STATUS OF THE INVESTIGATION, I WOULD REFER YOU TO THE NATIONAL TRAFFIC SAFETY BOARD (NTSB).

Q: WHY DID THE FEDERAL AVIATION AUTHORITY RELEASE AIR TRAFFIC CONTROL TRANSCRIPTS NOW?

-- I WOULD REFER YOU TO THE FEDERAL AVIATION AUTHORITY (FAA) FOR A FULL EXPLANATION OF THE PROCESS THAT LED TO THE RELEASE OF THE TRANSCRIPTS.

CONTEXT: THE EGYPT AIR 990 INVESTIGATION AGAIN SURFACED IN NATIONAL NEWS FOLLOWING THE FAA'S (FEDERAL AVIATION AUTHORITY) RELEASE YESTERDAY OF 1 HOUR AND 20 MINUTES OF AIR TRAFFIC CONTROL (ATC) TRANSCRIPTS RELATED TO THE EA990 CRASH.

MEDIA COVERAGE CONTINUES TO RAISE QUESTIONS REGARDING THE SLOW PACE OF THE INVESTIGATION AND EGYPT'S ALLEGED EFFORTS TO STAVE OFF A FINAL CONCLUSION WHICH SUPPORTS THE THEORY THAT AN EGYPT AIR PILOT MAY HAVE DOWNED THE PLANE INTENTIONALLY.

DRAFTED: NEA/P:MSCHMIDT
CLEARED: NEA/P:AERELI
NEA/ENA:RSCHLICHER
NEA/ENA:DSCOTT

EB Press Guidance
May 17, 2000

WORLD BANK LOANS TO IRAN

Q: What can you tell us about reports that the U.S. will oppose World Bank loans to Iran?

A: IT REMAINS U.S. POLICY TO OPPOSE MULTILATERAL LENDING TO IRAN, INCLUDING BY THE WORLD BANK.

CONGRESS HAS DIRECTED THAT THE U.S. OPPOSE MULTILATERAL LENDING TO COUNTRIES DESIGNATED BY THE SECRETARY OF STATE AS STATE SPONSORS OF TERRORISM. IRAN HAS BEEN SO DESIGNATED.

Q: Has Secretary Albright been calling foreign ministers to rally opposition to the loans?

A: SECRETARY ALBRIGHT HAS BEEN IN CONTACT WITH HER G-7 COUNTERPARTS ON THIS ISSUE.

Background: The World Bank Executive Board is scheduled to consider two loans totaling about \$230 million -- one to upgrade Tehran's sewer system, and one for a rural health project -- on May 18. World Bank lending to Iran has been on hold since 1993, largely at U.S. behest.

The USG urged delay of these loans because of the spy trial and the hard-line crackdown, suggesting that consideration wait until there was a satisfactory outcome to the Jewish spy trial and the newly-elected Majles had convened -- i.e., until at least May 27.

The Secretary personally engaged her G-7 counterparts on this issue. France and Canada joined us in seeking a postponement from the originally-scheduled date of May 2.

EB Guidance, p. 2 World Bank Loans to Iran 05/17/2000

A number of U.S. laws would direct the USG to oppose multilateral lending to Iran once a loan comes to a vote.

In principle, the Executive Branch considers such direction from Congress to be beyond Congressional authority.

As a matter of practice, however, this Administration, like its predecessors, has

followed Congressional prescriptions for directed voting in international financial institutions.

Drafted: EB/IFD/ODF: JPReid
05/17/2000 SEODF X7-9426
Clear: NEA/NGA: JZimmerman
P: JStevens
OUSED/WB:RRitterhoff
Treasury/IDB: BGeiser
L/EB: JBrooks

WHA PRESS GUIDANCE
Wednesday, May 17, 2000

Cuba: Number of Political Prisoners

Question: Can you provide an estimate of the number of political prisoners in Cuba?

Answer:

-- THE CUBAN GOVERNMENT DOES NOT PUBLISH STATISTICS ON PERSONS BEING HELD IN ITS PRISONS ON POLITICAL CHARGES, AND OTHER ESTIMATES VARY.

-- A LEADING ON-ISLAND DISSIDENT WHO TRACKS THE NUMBER OF POLITICAL PRISONERS ESTIMATES THAT THERE ARE ABOUT 350.

DRAFTED: WHA/CCA:LWHITLOCK 05/17/2000 X7-9274

SEARACCA/2000 Press Guidance/: May 17 - Number of Political Prisoners

Cleared: WHA/CCA:CSapiro ()
WHA/PA: AKoss ()
PA: LRodriguez ()
P: LArreaga ()
C: SSnyder ()
DRL: PHiggins ()

WHA PRESS GUIDANCE
May 17, 2000

Colombia: FARC Bomb Kills Woman

Q. DO WE HAVE ANY COMMENT/REACTION TO THE KILLING OF A COLOMBIAN WOMAN
BY FARC
MEMBERS DEMANDING MONEY WHO PLACED AN EXPLOSIVE AROUND HER NECK?

WE ABSOLUTELY CONDEMN THIS OUTRAGEOUS ACT OF BARBARISM. WE UNDERSTAND
THAT
MEMBERS OF THE REVOLUTIONARY ARMED FORCES OF COLOMBIA (FARC) ARE
RESPONSIBLE FOR
THIS HEINOUS ATTACK ON AN INNOCENT CIVILIAN IN THEIR GREED FOR MONEY TO
FINANCE
THEIR OPERATIONS. WE NOTE THAT ONCE MORE INNOCENT CIVILIAN CASUALTIES HAVE
RESULTED FROM THESE IRRESPONSIBLE, BRUTAL AND SENSELESS ACTIONS. WE CALL
FOR AN
IMMEDIATE END TO KIDNAPPINGS, EXTORTION AND OTHER TERRORIST ATTACKS
AGAINST THE
COLOMBIAN PEOPLE.

IF ASKED: WHAT IS YOUR REACTION TO PRESIDENT PASTRANA CALLING OFF THE NEXT
ROUND
OF PEACE TALKS.

WE UNDERSTAND THAT PRESIDENT PASTRANA HAS CALLED OFF A MEETING IN THE DESPEJE THAT WAS SET FOR THE END OF MAY AS A RESULT OF THIS ACT BY THE FARC. WE FULLY SUPPORT HIS COURAGEOUS STAND TO INDICATE TO THE FARC THAT IF THEY ARE SERIOUS ABOUT REACHING A PEACEFUL SOLUTION THE COLOMBIAN CONFLICT, THESE BARBARIC ACTS MUST CEASE.

CONTEXT: Press reports indicate members of the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC) killed a woman by rigging a bomb around her neck in order to extort money from her. President Andres Pastrana reportedly suspended a meeting between the FARC, GOC and the international community in the despeje planned for the end of May. The planned session was on alternative development to which Ambassadors and delegates from 21 countries, had been invited.

SEARARAND/ANDCO00/PRESSGUIDANCE/FARC BOMB KILLS WOMAN 5.17.00
Drafted:WHA/AND:CHoey

Cleared:WHA/AND:Pchicola ok

WHA/PD: AKoss

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC: PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION

Q: What can you tell us about yesterday's presidential election in the Dominican Republic?

A: -- REGARD YESTERDAY'S ELECTION AS A STRONG AFFIRMATION OF DEMOCRACY IN THE CARIBBEAN.

-- VOTES ARE STILL BEING COUNTED, AND IT IS NOT YET CLEAR WHETHER A RUN-OFF ELECTION NEXT MONTH WILL BE NECESSARY OR WHICH OF THE THREE MAJOR PARTIES WOULD COMPETE IN A RUN-OFF.

-- DOMINICAN PRESIDENT LEONEL FERNANDEZ HAS PRAISED THE CENTRAL ELECTION BOARD ON A SUCCESSFUL JOB.

-- OUR AMBASSADOR, OBSERVERS FROM U.S. NON GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS, AND OTHERS FROM THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY OBSERVED THE BALLOTING FIRST-HAND.

-- WHILE THERE WERE SCATTERED REPORTS OF IRREGULARITIES, THESE DO NOT APPEAR TO HAVE MATERIALLY AFFECTED THE ELECTION RESULTS. ALTHOUGH ONE VOTER WAS KILLED YESTERDAY IN A POLITICAL DISPUTE AND A POLICE OFFICER WOUNDED, THIS CAMPAIGN WAS OVERALL FREE OF VIOLENCE IN COMPARISON WITH RECENT DOMINICAN ELECTIONS

BACKGROUND

Our Ambassador in Santo Domingo, Chuck Manatt (a former Democratic National Committee chairman and thus someone who knows elections) believes this was the freest, fairest and most transparent election in Dominican history. With over ninety per cent of the ballots counted, it is still not clear whether the candidate of the Dominican Revolutionary Party, Hipolito Mejia, will achieve the fifty per cent of the votes plus one necessary to avoid a run-off election (which would be held on June 30.) The race for second place (and thus a spot in a run-off) between Fernandez's Dominican Liberation Party and the Social Christian Reform Party of 93-year-old former president Joaquin Balaguer is neck and neck at the post. Rumors are rife in Santo Domingo: that Mejia has edged over 50 per cent; that Balaguer will decline to participate in a run-off, throwing his support to Mejia (although no one knows what the wily Balaguer will do until he does it.) Despite the paucity of election violence thus far (five people died during the 1998 congressional elections), all bets would be off in a run-off

campaign. We are planning to mount another election observer effort if there is a run-off.

Drafted: WHA/CAR: RWindsor
ELECTION Q&A 05/17/00 x74728

Clearances: WHA: WRBrownfield
WHA/CAR: MEBarnes
WHA/PDA: Akoss
DRL: PHiggins

INL Press Guidance
5/17/00

ARGENTINA: SENIOR OFFICIALS INVOLVED IN DRUG TRAFFICKING?

Q - Ex-DEA agent Abel Reynoso has said that senior officials of former President Carlos S. Menem's government were "deeply involved" in drug trafficking. Is this true?

A - THE UNITED STATES AND THE GOVERNMENT OF ARGENTINA SHARE A COMMON BELIEF IN THE IMPORTANCE OF MEASURES TO COMBAT NARCOTICS TRAFFICKING IN ARGENTINA.

WE HAVE NO INFORMATION THAT WOULD INDICATE THE INVOLVEMENT OF ARGENTINE GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS IN DRUG TRAFFICKING. BOTH THE MENEM AND DE LA RUA ADMINISTRATIONS HAVE BEEN STRONG BILATERAL PARTNERS IN COUNTERING THE DRUG THREAT TO THE REGION.

AS PART OF THIS ONGOING DIALOGUE, LORENZO JUAN CORTESE, PRESIDENT DE LA RUA'S CHIEF COUNTERNARCOTICS COORDINATOR, WAS RECENTLY HERE TO DISCUSS

ENHANCEMENTS TO
OUR JOINT COUNTERNARCOTICS EFFORTS.

Drafted:INL/LP:Amatano

Cleared:INL:WChamberlin OK
INL/LP:RClore OK
WHA/BSC:JIrwin OK

WHA PRESS GUIDANCE
MAY 17, 2000

HAITI: RICE CORPORATION OF HAITI (RCH) DISPUTE

Question: Please provide an update on the status of Senator Helm's blocking of funding for Haiti resulting from the rice import issue.

Answer:

* The Congressional holds remain in place. The Government of Haiti is still working with the U.S. operators of RCH to finalize a payment schedule for the Customs fine for the January rice shipment.

* The U.S. Government has insisted that all Americans involved in this case be accorded due process of law. We have used the good offices of our Embassy and other direct contacts with the Government of Haiti, both in Washington and in Port au Prince, to press for a rapid resolution to this case. We have urged the Haitian authorities to resolve these matters on the basis of credible evidence and in a manner that conforms to the principles of due process and the rule of law. We have no indication that their actions to date are not in conformance with Haitian law. We continue to actively encourage all parties to reach a settlement that is fair and consistent with Haitian and U.S. law.

* THE CONGRESSIONAL HOLDS PUT IN PLACE ON U.S. ASSISTANCE TO HAITI AS A RESULT OF

THIS ISSUE ARE SERIOUSLY IMPINGING ON OUR ABILITY TO CONDUCT A VARIETY OF PROJECTS IN SECTORS SUCH AS AGRICULTURE, THE ENVIRONMENT, EDUCATION, AND MICROENTERPRISE.

WHA PRESS GUIDANCE
MAY 17, 2000

HAITI: RICE CORPORATION OF HAITI (RCH) DISPUTE

Background: Claiming that the Haitian government has seized U.S. assets, Senator Helms has placed holds on U.S. aid affecting ESF-funded ongoing development projects in agriculture and other areas of economic recovery. The holds do not affect food aid under PL-480 and related programs.

The Rice Corporation of Haiti (RCH) -- a Haitian company with majority U.S. ownership -- was charged by Haitian Customs with fraud concerning a shipment of rice that arrived in Haiti on January 31. RCH admitted to Haitian authorities and to U.S. Embassy personnel that documentary errors did occur, but denied the charge of fraud or criminal intent. RCH negotiated a payment schedule with the Haitian Government for the penalties, but to date has made only partial payment and is trying to renegotiate the pay out period. The two American citizens involved, Douglas Murphy and Larry Theriot, departed Haiti because of concerns for their personal safety. The U.S. Mission assisted their departure. The mill has been allowed to reopen. A percentage of the receipts from the sale of the processed rice are being applied to pay RCH's fine. Recently new charges have surfaced that RCH has been systematically underinvoicing rice shipments for some time.

We have urged the Haitian authorities to resolve the matter on the basis of credible evidence and in a manner that conforms to the principles of due process and the rule of law. We have no indication that their actions to date are not in conformance with Haitian law. We continue to actively encourage all parties to reach a settlement that is fair and consistent with Haitian and U.S. law.

Ownership of RCH remains in dispute. American Rice Inc. (ARI), previously described by RCH as its parent corporation, was wrested from Douglas Murphy's control following acrimonious bankruptcy proceedings in 1998 in Texas. ARI has filed suit in the United States to reclaim RCH assets and the case is due to be heard in Texas in late May. ARI has also filed an action in Port-au-Prince charging fraudulent operation of RCH, which resulted in arrest warrants being

issued for Theriot and Murphy.

Haiti Press Guidance

SEARAHWG.051700 HELMS RICE HOLD.DOC

DRAFTED: WHA/HWG:MLGARRISON OK

CLEARED: WHA/SHC:DSTEINBERG OK

L/WHA:PDIROSA SUBS

WHA/PA:AKOSS SUBS

EB/OIA:CLANDBERG SUBS

L/CID:PCHABORA SUBS

WHA PRESS GUIDANCE

MAY 17, 2000

GUATEMALA: INS DALLAS TEMPORARILY DETAINS NOBEL LAUREATE RIGOBERTA MENCHU

Qs & As

Q. Any reaction to Rigoberta Menchu's complaint about her temporary detention by Dallas INS on May 16?

A. INS MATTER, MUST REFER YOU TO INS FOR COMMENT.

Q. Has the government of Guatemala complained about Menchu's treatment by INS?

A. NO, GOVERNMENT HAS NOT CONTACTED US ON THIS MATTER.

CONTEXT: INS Dallas temporarily detained Guatemalan Nobel Peace Laureate Rigoberta Menchu and her assistant Claudia Samayoa on May 16 during their transit from Mexico en route to Washington DC. Menchu was traveling to Washington to testify in a human rights case on May 17. During INS primary inspection, Menchu refused to answer questions about why her ticket had been purchased in the U.S. and about the purpose of her travel to Washington. She was then ordered to secondary inspection, where her assistant volunteered information about the

ticket and purpose of travel. Menchu and her assistant were then allowed to proceed with their onward travel. Altogether, they spent approximately 20 minutes in secondary inspection. Menchu will hold a press conference after she testifies. During that conference, we expect she will criticize INS for the temporary detention and demand a written explanation of the incident from the U.S. Embassy in Guatemala City.

Approved: WHA: SWOOD
Drafted: WHA/CEN:SAHUBLER, 005/16/2000
Searacen/searaelg/pg - MENCHU DETAINED BY INS, 5-16-00
Cleared: WHA/CEN: JKEANE/CWEBSTER
DRL: RWARD
WHA/PA:AKOSS

WHA PRESS GUIDANCE
MAY 17, 2000

US-MEXICO BINANTIONAL COMMISSION MEETING

Q. What can you tell us about tomorrow's Binational Commission meeting?

A. -- THIS IS 17TH ANNUAL MEETING. WILL BE HOSTED BY THE SECRETARY.
-- MEETINGS ALTERNATE BETWEEN WASHINGTON AND MEXICO CITY
-- IN ADDITION TO OPENING AND CLOSING PLENARIES THERE WILL BE 15 WORKING GROUPS
ON TOPICS SUCH AS BORDER ISSUES (SEE SEPARATE GUIDANCE ON ALIEN HUNTING),
EDUCATION ENVIRONMENT, BUSINESS, AND CONSULAR AFFAIRS. WORKING GROUPS
OFTEN
CHAIRLED AT THE CABINET LEVEL
-- DESIGNED TO MEET ON THE FULL RANGE OF ISSUES IN THE BILATERAL RELATIONSHIP.
-- ALSO OCCASION FOR A BILATERAL MEETING BETWEEN THE SECRETARY AND MEXICAN
FOREIGN SECRETARY GREEN.
-- MEDIA ADVISORY ISSUED THIS MORNING.

Draft: WHA/PDA: AKoss
Clear: WHA/MEX: KWhitaker (subs)
WHA/MEX: RHughes (subs)

WHA Press Guidance
May 17, 2000

MEXICO: BORDER VIGILANTISM

Q: Any reaction to reports that Mexican Foreign Secretary Green will make "alien hunting" by Arizona vigilantes the main topic in the May 18 Binational Commission? What about to Green's May 16 claim that a UN special envoy will visit the border to look into reports that U.S. officials and private citizens are abusing immigrants?

A: ("ALIEN HUNTING" AT Binational Commission:)

-- AWARE OF MEXICAN CONCERNS; HAVE DISCUSSED WITH GOVERNMENT.

-- ARIZONA RANCHERS HAVE DETAINED MIGRANTS ON THEIR PROPERTY. ALLEGATIONS OF

"HUNTING" ARE NOT SUBSTANTIATED.

-- ANY VIOLENCE AGAINST MIGRANTS HORRIFYING. REAL CULPRITS: ALIEN SMUGGLERS WHO PREY ON INTENDING ILLEGAL MIGRANTS, SUBJECT THEM TO DANGER.

-- AT BNC, WILL REACH OUT TO MEXICO TO HELP US IDENTIFY THESE CRIMINALS TO ADDRESS THIS PROBLEM.

-- U.S. ACTIONS TAKEN SO FAR:

BORDER PATROL HAS TOLD RANCHERS THAT THEIR ACTIONS CAUSE DEEP CONCERN AND ARE

INADVISABLE BECAUSE THEY PLACE THE RANCHERS AT RISK OF PERSONAL DANGER, CRIMINAL

PROSECUTION, OR CIVIL SUIT.

BORDER PATROL BRINGING ADDITIONAL RESOURCES TO BEAR (MORE PERSONNEL, FENCING,

LIGHTING, VEHICLES) IN THIS PART OF THE BORDER.

-- WE EXPLICITLY DISCOURAGE RANCHERS' ACTIONS, AS DOES THE BORDER PATROL,

WHICH
HAS RESPONSIBILITY FOR CONTROLLING BORDERS. HOWEVER, AREA INUNDATED BY
ILLEGAL
MIGRANTS: 450,000 ARRESTS IN TUCSON DISTRICT IN FY 1999 ALONE.

(UN INVOLVEMENT:)
-- U.S. AND MEXICO HAVE WORKED COOPERATIVELY ON A WIDE RANGE OF BORDER
ISSUES
OVER THE COURSE OF MANY YEARS. MANY COLLABORATIVE ORGANIZATIONS EXIST,
INCLUDING
THOSE AIMED AT ADDRESSING "BORDER VIOLENCE."
-- DO NOT SEE NEED FOR UN INVOLVEMENT IN THIS BILATERAL ISSUE.

WHA Press Guidance
May 8, 2000
(Mexico: "Alien Hunting," UN Involvement on Border)

Background: Massive alien smuggling in the southwest has prompted a small number of Arizona ranchers to detain migrants caught on their property and hand them over to the U.S. Border Patrol. Official statistics confirm the ranchers' complaints -- over 450,000 migrants were apprehended by the Border Patrol in the Tucson sector alone in FY 1999. Although no laws apparently have been violated by the ranchers, Mexico's loud public condemnation of what Green called "Mexican hunting," and her threat to take this to the UN or to court, have unhelpfully raised the temperature in the matter. Arizona Governor Hull and the Border Patrol are attempting to defuse the situation, but Mexico's public posturing is undercutting their efforts. At the BNC, we intend to press Mexico to join us in an effort to identify and prosecute alien smugglers, who are responsible for subjecting the migrants to risks. In addition, a renewed bilateral effort against migrant smuggling in the context of the Border Safety initiative could help address the substance and symbolism of this problem.

Drafted: WHA/MEX - KMWhitaker

SEARAMEX/press/pg alien hunting may 00

Cleared: WHA/MEX - DRandolph
WHA - Lgutierrez

IO Press Guidance
May 17, 2000

Ambassador Holbrooke's Call for
UN Peacekeeping Overhaul

Q: Other than changes in the rates member states are assessed for peacekeeping operations, what specific changes does the U.S. want in UN peacekeeping?

* A: AMBASSADOR HOLBROOKE MADE CLEAR OUR VIEW THAT THE UN DEPARTMENT OF PEACEKEEPING OPERATIONS (DPKO) IS UNDERSTAFFED TO MANAGE CURRENT PEACEKEEPING COMMITMENTS.

* THE FIRST STEP IS TO REVIEW THE DEPARTMENT OF PEACEKEEPING'S MANNING AND GET THAT DEPARTMENT STAFFED AT LEVELS AND IN A WAY WHICH MAKE SENSE.

* SECOND, THE UN NEEDS A MODERNIZED ROSTER SYSTEM THAT SERVES AS A DATABASE OF RAPIDLY-DEPLOYABLE MILITARY FORCES, IN ADDITION TO CIVILIAN POLICE AND ADMINISTRATORS.

* THIRD, WE WANT THE UN TO STREAMLINE LOGISTICS AND PROCUREMENT PROCESSES SO RESOURCES CAN BE SENT TO THE FIELD MORE QUICKLY.

* WE BELIEVE THAT THESE ARE CONCRETE STEPS THAT CAN AND MUST BE TAKEN NOW TO ENSURE THAT THE UN CAN MEET PEACEKEEPING DEMANDS.

* WE ARE MAKING OUR VIEWS KNOWN AND PARTICIPATING IN DISCUSSIONS REGARDING THE UN'S ABILITY TO DO PEACEKEEPING.

* WE ALSO ARE LOOKING FORWARD TO THE INSIGHTS OF THE EXPERT PANEL LED BY AMBASSADOR BRAHIMI THAT HAS BEEN CHARGED WITH UNDERTAKING A COMPREHENSIVE REVIEW OF UN PEACEKEEPING.

Drafted by: RBissell IO/PHO
Cleared by: GGray IO/PHO
CCasper IO/PHO
Disser USUN/MR
MORlov USUN/MSC
Approved by: LHawley IO

AC Press Guidance
May 17, 2000

Q: Do you have any comment on the three ex-defense officials breaking ranks with the Administration on NMD? What do you think of their recommendation for a ship-based defense system?

Answer:

* The Department of Defense is in the best position to address the cost and technical feasibility aspects of the proposal advanced by these former officials.

* We have not seen the article on which the report is based, and so cannot respond in detail to its key assertions.

* However, the approach suggested by this article to defer a decision on a limited missile defense in favor of a boost--phase sea-based option - which is not now in development -- would substantially delay the fielding of a missile

defense system necessary to protect the 50 states against the ballistic missile threat from states of concern.

* The missile proliferation danger is real and it is growing. The threat is not taking a pause, and that is why we cannot afford to delay a deployment decision.

If Pressed:

* According to the Department of Defense, a system such as that proposed by these former officials will be more expensive than National Missile Defense in terms of total life cycle costs, cannot be available nearly as quickly as the baseline National Missile Defense system, and would as a minimum still require deploying the entire sensor suite now planned for the land based system..

* The technical challenges to developing a boost-phase intercept system are no less daunting than those for the proposed baseline National Missile Defense system, and may even be greater.

* Finally, I would note that the ABM Treaty bans sea-based ABM systems, so we see no basis whatsoever for the suggestion that a system such as they propose might be ABM Treaty compliant.

Context: This morning's Washington Post reports that three former Pentagon officials are urging President Clinton to forego plans for a land-based National Missile Defense system in favor of developing a ship-based system parked off the coast of North Korea or other states of concern, and based on "existing weapons." They claim that such a system would be less costly, would be more acceptable to Russia, and would entail fewer technical risks. These claims are contained in an advance copy of an article slated to be published next month in the journal Foreign Policy.

Three Former Defense Officials Breaking Ranks Over NMD
#94172

Drafted: AC/DS: KKartchner (x7-7737)

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