

Exchange Mail

DATE-TIME 7/23/97 1:15:12 PM

FROM Peters, Mary A.

CLASSIFICATION ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

CLASSIFICATIONREASON 1.5(d)

DATECLASSIFIEDON 07/23/1997

DECLASSIFYON 07/23/2007

SUBJECT Note for Jim [~~CONFIDENTIAL~~]

TO Veit, Katherine M.
Helweg, M. Diana

CARBON_COPY Kreczko, Alan J.

DECLASSIFIED
E.O. 13526
White House Guidelines, May 16, 2017
By VZ NARA, Date 6/3/2024
2024-0172-F

TEXT_BODY To: Jim
From: Mary Ann

Mairead Keane called today to give us
a heads up on visa requests.

She said that Joe Cahill would like
to come around 8/2. He is among those who previously had visas;
in fact he was given one before the August 1994 ceasefire to come
talk to harder line republicans here. I asked Mairead to ask him
not to apply until we give her the word, but practically speaking, we
should get back to her today so he can apply tomorrow. We may have
to push this visa through at the working level and do not want it
to become a last minute thing.

Mairead said Adams would like to
come around Sept 4-10. She said he was inclined to apply for the
visa the week of August 4 but I asked that they wait a week -- both
because that would more nearly correspond to the "several" weeks
after the ceasefire we asked them to wait and because I plan to be
on vacation August 4-8. Mairead seemed to agree, but again I need
to get back to her. FYI, Adams has commented publicly that he is
planning to visit the US again now that the ceasefire has been restored
but he has said nothing about dates or fundraising.

Do you agree
that we tell Mairead Cahill can go ahead and apply and that Adams
should apply week of August 11?

Exchange Mail

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FROM Peters, Mary A.
CLASSIFICATION ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
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DATECLASSIFIEDON 07/23/1997
DECLASSIFYON 07/23/2007
SUBJECT FW: Note for Jim [~~CONFIDENTIAL~~]
TO Helweg, M. Diana

DECLASSIFIED
E.O. 13526
White House Guidelines, May 16, 2017
By W NARA, Date 6/3/2024
2024-0172 -F

CARBON_COPY

TEXT_BODY

Since you're already bugging JS about the O'Callaghan points, could you also ask him to look at this? thanks!!!

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

From: Peters,
Mary A.
Sent: Wednesday, July 23, 1997 1:15 PM
To: Veit, Katherine
M.; Helweg, M. Diana
Cc: Kreczko, Alan J.
Subject: Note for Jim
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Exchange Mail

DATE-TIME 7/29/97 7:13:27 PM
FROM Prendergast, John P.
CLASSIFICATION UNCLASSIFIED
SUBJECT FW: Guidance Request [UNCLASSIFIED]
TO Battenfield, Pat A.

CARBON_COPY

TEXT_BODY Pat, how do I do updated guidance? Do I go into the document on (?) drive and make changes directly?

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

From: Dohoney,
James P.

Sent: Tuesday, July 29, 1997 5:59 PM

To: @ALLNSC - NSC
Staff

Cc: /R Records

Subject: Guidance Request [UNCLASSIFIED]

Following
needed for guidance :

EUROPE : Bosnia update

ASIA : Korea, update
information on 4-party talks

INTERAM : Latin America, explain the
August 7th deadline on Chilean Fighter sales

Haiti, reaction to

UNSC vote

AFRICA : Kenya update

Please send all updates In Bold
to @PRESS by 10 am, Wednesday, July 30th. Thank you.

TRANSLATED_ATTACHMENT JUL29GUI.DOC

NATIONAL SECURITY AFFAIRS GUIDANCE
July 29, 1997

Iran

Northern Ireland

Fogleman

Don't Ask, Don't Tell

Fast Track

Thailand

Gulf War Illnesses

Canada Salmon

Middle East

Dolphin Protection

Trips and Visitors

Nazi Gold

Russia/NIS

Russian Mir Situation

Kenya

Bosnia

Cambodia

Korea

Thompson Hearings

Latin America

Khobar/Sayegh

Haiti

Landmines

IRAN

July 28, 1997

Q: Does the U.S. decision not to oppose the construction of a pipeline in Iran represent a change in policy?

A: There has been no change in policy, or any signal regarding our policy toward Iran.

It is US law (ILSA) and policy to seek to deny Iran the resources it needs to pursue terrorism and weapons of mass destruction by means of deterring investment in Iran's oil and gas sectors.

We are applying that law diligently.

Turkey has decided to buy gas from Turkmenistan instead of from Iran. That arrangement with Turkmenistan is not sanctionable under ILSA.

The bottom line is that Turkey is not going to buy gas from Iran under this deal.

Under ILSA we are continuing to monitor these and a variety of other deals that may involve significant investment in Iran's oil and gas sectors, including pipelines.

NORTHERN IRELAND

July 29, 1997

Q: Is it true that a visa waiver has been granted to a Sinn Fein official, Joe Cahill?

A: Yes, Cahill has been issued a waiver for a visit here in early august. He received several visas during the earlier ceasefire.

If asked: We understand Cahill is not going to engage in fundraising activities.

Q: Will you grant Adams a visa? What about fundraising?

A: Hasn't applied but note that Adams was granted visa waivers during earlier ceasefire.

If asked: Adams was permitted to participate in fundraising events for Sinn Fein during previous ceasefire. A monitoring system was and remains in effect that allows FBI to be sure funds used for Sinn Fein political activities.

Q: What did the President and Prime Minister Blair have to say about Northern Ireland in their July 27 phone conversation?
(Note: The British have released the fact of the call and that it dealt with Northern Ireland, the Middle East, and scheduling Blair's visit here.)

A: President and Blair spoke on Sunday for 25 minutes - topics were Northern Ireland, Middle East and scheduling an official visit for the Prime Minister.

On Northern Ireland, President expressed support for British government's efforts - together with Irish government to bring about negotiated settlement, made clear his commitment to process and readiness to support it.

If asked: Talks expected to adjourn today, resume in fall. Pleased that UUP decided to stay in the talks rather than walking out.

Q: What will happen to the peace process now that the UUP has voted against the decommissioning proposal at the Belfast talks today?

British and Irish governments have expressed commitment to process, to negotiated settlement. Do not see negative vote as in any way end of process but how they take it forward is up to them, to Senator Mitchell and his colleagues and the parties involved.

Q: What is Senator Mitchell's role?

Senator Mitchell is chairing the talks in Belfast.

Q: What is your reaction to the IRA ceasefire declaration?

President has issued statement welcoming declaration. If

implemented unequivocally
and permanently, opens prospect of achieving just and lasting
settlement.

Q: Did the U.S. play a role in getting the ceasefire restored?
Has the President been in
touch with any of the parties?

As you know, Administration has been in close touch with British
and Irish
governments and with the political parties, including Sinn Fein,
in effort to get
ceasefire restored and peace process moving again.

Credit belongs to British and Irish governments and to Northern
Ireland's political
leaders; hope our efforts were helpful to them.

If pressed: Not going to reveal who we talked to or when, but
assure you that
Administration fully engaged in peace process at this critical
time, as we have been for
several years.

Goal of peace process is democratically negotiated settlement.
Will continue to
work with governments and parties to support the negotiations
chaired by Senator
Mitchell.

Q: Are you concerned that IRA did not use the word "permanent" in
the ceasefire
declaration?

We expect it to be unequivocal and permanent.

Q: Did the President speak with the Irish Prime Minister?

A: POTUS called to talk to Prime Minister Ahern, establish
personal contact on
Northern Ireland peace process, as he had with Prime Minister
Bruton.

POTUS and Ahern had exchanged letters since Ahern came to power
June 26 but
this is first call. They did meet in Dublin in 1995.

President keeps in touch with both Irish and British leaders to
support their efforts
to achieve a negotiated settlement in Northern Ireland. That was
subject of this call.

Discussed Irish and British efforts to move talks into substantive negotiations; ideally with Sinn Fein participation on basis of unequivocal ceasefire.

Agreed this is critical period for peace process; President reiterated offer to do whatever he can to help.

Q: Any response to the press conference by members of Congress last week?

A: President deeply concerned about Northern Ireland -- remains actively engaged. Discussed it on numerous occasions Prime Minister Blair recently; kept in touch with former Irish Prime Minister Bruton, as he plans to do with new Prime Minister, Bertie Ahern.

BELFAST TALKS

☐ Belfast peace talks chaired by Senator Mitchell, which will reconvene in September, offer only way to achieve just and lasting settlement to conflict. Change can only come through dialogue and negotiation, not violence.

☐ If asked: Senator Mitchell has said he will stay on as talks chairman until either a result is achieved or he becomes convinced that no progress is possible.

CONTACT WITH SINN FEIN

☐ The U.S. maintains contact with all parties to reinforce this message and to support the two governments' efforts to move the process forward.

☐ Also keep in direct, frequent touch with British and Irish officials.

We do not go into detail on our diplomatic contacts in support of the peace process..

FOGLEMAN
July 28, 1997

A. Background

General Fogleman today submitted to the Secretary of the Air Force a request to retire on

September 1, 1997. He has been Chief of Staff of the Air Force since October 1994.

B. Points to be Made

General Fogleman is a dedicated patriot who has served his country in peace and war for 34 years. He has been an eloquent and forceful advocate of air and space power whose judgment and advice will be missed by the President.

C. Questions and Answers

Q. Did the President ask for General Fogleman's retirement?

A. No. The decision was General Fogleman's.

Q. Did the President ask General Fogleman stay on and not retire?

A. No. The decision to approve General Fogleman's request was made by the Secretary of the Air Force.

Q. Doesn't an early retirement like this imply that General Fogleman is departing under a black cloud or out of favor with the President and Secretary of Defense?

A. Certainly not. General Fogleman has served honorably for 34 years and has been an outstanding Chief of Staff whose judgment and advice are valued by the President. His record stands on its merits.

Q. Is General Fogleman's retirement linked to the DoD review of the Khobar Towers bombing?

A. The Secretary of Defense has not issued his conclusions on the Khobar Towers bombing and has not yet briefed the President on them.

Q. But isn't this a protest of DoD criticism of the Air Force over the Khobar Towers bombing, or the last straw after the Kelly Flinn case?

A. You will have to refer those questions to General Fogleman.

Q. Does the President agree with the findings of the DoD review

of the Khobar Towers
bombing?

A. The President has not been briefed on those findings. He will be after the Secretary of Defense has reached his conclusions. I expect the briefing will be in the near future.

Q. Has the President decided on a nominee to be the next Chief of Staff of the Air Force?

A. No. The Secretary of Defense has not recommended a nominee to the President.

Q. The Clinton Administration seems to have had trouble with its senior military leadership, much more so than previous administrations. Admiral Boorda, General Ralston, and now General Fogleman have had their careers cut short. Is there a problem between the President and the military leadership?

A. No. The President has excellent relations based on mutual trust and open communications with the uniformed leadership of the military. The cases you mentioned are unrelated. As I said before, the President did not intervene in General Fogleman's decision to request retirement or Secretary Widnall's decision to accept his request.

Q. Isn't an early retirement like this extremely unusual?

A. Uncommon but not unprecedented. I want to emphasize that unlike some past instances in which a Service Chief did not serve four years, the President did not ask General Fogleman to step down. The decision to retire was General Fogleman's.

DON'T ASK, DON'T TELL
July 29, 1997

Q: Was it appropriate for the Army to discharge Lt Col Loomis one week before he qualified for full retirement benefits?

A: We are not going to comment on any particular case -- we do, though, want to be

sure the law is being properly implemented.

We are aware of concerns raised about this.

Secretary Cohen has ordered a review of how the law is being administered -- it should be completed soon and the President expects to be fully briefed on the results.

FAST TRACK

June 24, 1997

Q: What is the purpose of last week's meeting?

A: The President expressed the need for fast track to ensure U.S. competitiveness in the global economy. Fast Track is about expanding opportunities for U.S. exports and making sure the U.S. sets the rules and conditions for trade that are advantageous to U.S. workers and businesses. The Administration's trade agenda is focused on exactly those areas where the U.S. is most competitive -- telecommunications, technology, professional services, agriculture, biotechnology, and critical manufacturing sectors.

Q: Why does the Administration keep meeting with Members without presenting a proposal?

A: The only way to succeed in securing fast track authority is to build the broadest consensus possible before we head into the fall. It is important for Congress to have a clear understanding of why we need fast track, and the President will use today's meeting as an opportunity to do that.

Q: Why did the President meet with these particular Members?

A: Amb. Barshefsky and other members of the Administration have met with over 170 members over the last few months. The President's meeting today is part of an effort to personally address questions from those Members about trade and the need for fast track. This meeting is one of a number of meetings the President will have with Members in the coming months.

Q: What are the chances of the Administration securing fast track authority?

A: We realize this will be a divisive battle, but the more Congress understands that fast track is necessary for U.S. competitiveness in the global economy, we believe they will support renewed fast track authority for the President. We can not afford to have the rest of the world march on by while we pass up opportunities for U.S. workers and companies.

There are three fast track related activities taking place this week at the White House:

1. President will officially nominate Jay Berman and Vicki Radd to head the Administration's fast track effort.

[Jay has had a long and distinguished career in Washington as the Chairman and CEO of the Recording Industry Association of America and has been particularly active on ensuring that US intellectual property rights are protected around the world. Vicki has been an Chief of Staff to Erskine Bowles most notably coordinating the Summit of the Eight in Denver. She will be working with Jay on coordinating this priority.]

2. Erskine briefed the Cabinet on the President's commitment to fast track on Wednesday afternoon and has asked that the Cabinet be available to speak out and work on this issue in the future.

3. On Thursday, the President will meet with congressional members to talk about why fast track authority is in the national interest.

General Points:

☐ The President is clearly committed to securing fast track authority this fall. This will be one of the Administration's top priorities and the President and his Cabinet will work hard on articulating both to the American people and the Congress why fast track authority is vital to the nation's long term economic prosperity.

☐ Fast track is at the heart of the President's effort to prepare

the American people for the challenges of the 21st century. A central pillar of the President's economic strategy has been aggressively creating opportunities to advance America's job growth, productivity and overseas trade.

☐ And it has worked: longest sustained period of growth of all our G-7 partners (25% of which was driven by exports), 12 million new jobs, unemployment under 5%--a 25 year low and sustained low inflation.

☐ Securing fast track authority is critical to continue this economic expansion and maintain America's leadership position in the world.

The Administration's international trade agenda is on track and moving forward at full speed. In APEC, the Free Trade Area of the Americas, and in the WTO, the United States and the Clinton Administration are setting the agenda to open markets, expand trade, and increase domestic prosperity. More than 25% of our economic growth in the past four years has been driven by export growth.

☐ In the last six months, the U.S. led the world to conclude trade agreements in information technology and telecommunications which covered more than \$1 trillion in global trade. We just led the developed countries of the world to conclude an historic anti-corruption agreement among the 29 developed nations in the OECD. We are moving forward in financial services talks at the WTO.

☐ The President was personally involved in securing the ITA agreement, working with APEC leaders last Fall to build support for this agreement. APEC has already embarked on "ITA II" to expand the reach of this agreement and will consider other sectoral trade agreements this year.

The President and the Administration are actively engaged with the Congress on the trade agenda.

☐ We are now working in Congress to preserve MFN trade status with China -- normal trade

relations -- a critical measure to protect the economic health of Hong Kong because half of U.S.-China trade goes through Hong Kong.

☐ We have secured commitments from the congressional leadership to address "fast track" on an expedited basis this Fall and conclude this year. This effort will involve the President, the Vice President, and the resources of the White House.

We would like to see Congress approve "fast track" in the Fall to ensure that we can gain the best possible trade terms on a reciprocal basis for U.S. companies and workers. The trade agenda has not been held back by the absence of "fast track" negotiating authority. We are moving forward in the FTAA, within APEC, and in the WTO on a wide range of negotiations including financial services.

☐ Fast track is important because trade barriers in the fastest growing markets in the world are much higher than ours, and fast track will increase our leverage to bring those barriers down and open markets.

☐ We will work with the Congress this summer to build consensus on the scope of fast track and how to address labor and environmental issues.

THAILAND
July 29, 1997

Q: What can you tell us about the current negotiations between the IMF and Thailand about an assistance package?

A: We welcome the decision by the Thais to negotiate with the International Monetary Fund as a constructive step. The Treasury Department will continue to follow the talks between Thailand and the IMF closely.

(If asked about the size of the IMF program)

While various numbers regarding the size of a program have been bantered about, it would be a mistake to speculate on the appropriate size of a

program until there has been a clear identification of the needs based upon an analysis of the relevant data.

(If asked regarding a possible U.S. financial contribution)

We have an important role to play and interests to safeguard in the resolution of Thailand's difficulties. As the largest shareholder in the IMF and World Bank, the U.S. will have an important role in setting the parameters for an assistance package and ensuring that the required Thai policy reforms are strong and credible.

Background

In Mid-May, Thailand experienced significant exchange rate pressures and responded by imposing capital controls. After a prolonged attempt to defend the baht, Thai authorities allowed the baht to float on July 2. The baht has since depreciated by 22%. News that Thailand is finally seeking an IMF assistance package was greeted favorably by the market. However, failure to reach agreement with the IMF could lead to further turbulence in Thai markets. The disturbances surrounding the baht have spilled over into the region; however, the effects have not been as pronounced as in Thailand.

GULF WAR ILLNESSES

July 25, 1997

Q: What is the White House reaction to GAO/FDA allegations that there were problems with DoD's use of investigational products and waiver of informed consent during the Gulf War?

A: The Presidential Advisory Committee highlighted this problem in its Final Report. DOD has acknowledged on numerous occasions that implementation of their programs for use of the investigational products pyridostigmine bromide and botulinum toxoid vaccine had deficiencies during the Gulf War. DOD is committed to improving its programs for the use of investigational products during deployments and combat operations.

Q: Is it true that there have been difficulties with executing the program to use tickborne encephalitis vaccine as an investigational product in Bosnia?

A: DOD has acknowledged the accuracy of the Government Accounting Office reports which indicates there have been improvements since the Gulf War, but that much work remains to be done. The Surgeon General of the Army is committed to resolving these difficulties in Bosnia and for future use of investigation products.

Q: What is DoD doing to review, correct and improve its programs for use of investigation products?

A: DOD has directed that the investigational new drug (IND) process, as determined by the Food and Drug Administration, be followed in Bosnia and future deployments.

The Deputy Secretary of Defense has requested an extensive review of DoD's current and future programs to protect the force during deployments to potentially hazardous environments. The use of investigational products for force protection will be part of the review.

The Special Assistant for Gulf War Illnesses and ASD(HA) have commissioned the RAND Corporation to conduct an assessment of DoD's processes for developing, deciding to use, and using investigation products especially during deployments.

Q: What is your comment on today's report that nearly 100,000 U.S. troops were exposed to low levels of poisonous sarin gas when soldiers detonated rockets at Khamisiyah?

A: From the beginning of his Administration, the President has been committed to getting out all the facts related to Gulf War illnesses. So, the President is pleased to see the results of the extensive efforts that DOD and CIA have expended to sort out the uncertainties of this particular event at Khamisiyah.

While this new information will be studied carefully in the weeks ahead, it should be remembered that the 98,980 troops were exposed to very low levels for a short period.

The President is extremely supportive of the DOD and VA effort to notify the soldiers under the plume, and supports the aggressive research effort that is underway to find out what is making Gulf War veterans sick.

The Presidential Advisory Committee on Gulf War Veterans' Illnesses (PAC) was commissioned by the President to help us understand the various risk factors associated with Gulf War Illnesses, and to tell us where we were doing well and where we needed improvement. The President credits the PAC for asking the right questions and serving as a catalyst to improve CIA/DOD investigations. We should also give credit to DOD and CIA for the extensive efforts behind today's announcement which underline the President's commitment to get all of the facts out.

Q: What does low-level exposure mean? What should veteran's do?

A: The answer to what veterans should do now is the same as it has always been; if a veteran is sick -- whether shown as exposed or not -- medical care is available.

It is important to note that we're talking about very low levels of exposure, and current medical knowledge does not provide conclusive evidence suggesting the long-term impact is significant. However, there are still unanswered questions about low-level exposure as there is not much research in this area. DOD/VA/HHS have a research plan in place to look into this, as well as other risk factors. This research program will incorporate any new information to try to answer the fundamental question of why veterans are sick.

Q: What is your reaction to the recent GAO report criticizing the government's Gulf War illnesses-related research efforts and specifically suggesting that health problems experienced by Gulf War veterans may have been caused by exposure to chemical or

biological weapons?

A: Will not be satisfied until we have all the answers possible, all the facts available. If evaluation of the GAO report -- not yet released -- indicates that any shift in emphasis or additional research needed, these decisions will be taken.

We welcome the GAO's contribution to the other efforts currently underway to increase our understanding of Gulf War veterans' illnesses and provide them with the most effective care and treatment possible.

We plan on carefully reviewing the report and getting the reactions of the Presidential Advisory Committee and the agencies concerned. Any new findings and recommendations will be carefully considered for incorporation into the ongoing research and medical care programs.

I think it is important to note that the PAC has played a critical role in initiating and overseeing this process, and that many of the efforts currently underway were a direct response to PAC recommendations.

From the day I took office I have been committed doing the right thing to help our veterans. I view the GAO report in the same spirit: as another opportunity to shed light on the best possible program to help our veterans. My hope is that this new report will be helpful to further improve our ability to help the veterans who served their country in the Persian Gulf.

Q: Recent developments suggest that GAO, DOD and the PAC have significant differences of opinion on the causes of Gulf War illnesses. What does this mean to veterans?

A: First and foremost, I support all efforts -- by the agencies involved, by the PAC, and by Congress -- that may contribute to improving current programs for our Gulf War veterans.

In terms of any differences of opinion at this stage, remember

that Gulf War illness causation issues are numerous and complex, and the research available to date is limited -- which is why the ongoing government research program encompasses more than 106 projects.

Finally, once, the agencies and the PAC are in a position to comment more specifically on its conclusions and recommendations, any new findings will be carefully factored in to the ongoing research and medical care programs.

Q: Rep. Bernie Sanders of Vermont released a letter signed by 86 members of the House calling for the Presidential Advisory Committee on Gulf War Illnesses to reassess its conclusion that the illnesses reported by Gulf War veterans were likely caused by war-related stress in the face of "clear" evidence that exposure to a wide variety of chemicals in the Persian Gulf may be a significant factor in Persian Gulf illness. Has this Congressional request undermined the PAC's ability to provide credible oversight to the government's efforts relating to Gulf War illnesses?

A: We appreciate Rep. Sanders' and Congress' interest in getting to the bottom of the difficult question of Gulf War illnesses. As you know, the President had consistently pledged to leave no stone unturned in helping affected veterans.

The Presidential Advisory Commission's conclusion that stress was a likely cause of illnesses reported by Gulf War veterans was based on a thorough review of the scientific literature available at the time, and was accompanied by a call for a substantial new research program looking into a number of other risk factors in addition to stress, including low-level exposure to chemical warfare agents, multiple chemical sensitivities, and infectious diseases, among others. Such a program -- encompassing over 106 projects between DoD, VA and HHS -- is now underway, and the PAC deserves a great deal of credit for providing its impetus.

As the new research and more thorough investigative efforts by the various agencies produce results, the PAC will continue to play a critical role as an independent guarantor that the overall program meets rigorous standards of scientific and clinical effectiveness.

Q. What is your reaction to the study published in the New England Journal of Medicine showing no evidence that Persian Gulf veterans face increased risk of having children with birth defects?

A. We welcome publication of this first-rate study addressing an important concern of the men and women who served our nation in the Persian Gulf.

The study compared the birth records of children born at military hospitals to virtually all of the nearly 580,000 active duty military members who served in the Persian Gulf with those of a parallel group of 700,000 military personnel who were not deployed to the Gulf. The results should reassure all Persian Gulf veterans, whether or not they have experienced possible Gulf War-related illnesses, that their family planning can proceed without worry about second-generation health problems related to Persian Gulf service.

We also note that this study is just one element in a large and comprehensive research program being conducted by many researchers in coordination with DOD, HHS, and VA. Additional research designed to address other important health concerns in a thorough and credible manner remains in progress, and we look forward to communicating future results to Persian Gulf veterans as soon as they become available.

Q. Is the PAC likely to be extended again given the many problems still remaining?

A. The PAC has a critical role to play -- we are relying on their expertise and independent assessments to enhance program quality across the full spectrum of government programs.

Discussion of PAC extension would be premature at this juncture given the many initiatives still underway and length of time remaining in the initial extension (31 OCT 97).

Q. What has the Administration done for Gulf War veterans who are sick?

A. Overall, to date -- (1) DOD & VA toll-free help lines; (2) 80,000+ free medical exams; (3) care for all Gulf War veterans who are sick (whether or not a diagnosis has been possible); (4) 26,000+ compensation claims approved; (5) special legislation paying disability for Gulf veterans with undiagnosed illnesses, with an extension of the presumptive period for undiagnosed illness compensation forthcoming soon; (6) thousands of pages declassified; and (7) 90+ federally-sponsored research projects completed or underway.

CANADA SALMON
July 29, 1997

Q: What is Canadian Fisheries Minister Anderson doing here?

A: Minister Anderson is here for consultations with Administration and members of Congress on salmon issue. Refer you to Canadian Embassy for details.

Q: What was accomplished in the meeting last week between Foreign Minister Axworthy and Acting Secretary Talbott?

U.S. and Canada have decided to appoint two prominent citizens who will report to President and Secretary of State and to Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs, to find, through consultations, most effective way to reinvigorate stakeholders process. (Note: Stakeholders talks broke down in May.)

Goal of stakeholders process is to resolve differences over implementation of Pacific Salmon Treaty.

Two representatives will act as resources to stakeholders and report periodically on progress; objective is to move quickly enough make difference for 1998 salmon fishing season.

Also agreed to set up channel to provide early warning of operational problems between respective fishing interests.

If asked whether our representative will be Bill Ruckelshaus: He would be an excellent choice; we are talking with Canada on the details of the process and working out administrative arrangements. (Note: He is our candidate but we cannot announce that until Ottawa has come up with theirs.)

Q: What is Foreign Minister Axworthy doing here?

Foreign Minister Axworthy flew in to discuss salmon issue with Acting Secretary Talbott, Under Secretary Wirth.

U.S. will certainly express strong unhappiness over blockade of Alaskan ferry over weekend.

Purpose of visit is to discuss how to get process going that will facilitate restoration of stakeholder talks, lead to resolution of salmon issue.

MIDDLE EAST PEACE PROCESS July 29, 1997

Q: Press reports from the region say that the peace process meetings will resume within a week -- is there any truth to this?

A: The Israelis and Palestinians have agreed to resume formal discussion of issues like safe passage between the West Bank and Gaza, and the opening of the Gaza airport. We have worked for that outcome and we welcome their decision.

Q: Is it true that you have a new package of proposals to get the talks going?

A: We don't discuss details of our discussions with the parties. It's crucial that we

maintain our ability to serve as an honest broker in this process.

We've had a number of recent contacts with both sides -- meetings which are part of the ongoing efforts that have been taking place for some time to try to get the process back on track.

Q: What is the US position on the announcement by the City of Jerusalem to grant more building permits for Jewish Housing in the East Jerusalem neighborhood of Ras al-Amoud?

(NOTE FOR BRIEFER: The Jerusalem municipality has granted permission to Jewish American businessman Irving Moscowitz, to build housing for Jews on a plot of land in Arab East Jerusalem. PM Netanyahu has publicly voiced his opposition to this proposal)

A: We are concerned at reports of pending construction at Ras Al-Amoud. We have emphasized the importance of Israel not taking unilateral moves on permanent status issues that have the effect of increasing mistrust between the sides.

In this regard, we note with satisfaction PM Netanyahu's opposition to this project.

Q: This looks like a struggle between Jerusalem Mayor Olmert and the PM. Are you certain that the PM's view will prevail?

A: We have made our views clear. I will not speculate on internal Israeli political issues.

Q: What is going on with the Peace Process?

A: Contacts between the parties in the Peace Process are continuing. Chairman Arafat sent Palestinian Negotiator Saeb Erekat to Washington last week to meet with Dennis Ross and U/S/ Pickering. Dennis met with Israeli Cabinet Secretary Nevah Yesterday.

These meetings are part of our ongoing efforts, which have been

continuing for
some time, to work with the parties to try to put the Peace
Process back on track.

Q: What happened at the Nevah meeting? Is progress being made?

The goal of our current effort is to find a way for the parties
to return to the
negotiating table. Our practice is not to go into details of our
meetings. Our efforts
are intensive and ongoing, but there is still work to be done.

Q: Is the US pushing for a settlement and Har Homa freeze? What
is your view of
moving quickly to permanent status talks?

A: I just said that I am not going to go into details on these or
any other issues.

Q: Israeli press is reporting that Dennis will travel to the
Region in August and that the
Secretary will open permanent status talks in September.
Anything on this?

Neither Dennis nor the secretary has any plans at the moment to
travel to the
region. Both will do so when they believe that their presence
there will help to move
the process forward.

Q: Any comment on the meeting between Arafat and Levy in
Brussels?

A: We welcome the meeting in Brussels between Chairman Arafat
and
FM Levy.
High-Level contacts between the Israelis and the Palestinians are
an important
component of rebuilding confidence between the parties.

Q: Was this a useful meeting? What occurred?

A: As you know, we were not a party to the meeting. You will have
to address that
question to the parties who attended the meeting.

Q: Have you been debriefed? Has Moratinos spoken with Dennis?

A: They have been in regular contact. We appreciate Mr. Moratinos
efforts.

Q: Why are you ceding the initiative to the EU? Are you working

in tandem?

A: There are several parties interested in helping advance the peace process, including, importantly, the EU and Egypt. We stay in close touch with both.

I would Characterize all of our efforts as complementary and mutually reinforcing.
We all share a common goal in our dealings with the parties in the region; that is, to help them return to the negotiating table.

In this sense, any activities -- like the EU brokered Arafat-Levy meeting in Brussels -- that help to rebuild confidence between the parties are welcome.

DOLPHIN PROTECTION

July 22, 1997

Q: Any comment on the Tuna-Dolphin bill?

A: We are very pleased that a compromise has been reached that is acceptable to all parties. This compromise will protect dolphins and other marine life in the Eastern Tropical Pacific.

Legislation has been introduced in both the House and Senate to implement the dolphin protection program of the Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC) which is among the best international conservation regimes in the world.

The "Panama Declaration" -- an international declaration adopted in Panama on October 4, 1996 - strengthens this program further. This legislation is supported by the Administration, the U.S. fishing industry and major environmental groups, including Greenpeace, Center for Marine Conservation, Environmental Defense Fund, National Wildlife Federation, and World Wildlife Fund. The Countries which have signed on to this declaration are Belize, Columbia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, France, Honduras, Mexico, Panama, Spain, the United States, Vanuatu, and Venezuela.

This international program will ensure that dolphin mortalities in the tuna fishery never

exceed 5,000. Not long ago these numbers were in the hundreds of thousands. The nations involved have made a commitment to work toward a goal of eliminating all dolphin mortalities.

With over 9.5 million dolphins in the region, this level is five one-hundredths of one percent of the population. This level of mortality is significantly lower than the mortality limits established in the Marine Mammal Protection Act for fisheries in U. S. waters. Because the tuna fishery is conducted almost entirely by foreign vessels on the high seas or in their own waters, it can be regulated only by international agreement.

This program also protects the ecosystem as a whole. It avoids alternative fishing methods, such as setting on logs, which produce a high bycatch of juvenile tunas, billfish, sharks, endangered sea turtles, and other species, all of which tend to congregate around ocean debris. New information on bycatches during the 1996 fishing season reinforces the negative consequences of these alternative fishing methods.

The program is the most strictly enforced international conservation regime in the world. An internationally trained observer works on every boat.

For this international program to take effect, the United States needs to lift the tuna embargoes and define dolphin-safe tuna as tuna caught without killing any dolphins.

To ensure consumer confidence in the label and avoid confusion in the marketplace, other labels would not be allowed. This would mean that only tuna caught without killing any dolphins could be labeled as dolphin safe.

Currently, the House has passed H.R. 408 by a vote of 262-166 on May 21st. In June, the Senate Commerce Committee passed S.39, and it is now for Senate floor action.

If the legislation does not pass, we are likely to lose this valuable international program.

TRIPS AND VISITORS
July 28, 1997

- ☐ President Aliyev of Azerbaijan meets with POTUS August 1.
- ☐ President's visits to Brazil, Argentina and Venezuela rescheduled to October 12-17.
- ☐ APEC Summit in Vancouver November 24-25.

Q: Press reports have mentioned October 28 as a possible arrival date for PRC

President Jiang Zemin's State visit to the U.S. What can you tell us about plans for the visit?

A: President Clinton and President Jiang earlier agreed to an exchange of state visits.

Our two governments are discussing plans for President Jiang to visit the U.S. before the end of this year.

NAZI GOLD

July 28, 1997

Q: Any comment on indications that documents Swiss bank guard Meili saved may have been relevant to Nazi assets issue?

A: Welcome acknowledgement by Swiss banks that Meili performed service related to search for facts about Nazi assets.

If asked: Absurd to consider prosecuting him for violating bank secrecy.

Q: Any comment on the list of dormant accounts the Swiss banks have now published?
Doesn't it prove they did not live up to their postwar agreement?

By publishing names attached to dormant accounts and expediting claims procedures, Swiss have simplified search for legitimate heirs to unclaimed accounts. Vital that this process move forward quickly. Hope this development will be foundation for further progress this year.

Paul Volcker and members of his committee and Swiss Bankers Association deserve

credit for this initiative.

Refer to USG report published in May for more detail on the postwar agreement with the Swiss on dormant accounts.

Q: What do we know about the Vatican storing Ustashi (Croatian) gold?

A: Treasury document appears to be first reference to Vatican's role in safeguarding looted gold. State, other agencies working to determine if more information is available.

Committed to full historical review of Nazi gold issue. UK and U.S. have agreed to work together to hold an international conference of historians this fall in London.

Many of neutral countries have established commissions to study Nazi gold issue and many have expressed interest in attending such a conference.

U.S. urges Vatican, along with all affected countries, to open historical records and share relevant findings.

Background: In late 1996 or early 1997, Chirstopher Meili, a guard at the Union Bank of Switzerland prevented the shredding of documents related to the Holocaust, in contravention of regulations related to the Swiss investigation into bank activities of that era. He was subsequently fired -- and filed suit against the bank president. Congress has now passed a private bill granting him permanent residence status(not citizenship).

Q: When will the President take action on the bill?

A: The President has until July 30 to sign. We received last Friday. Don't know when the President will sign.

--If asked: Know of no reason why President would veto this bill.

Current

Visits

☐ Azeri President Aliyev to visit Washington July 29-August 1; will see President August 1.

☐ U.S.-Azeri relations have broadened over last few years. Presidents Clinton and Aliyev will address this and prospects for future growth in relationship. Expect Presidents will also discuss:

☐ how political and economic reform in Azerbaijan is progressing;

☐ prospects for Nagorno-Karabakh settlement, including U.S.-Russian-French efforts, as co-chairs of Minsk Group process, to promote peace, which is key to regional stability, prosperity and cooperation;

☐ development of Caspian energy -- in which U.S. companies have large and growing stake -- and which can help meet growing world energy demand and provide resources to fuel economic development of Caspian countries; and

☐ security issues and Azerbaijan's integration into European institutions, such as Euro-Atlantic Partnership Council.

☐ It's in our national interest that all the former Soviet republics, including those of the Caucasus and Central Asia, develop into stable market democracies.

☐ We need to ensure forward movement in these areas, and the President will use his talks with President Aliyev to promote that.

General

Yeltsin Rejection of Law on Religion

☐ Yeltsin rejected draft law on religion; said action motivated by concern that law violated Russian constitution, argued there could be no democratic society in Russia if minority interests "are not protected."

☐ Right decision for religious freedom and democracy in Russia; Yeltsin stood up for

principle against political expediency, as when he vetoed similar legislation in 1993.

NATO-Russia

- ☐ Founding Act signed by NATO leaders and Yeltsin in Paris May 27

milestone agreement

-- lays basis for robust and growing partnership between NATO and Russia.

- ☐ See Russia as partner of NATO in shaping more secure, stable and undivided Europe. That is good for United States, Russia and Europe. Now will work with Russia to give real substance to Founding Act.

- ☐ First meeting of Permanent Joint Council held at ambassadorial level on July 18; agreed to ministerial level meetings in September and December.

Prospects for START II Ratification by Russian Duma

- ☐ Believe Yeltsin committed to START II ratification by Duma.

- ☐ START II ratification in both U.S. and Russia's best interests -- provides for stabilizing reductions in strategic forces, reduced costs, and opens the door to negotiations on further reductions in "START III," as agreed in Helsinki.

- ☐ Ratification of START II by Russia remains essential prerequisite to begin START III.

RUSSIAN MIR SITUATION

July 24, 1997

Background

Mir is now under fully automatic orientation control, and the crew has completely repaired the carbon dioxide removal system. Michael Foale continues to conduct scientific research in Mir's core module.

Talking Points

-- The current schedule for crew replacement and repair is as follows:

- o August 5 Replacement crew (2 Russians) launched to Mir
- o August 7-8 Replacement crew arrives at Mir

- o August 14 Current Russian crew returns to Earth. (Foale to remain aboard Mir.)
- o August 20 Internal spacewalk to reconnect power cables from damaged module. (Foale to remain in Soyuz capsule.)
- o Sept. 3 External spacewalk to inspect -- but not repair -- damaged module and solar arrays. (Foale to remain in Soyuz capsule.)
- o Sept. 18 (pending NASA review) Launch of Shuttle with U.S. astronaut Wendy Lawrence to replace Michael Foale. Shuttle could carry parts needed for repair of Mir.

-- The President is being kept fully informed of the situation by his Science Advisor, Dr. Jack Gibbons.

Q. Science Advisor Dr. Gibbons has said that Mir's power problems could prevent U.S. astronaut Wendy Lawrence from replacing Michael Foale at the end of his mission. Will she be going or not?

A: NASA's current plans are to send Lawrence to Mir, but a final decision will depend on restoration of the power from the damaged module and on the results of NASA's internal and external reviews of Mir safety. The Russians are working to have power restored before the Shuttle arrives, and the Russian mission director has acknowledged that unless power is restored, there is little scientific justification for sending Lawrence to Mir.

Q. Isn't it time to seriously reconsider our overall space cooperation with Russia?

A. The Shuttle/Mir program is only one facet of our space cooperation with Russia. We also work with the Russians in space science, earth observations, aeronautics and life sciences. We remain committed to the International Space Station and to Russia's participation in it. President Yeltsin has given President Clinton his personal commitment to continue Russia's role in the program. This incident has not altered our plans for future cooperation.

Q: Has the President approved Senator Glenn's request to fly on

the Space Shuttle?

A: The President has a great deal of respect for Senator Glenn and we are aware of his interest in flying again in space. NASA is currently evaluating the Senator's proposal in light of the specific safety issues involved and the science requirements that could be met if he were to fly. This is not a process that will be run out of the White House; the decision will be based on NASA's recommendation.

KENYA

July 21, 1997

Q: Has there been recent violence in Kenya?

A: We have no reports of violence in Kenya since the clashes between students and police in Nairobi last week. Police did not interfere with a memorial service Friday for victims of violence earlier in the month.

Q: What is the U.S. view of the Government's statement that it will enact reforms in this Parliamentary session (before elections) and President Moi's decision to "automatically" license rallies except under exceptional circumstances?

A: The statement by Vice President Saitoti that the ruling party, KANU, had agreed to amend 11 laws targeted for reform by the opposition is extremely encouraging. We also see recent steps toward dialogue between the Government and opposition as positive.

Most of the laws identified by the opposition for repeal or revision relate to government powers over such basic freedoms as speech and assembly. Concrete steps to amend these laws, especially if implemented by the Government in a democratic spirit, would constitute real progress towards a free and fair electoral climate. Real action on these issues would also do much to restore a climate of civil peace in Kenya.

We believe that a dialogue on reform needs to be made as inclusive as possible. The

Government of Kenya needs to work with the broadest possible representation of pro-reform forces if the country is to find a lasting solution to political violence.

President Moi's announcement Wednesday that licenses for public rallies will be issued automatically, except under "exceptional circumstances," pending revision of the Public Order Act is also a positive step. More important, however, given that opposition groups have said they will not apply for licenses at all, is that the Government not respond with force to any peaceful public gathering, licensed or unlicensed.

Q: Is the U.S. concerned that the Kenya Government will make only cosmetic reforms in an effort to deflect pressure and divide the opposition (Washington Post, 7/21/97, p. A18).

A: We are encouraged by the government's stated determination to move forward as rapidly as possible on democratic reforms. Donor embassies in Nairobi, including ours, have set out explicit criteria for the democratic reforms necessary for free and fair elections. These will not be cosmetic changes.

To produce a real solution to political violence, however, the process of reform needs to be inclusive. The government needs to engage the most representative elements of the political opposition and democratic reform movements in dialogue, even as it takes action on easily identified areas of reform.

BOSNIA
July 28, 1997

Q: Any comment SFOR's efforts on helping refugees?

A: Helping refugees is an essential element to the successful implementation of the Dayton Agreement.

We are pleased to see that SFOR troops continue to make a difference on the ground, creating a secure environment for refugees to return home.

(If asked about June 98):

As we've said before, the present operation will have run its course by then. We should be discussing in the meantime what, if any, involvement the United States should have after than.

Recent Attacks on SFOR

- ☐ We take seriously the spate of incidents aimed at SFOR and other parts of the international community in Bosnia.
- ☐ Any effort to intimidate the international community is unacceptable.
- ☐ Together with our NATO partners, we are making it clear to appropriate authorities that this must cease.
- ☐ (if asked) We are not going to discuss hypothetical consequences.

Milosevic Named FRY President?

- ☐ The July 16 action by the Serbian Parliament to name Slobodan Milosevic as the new FRY President comes as no surprise and will not change our relationship with Belgrade. It remains that Serbian authorities must do more on a variety of issues before we can make progress with our relationship.
- ☐ These issues include facilitating Bosnian Serb compliance with Dayton, cooperating with the International War Crimes Tribunal, and recognizing the rights of the Kosovar minority in Albania.
- ☐ Until we see progress in these areas, there will be little if any improvement in the relationship and Serbia will remain isolated from a prosperous and free Europe.

RS Power Struggle/Plavsic Expulsion from SDS

- ☐ We continue to monitor the political developments in Republika Srpska and the situation involving Republika Srpska President Plavsic and the Pale hardliners. The challenge to the authority of the elected president is clearly an attempt to avoid implementing

Dayton.

☐ We are not surprised that the SDS and President Plavsic have parted ways. This does not in anyway change to powers or authorities of President Plavsic. We hope and expect this can help foster the start of a genuine democratic process in Republika Srpska and a viable opposition to the hard-line nationalist leadership of the SDS.

☐ We support the rights of the legitimate democratically elected authorities to exercise their appropriate powers. The OSCE and the High Representative, among other experts, have concluded that Mrs. Plavsic's actions are legitimate and authoritative. We fully accept that judgment. We note that thousands of Bosnian Serbs have taken to the streets of different cities in Republika Srpska in support of President Plavsic.

☐ The legitimate authorities and institutions of Republika Srpska must be respected and that Radovan Karadzic should be handed over for trial in the Hague.

☐ We are calling for a diffusion of tensions and demanding that President Plavsic have full access to media in Bosnia; for the Special Police to stand-down from the current crisis; and for all police to cooperate fully with the International Police Task Force in restructuring and reform. We have told the RS authorities to end their media campaign of propaganda and disinformation that is exacerbating tensions in the RS.

☐ The international community will not tolerate the use of force or violence as a course of action in the current situation.

☐ In response to the uncertainty, SFOR has increased its alertness and presence in the Banja Luka area in order to better maintain security and stability.

Force Protection/Risk of Bosnian Serb Reprisals

☐ Protection for our troops is always a priority. Our security posture is appropriate to the situation on the ground. We are constantly evaluating it and will adjust it if we need to. I am not going to discuss the specifics of our security

precautions.

☐ Tensions remain in some areas of Republika Srpska. We have clearly communicated to the RS leadership our expectation that they must calm their people and get on with the business of implementing Dayton, including handing over war criminals.

☐ We are concerned about the a recent string of incidents of violence or harassment. There have been a number of explosions targeted at international organizations, including the OSCE, IPTF and SFOR. We are grateful no one has been seriously injured. There is no evidence that the central RS authorities are directing these attacks.

☐ All the parties must understand that they should not challenge SFOR. We will hold the Parties' leadership responsible for keeping their people under control.

☐ They should know we would deal very effectively, very swiftly with a forceful response.
We'll do what we have to do to protect our troops.

Has the policy changed on SFOR ending its mission in June 1998?

☐ The President has repeatedly said that the SFOR mission will end in June 1998.

☐ The critical question is what we do between now and then. We have to focus our energy on assisting the parties with full implementation: common institutions, refugees, economics, war criminals and police training.

☐ What role, if any, NATO plays, in or out of Bosnia, after June 1998 has not been decided
-- let alone what role we would play.

If asked whether we absolutely ruling out United States troops in Bosnia after June 1998

☐ SFOR's mission should end on schedule in June 1998. US political and economic engagement will continue well beyond that.

☐ It is too soon to speculate as to what, if any, role there may be for NATO following the completion of SFOR's mission. Our focus is on intensifying

civilian implementation
across the board so that parties themselves can assume greater
responsibility for their
own future after SFOR's mission is completed.

Is SFOR is planning to detain Karadzic or Mladic or other
indictes?

(Dole/Lieberman Press Conference)

☐ We continue to remain deeply concerned with the presence of war
criminals in Bosnia,
including Karadzic. We remain concerned about his potential
influence -- in violation of
agreements that he not be involved in political life -- and will
not be satisfied until he is
brought to justice in the Hague.

☐ The recent action by SFOR is an important step toward justice in
Bosnia, a key ingredient
to long-term peace. We will not be satisfied, however, until all
indicted war criminals
stand trial at the Hague.

☐ SFOR is authorized to detain war criminals encountered in the
course of its regular duties
and if the tactical situation permits. SFOR has no plans to hunt
war criminals.

☐ The recent SFOR operation conformed to what is described above.
These indicted war
criminals had been encountered in the course of SFOR's regular
duties. Of course, any
indicted war criminals would be subject to detention in such
circumstances.

☐ It is the Parties who bear the responsibility for turning over
war criminals. We continue
to press the Parties to live up to these obligations.

French Objected to Second War Criminals Operation? (NYT)

☐ The SFOR action was conducted under existing NATO authority
that
had been approved
by all NATO allies. Having encountered these individuals in the
course of their regular
duties, SFOR concluded they should detain these individuals; NATO
political authorities
agreed with that view.

☐ That was the extent of this operation and it is concluded. Of

course, any indicted war criminal is subject to detention under these procedures (if encountered in the course of regular duties and the tactical situation permits). All participating SFOR forces operate under these procedures.

☐ All allies are committed to seeing that indicted war criminals are brought to justice. We have enjoyed close cooperation with the French on all aspects of our shared efforts in Bosnia.

(if pressed, cannot comment on possible future operations)

Amendments for Date Certain Withdrawal from Bosnia

☐ President's senior advisors have recommended a veto if such a measure were to remain in the Authorization bill after the House-Senate Conference. Even though we have no plans to extend the SFOR mandate past June 1998, requiring a withdrawal from Bosnia by a date certain interferes with the President's foreign policy prerogatives and is counterproductive.

☐ A withdrawal by a date certain - with no regard for the situation on the ground and progress to be made on civilian implementation - would call into question our commitment to implementation of the Dayton Accords, our reliability as a NATO ally, and our commitment to peace and stability in Europe. To our troops on the ground and those who have served in Bosnia, this legislation would question the purpose and value of their service and sacrifice.

As the President has emphasized, our focus should be on the hard work that needs to be done in the next year on civilian implementation. U.S. political and economic engagement in Bosnia will remain essential after SFOR's mission is done, and we can only succeed if the parties and the international community remain assured of U.S. leadership and commitment

July 18, 1997

Our Core Principles are :

- ☐ An end to the fighting that overturned the results of the 1993 elections.
- ☐ FUNCINPEC and other parties must be allowed to operate freely.
- ☐ There must be free and fair elections in 1998.
- ☐ The framework of the 1991 Paris Peace Accords must be reinstated.
- ☐ And we remain opposed to any political role for leaders of the Khmer Rouge.

Q: How does the announcement that Cambodian Foreign Minister Ung Huot is the new FUNCINPEC candidate for First Prime Minister affect U.S. policy?

A: The announcement has little affect on U.S. relations with Cambodia. We consider Norodom Ranariddh to be still the official First Prime Minister until he has been replaced through the procedures set out in the Cambodian constitution -- i.e. that the First Prime Minister is chosen democratically by the party that won the most recent (1993) election -- FUNCINPEC -- through proper procedures and free of coercion and intimidation; and that he is approved by the King. We urge the Cambodian Government to respect these procedures. We have worked with Ung Huot (PRON: OONG WHOT) in his capacity as Foreign Minister and respect him.

Q: Other countries seem to believe this appointment will "legitimize" Hun Sen. Does the U.S. agree?

A: We remain deeply concerned at both the way a democratically-elected government was destroyed by military force, and outraged by a series of executions and arrests of FUNCINPEC supporters in the aftermath of the fighting. While we are gratified that the party that won the 1993 election will retain some positions, we urge that the appropriate democratic procedures be followed. As we have said, the imposition of a

dictatorship in the guise of a coalition is not an acceptable outcome, nor is it consistent with the Paris Accords.

Background: Yesterday, those members of FUNCINPEC who remain in Cambodia chose Foreign Minister Ung Huot as their candidate to replace Ranariddh as First Prime Minister in Cambodia. That may be confirmed at a FUNCINPEC party meeting later this month. . There also are reports that Ranariddh is preparing to appoint a successor.

Q: What is the status of events in Cambodia?

A: The situation in Phnom Penh remains calm. Sporadic, low-level violence continues in the northwest. The majority of those Americans wishing to leave Cambodia have already done so. The U.S. Embassy will be down to its reduced staff level by July 20. The State Department task force on Cambodia has been disbanded.

[IF ASKED ONLY about US forces at Utapao] U.S. forces in Thailand brought in to assist in case of a need for emergency evacuation are being redeployed.

Q: Should Secretary Albright have met with Hun Sen and Ranariddh during her recent trip, in order to counsel against violence?

A: The Secretary made repeated efforts to arrange a meeting with the two co-Prime Ministers in conditions that were acceptably secure. We were well aware of the deteriorating security situation in Phnom Penh. In the end, Ranariddh and Hun Sen refused to meet with her, indicating that they both were more focused on their internal struggle than on accepting advice from the international community.

Q: Will U.S. continue to provide economic aid to the Hun Sen government?

A: We have suspended most of our aid programs for 30 days while we conduct an intensive review of all our programs. Some basic human needs programs are still

being funded. We are consulting with other donors about their programs of assistance.

At the end of the 30 days (August 9), depending on the circumstances at that time, we would anticipate resumption of those programs that provide humanitarian, people-to-people support. We do not intend to resume a full aid program until our five principles are met (end to fighting that overturned democracy; FUNCINPEC free to operate; free and fair elections in 1998; maintain Paris Accords; no Khmer Rouge in the government).

Q: What about reports of executions and illegal arrests of opposition members?

A: Although many of these reports are vague, we nonetheless are very concerned about this, and have made clear to senior Cambodian leaders that this is unacceptable. We are also concerned about reports of intimidation of Cambodians who have been working to build a civil society, labor organizers and journalists.

Q: Will you support Ranariddh in mounting an armed opposition the Cambodian government?

A: Officially, we still recognize Ranariddh as First Prime Minister, and treated him as such in meetings with senior State Department officials last week. We continue to urge both sides to reconcile differences peacefully, avoid violence, maintain the Paris Accords, and continue plans for democratic elections in 1998. We also remain opposed to any role for the Khmer Rouge in Cambodia's government.

KOREA

July 22 1997

Q: Did the North Koreans use the Nunn-Laney visit to send a message to the U.S. or South Korean governments? How would you characterized their discussions?

A. Following their trip to North Korea, Sen Nunn and Ambassador Laney provided both the U.S. and South Korean governments a brief overview of their

discussions and observations. As their press statement released in Seoul indicates, they had frank and useful discussions with both Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Korean Peoples Army officials about promoting peace and stability on the Korean peninsula. We note that Sen Nunn and Ambassador Laney emphasized the value of four party talks and the need for the North to undertake economic and agricultural reforms to solve its long-term difficulties. We look forward to a more complete report of their discussions after they return to the United States.

Q: What is your reaction to July 15 incident in the DMZ? Will it have an effect on the August 5 four party preparatory talks in New York?

A: North Korea bears full responsibility for the incident in the DMZ. The United Nations Command has filed a complaint with the North Koreans at Panmunjom. The incident underscores the importance of the four party process which will get underway August 5.

Q: Can you confirm that former Senator Nunn and former Ambassador Laney will visit North Korea?

A: Yes, Former Senator Sam Nunn and former American Ambassador to South Korea James Laney plan to pay a private visit to North Korea 20-22 July and South Korea 22-24 July to discuss Korean Peninsula issues.

The trip is private, and is occurring at the invitation of North Korea. U.S. officials have briefed Senator Nunn and Ambassador Laney on Korean peninsula issues. We of course look forward to hearing their impressions on their return.

Q: What is your reaction to recent statements by international groups that the famine in North Korea is worsening?

A: The food shortages in North Korea inflict a horrible cost on the North Korean people who already are suffering from impoverishment. The international

community has responded generously to calls for emergency humanitarian assistance, and the United States has contributed some \$50 million to the UN World Food Program appeals.

We are participating in the current WFP food appeal through the contribution of 100,000 tons of food. But the long term answer is not short-term food aid; the North's prospects for agricultural production sufficient to feed itself will only improve through structural economic and agricultural reform. That reform can be greatly assisted through the four party peace talks, which we hope to launch in August.

U.S./ROK/DPRK Talks

Q: The United States and North Korea met in New York July 2 for bilateral talks.

What was the substance of the discussions and were there any results?

A: The United States and North Korea met as part of our on-going effort to address issues of concern to both sides, as called for in the Agreed Framework. The talks were not related to the 30 June trilateral meeting between the United States, South Korea and North Korea that discussed four-party peace talks issues. The two sides discussed a wide range of issues, from missile talks and MIA concerns to the food situation in North Korea. The talks were informational in nature and will continue at the working level in the future.

Q: What is the significance of the preparatory talks that were announced in New York?

A: The agreement by North Korea to participate in preparatory talks 5 August in New York is the first real step toward realizing President Clinton and President Kim's offer of peace talks that will lead to a permanent peace on the Korean peninsula. China will join the preparatory talks during which we will establish the venue, timing, procedures and agenda for the plenary session of the four party peace talks.

Q: How long will the preparatory talks last and when do you anticipate the start of the plenary session of the four party talks?

A: We do not have a specific time limit on the preparatory talks. We anticipate each of the four nations involved will come to the talks prepared to work toward the earliest date for the start of the plenary session.

If Asked:

Q: What is China's reaction to the announcement by the United States, South Korea and North Korea that four-party preparatory talks involving China will start August 5, in New York? Has China agreed to participate?

A: China previously endorsed the four-party process and recently has issued a statement welcoming the agreement reached June 30.. In its statement China agrees to participate in the four-party talks and continue to cooperate and play a constructive role in the process of establishing a peace mechanism for the Korean peninsula. We welcome China's positive statement and look forward to the contribution it will make in the talks.

Q: Has the U.S. interviewed the North Korean defector Hwang? What is your assessment of his information?

A: The U.S. routinely is given access to North Korean defectors by the South Korean government. Trained U.S. intelligence professionals conduct interviews of the defectors. In the case of Hwang, we recently sent a team to Seoul to interview him. We are in the process of evaluating the information Hwang has provided. It would be inappropriate to comment on the substance of Hwang's comments before that evaluation is complete.

THOMPSON HEARINGS
July 24, 1997

Q: What about Senator Thompson's allegation that White House officials not only

knew about possible PRC involvement in campaign funding from an FBI briefing of NSC officials, but knew or should have known from other sources or indicators as well?

A: The issue raised by Senator Thompson concerning the FBI briefing of two NSC officials about China's alleged attempt to fund U.S. political campaigns has already been thoroughly reviewed.

The contemporaneous notes of one of the NSC participants, a career FBI special agent, clearly reflect that the NSC officials were asked not to disseminate this material. The decision not to disseminate, however, was made without reference to the FBI request. Hindsight would have obviously yielded a different decision.

As to the Senator's remarks that the White House had independent access by other means to the FBI-briefed allegations of possible illegal activity, we can find nothing to substantiate his assertion.

Q: What about the Senator's assertion that the PRC has undertaken efforts to influence U.S. elections in violation of U.S. law?

A: As the President said before it would be a very serious matter for the United States if any country were to attempt to funnel funds to one of our political parties for any reason. The Vice President and the Secretary of State brought this issue to the specific attention of the government of China during their visits this spring.

The Department of Justice has an ongoing investigation on these issues; I understand they have drawn no conclusions.

Q.: Did Huang meet with Sandy Kristoff in September '94 on APEC?

A.: At the time, Sandy Kristoff was working for the NEC on APEC issues. In the fall of '94, in preparation for the Jakarta APEC Leaders Meeting, Ms. Kristoff's office handled the logistical arrangements for a number of inter-agency meetings to prepare for the President's trip to Jakarta. These meetings were

sometimes chaired by Ms. Kristoff, sometimes by others, e.g. those responsible for scheduling. It is likely that Mr. Huang was cleared into the White House under Ms. Kristoff's name for one of these meetings.

Ms. Kristoff has no recollection of ever having met with Mr. Huang; he played no role in the policy issues that she worked on.

LATIN AMERICA
July 10, 1997

If asked about Washington Times story saying we are close to lifting our Latin America arms embargo:

- ☐ Our policy remains under review.
- ☐ No decisions have been made.

Latin American arms transfer policy

Q: Has the President decided to permit the sale of advanced fighter aircraft to Chile?

A: The President has decided to authorize the state department to issue marketing licenses in order to allow companies who wish to compete for Chile's prospective purchase of advanced fighter aircraft to participate in the process. A decision has not yet been made, however, on whether to permit such sales to Chile.

Q: Does this mean the policy on arms transfers to Latin America is still under review?

A: Yes. In light of the changes underway in Latin America, the administration has been taking a very careful look at its policy on advanced arms transfers to Latin America and whether it should move to a case-by-case review of requests to transfer advanced arms to Latin America. That policy remains under review. However, Chile's process for deciding which fighter aircraft to purchase has already begun. In order not to prejudice U.S. companies from competing for the sale while the policy review

continues, the president decided to authorize companies to at least participate in the current technical stage of the bidding process.

Q: What were the president's reasons for this decision and how does it fit in the administration's overall policy toward Latin America?

A: For many years, the united states has exercised a policy of restraint related to arms transfers to Latin America, particularly of advanced weapons systems. This policy of restraint was imposed at a time when military governments dominated Latin America and when there was considerable tension between some Latin American states. The policy reflected U.S. desire to reduce conflict and avoid an arms race in the region.

Now democracy is taking hold in all but one country in the hemisphere, a remarkable achievement, and economic integration and political cooperation are making great advances. As a result, tensions have diminished and the risk of inter-state conflict among neighbors is lower than it has been in decades.

Our main goals in Latin America are to promote and strengthen these democracies, to support the economic and social development of the hemisphere's citizens, to encourage growth, expand trade and assure access for American exports, and to cooperate on counternarcotics and other fields. We are also committed to promoting restraint in arms purchases, confidence-building and transparency measures among countries in the region.

Q: When will the president make a decision on whether US companies can actually sell fighter aircraft to Chile?

A: The administration will continue reviewing the matter and will ultimately make a decision based on several factors, including the sale's impact on regional stability and restraint and consolidation of democracy.

KHOBAR/SAYEGH

June 25, 1997

Q: Where are we more than a year after the Khobar bombing?

About a year ago a terrorist bomb exploded in front of Khobar Towers in Dhahran, Saudi Arabia, killing 19 Americans. We share the special grief this day brings to the families of the airmen who died a year ago.

Since then, we have made every possible effort to bring those responsible to justice, a process that is still ongoing. As we have pursued this investigation, we have received cooperation from the Saudi authorities. We have enhanced our military security by moving our facilities in Saudi Arabia, with substantial Saudi cooperation and funding.

We will continue to give this investigation top priority. We have reached no conclusion regarding responsibility for Khobar. Just as we have in other terrorist cases, we will take all the time necessary to complete a thorough investigation. Because this is an ongoing criminal investigation, I cannot comment on the details of our current activities.

Q: Many reports are pointing the finger at Iran. Is this where your investigation is leading? If Iran or those under Iranian influence prove responsible will we react militarily?

As this is an ongoing criminal matter, I cannot comment on our investigations. Nor will I comment on what action we may or may not take in a hypothetical situation.

(Taken from Ken Bacon's DoD Briefing on July 22, 1997)

Q: Has Secretary Cohen had a chance to read the report? And if so, is he going to announce his decision this week or next week?

A" Probably next week, towards the end of the week, I would guess. And yes, he has read it and he continues to review it and to work on it. I would hope there will be a decision next week.

Q: One year later, not one commanding officer has been court-martialed or even fired for their negligence in allowing 19 of those under their command to be killed. Where is the accountability?

These matters are still under review by the Secretary of Defense, who said just two weeks ago that he is in the process of going through the Downing report, the General Record report and the IG report. I refer any further questions to the Defense Department.

Q: Will U.S. forces in the region be on increased alert during the anniversary period?

USCENTCOM continues to monitor and enhance force protection measures to minimize potential risk to U.S. forces in the region.

Q: What is status of Sayegh?

Mr. Sayegh was deported from Canada to the U.S. He is in custody. I cannot comment any further.

Q: Was Sayegh working for Iran? What about reports that he was in Iran at the time of the bombing?

We will not comment on an ongoing investigation.

Q: Can you confirm that Sayegh is linked to Khobar? Did you make a deal for his extradition?

A: The Canadian government decided to deport Sayegh to the U.S. The deportation was based on the fact that the U.S. was the last country he had been in prior to entering Canada.

He has arrived in the U.S. and been taken into custody. I cannot comment further on this matter.

July 29, 1997

Q: Assuming the UNSC votes to extend the UN presence in Haiti until November 30, then what? Will the US have a bilateral presence?

The Haitian Government has requested a continuation of the UN presence in Haiti through November, and the UN Under Secretary General for Peacekeeping has circulated a report recommending such a presence, at a slightly reduced level. We strongly support this extension, and we hope the Security Council will as well when it votes July 29.

The UN mission in Haiti has provided the conditions of security necessary for the development of a professional civilian police force and the slow re-establishment of the rule-of-law.

This work, part of our overall effort to support Haiti's return to democratic rule, is a long-term proposition. Our commitment to Haiti is therefore long-term, but we have made no judgments about the appropriate role for the international community in Haiti after November. This will depend in part on the situation on the ground at that time.

LANDMINES

July 29, 1997

Q: Human Rights Watch released a report on Landmines. Any response?

A: Remain fully committed to a global ban on the use, production, stockpiling and transfer of anti-personnel landmines.

Want to achieve this goal as soon as possible.

Must end the worldwide suffering caused by these hidden killers.

[If needed:]

We welcome the Ottawa Process. Believe the work underway there and the work

underway in the Conference on Disarmament reinforce each other.

Q: What happened at the July 16 meeting on landmines?

A: In January, when the President announced that the U.S. would pursue a ban on anti-personnel landmines through the Conference on Disarmament, he also decided that we would assess our progress after the second part of the CD session had ended on June 28.

We are now in the process of taking stock. At the July 16 meeting senior officials exchanged views on the state of play with respect to negotiating a ban on anti-personnel landmines and prospects for achieving our goal of a comprehensive, global ban on anti-personnel landmines.

No conclusions or decisions have been reached.

The Administration will continue to review the issue.

Leahy Legislation

Q: Senator Leahy has announced that he is introducing legislation further curbing U.S. use of anti-personnel landmines. What is the Administration's position on this new legislation?

A: The President has committed the United States to aggressively pursue an international agreement to ban use, stockpiling, production and transfer of APL, with a view to completing the negotiation as soon as possible.

We are pursuing that goal in the Conference on Disarmament (CD) in Geneva, working to establish a negotiating mandate as soon as possible.

The CD offers the most practical alternative for achieving a global ban. Its membership is broad and geographically representative. It has a proven track record. The CD includes most of the countries which are historically the world's landmines producers. It is precisely these countries which need to be part of a ban to ensure the ban will be effective.

The proposed legislation would prohibit funding for new U.S. deployment of anti-personnel landmines (APL) beginning January 1, 2000.

This would be inconsistent with U.S. APL policy, which seeks a global agreement to ban APL and reserves the option for the U.S. to use self-destructing/self-deactivating APL in military hostilities to safeguard American lives and hasten the end of fighting.

The United States views the security situation on the Korean Peninsula as a unique case and in the negotiation of a global APL ban will protect our right to use APL there until alternatives become available or the risk of aggression has been removed.

We note that the legislation does take into consideration a key element of U.S. APL policy in allowing for the possibility of an exception for U.S. deployment of APL on the Korean Peninsula, provided the President submits an annual report to Congress certifying that new deployments are "indispensable to the defense" of South Korea.

However, this recognition of our security requirement in Korea does not outweigh the disadvantages of the proposed legislation, especially in undermining our strategy of seeking negotiated global ban rather than a unilateral measure.

Q: How significant is the decision yesterday at the Conference on Disarmament?

On June 26 in Geneva the 61 nations of the Conference on Disarmament agreed to set up a special coordinator on anti-personnel landmines. Ambassador Campbell of Australia will serve in this role.

The special coordinator will act as a facilitator to develop a mandate for next steps in negotiations on anti-personnel landmines.

This agreement is an important step forward toward the establishment of negotiations on anti-personnel landmines in the CD.

We look forward to early progress in the next CD session

beginning on July 28.

Q: What is your position on the Canadian-led "Ottawa Process"?

A: We welcome the Ottawa Process as providing important momentum toward the common goal of a ban on anti-personnel landmines.

During the visit here of Prime Minister Chretien, this issue was discussed. We and the Canadians agreed to meet to see if we could "narrow our differences."

Pursuant to this agreement, experts met in Ottawa in mid-June. These meetings were a good first step.

A U.S. delegation was present as observers at this week's "Ottawa Process" conference in Brussels. Negotiations on the Ottawa Process treaty text will begin in Oslo in September.

Between now and September we will continue our close consultations with the Canadians and others.

No decision has been made on whether we will participate in the Oslo meeting.

Q: Is there a policy review underway?

A: Now that the first six months of this year's CD session has concluded we are taking stock of our progress there. We are also taking stock of progress in the Ottawa Process.

We want to ensure we remain on the most effective path for achieving the goal the President set forth last year -- achieving a comprehensive ban on anti-personnel landmines that is worldwide.

Q: When will this "stock-taking" exercise be concluded?

A: This assessment will be conducted over the course of the summer.

Q: Has there been any further progress in the CD?

A: The third part of the 1997 CD session just opened today, July 28.

A key activity this session will be the work of the special coordinator. He will pursue consultations on a possible mandate for negotiations on a ban on anti-personnel landmines.

We look forward to early progress.

This CD session lasts until September 10.

Exchange Mail

DATE-TIME 8/5/97 10:32:45 AM
FROM Vershbow, Alexander R.
CLASSIFICATION UNCLASSIFIED
SUBJECT FW: For Your Chop [UNCLASSIFIED]
TO McEldowney, Nancy E.

CARBON_COPY

TEXT_BODY With neww Imia/Kardak added

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

From: McEldowney,
Nancy E.
Sent: Tuesday, August 05, 1997 10:07 AM
To: Vershbow,
Alexander R.
Subject: For Your Chop [UNCLASSIFIED]
Importance: High

TRANSLATED_ATTACHMENT

Doc2.doc
NAZI GOLD
July 31, 1997

Q: Do you agree with Senator D'Amato that action should be taken against the Union Bank of Switzerland unless it apologizes to former guard Meili?

A: In our view, it is absurd to consider prosecuting Meili for violating bank secrecy under these circumstances. In any case, now he is in U.S.; President has signed private bill that allows him to stay. Wish him well here. If pressed: At this time, we are not in favor of restrictions on our normal commercial relations with Switzerland. Swiss are making serious efforts to uncover truth about Nazi assets and fund efforts to for victim relief. UBS itself has contributed to the "Special Fund" for Holocaust victims, now valued at 265 million Swiss francs.

Q: Any comment on the list of dormant accounts the Swiss banks have now published? Doesn't it prove they did not live up to their postwar agreement?

By publishing names attached to dormant accounts and expediting claims procedures, Swiss have simplified search for legitimate heirs to unclaimed accounts. Vital that this process move forward quickly. Hope this development will be foundation for further progress this year. Paul Volcker and members of his committee and Swiss Bankers Association deserve credit for this initiative. Refer to USG report published in May for more detail on the postwar agreement with the Swiss on dormant accounts.

Q: What do we know about the Vatican storing Ustashi (Croatian) gold?

A: Treasury document appears to be first reference to Vatican's role in safeguarding looted gold. State, other agencies working to determine if more information is available. Committed to full historical review of Nazi gold issue. UK and U.S. have agreed to work together to hold an international conference of historians this fall in London. Many of neutral countries have established commissions to study Nazi gold issue and many have expressed interest in attending such a conference. U.S. urges Vatican, along with all affected countries, to open historical records and share relevant findings.

Q: How about Ambassador Flynn's letter exonerating the Vatican?

A: Communication between American Ambassadors and the President (or State Dept) are private matters. Have no further comment.

NORTHERN IRELAND
August 5, 1997

Q: Is it true that a visa waiver has been granted to a Sinn Fein official, Joe

Cahill?

A: Yes, Cahill has been issued a waiver for a visit here in early august. He received several visas during the earlier ceasefire.

If asked: We understand Cahill is not going to engage in fundraising activities.

Q: Will you grant Adams a visa? What about fundraising?

A: Hasn't applied but note that Adams was granted visa waivers during earlier ceasefire.

If asked: Adams was permitted to participate in fundraising events for Sinn Fein during previous ceasefire. A monitoring system was and remains in effect that allows FBI to be sure funds used for Sinn Fein political activities.

Q: What will happen to the peace process now that the UUP has voted against the decommissioning proposal at the Belfast talks today?

British and Irish governments have expressed commitment to process, to negotiated settlement. Do not see negative vote as in any way end of process but how they take it forward is up to them, to Senator Mitchell and his colleagues and the parties involved.

Q: What is Senator Mitchell's role?

Senator Mitchell is chairing the talks in Belfast.

Greece-Turkey
August 5, 1997

Q: What is the Administration's position on Imia-Kardak?

The dispute between Greece and Turkey over ownership of the Aegean islet of Imia/Kardak has complicated already difficult bilateral relations.

The United States has long supported efforts to improve bilateral relations between these two valued allies.

The statement of principles governing relations between Greece and

Turkey, which was issued at the NATO Summit in Madrid, was an important step forward. We hope to build on this step in fostering dialogue and furthering normalization.

Our position remains that disputes such as Imia/Kardak should be resolved on the basis of respect of international law and international agreements, without the use of force or threat of force -- principles affirmed by Greece and Turkey at Madrid.

(If asked) We would support the referral of the Imia/Kardak dispute to the International Court of Justice.

Exchange Mail

DATE-TIME 8/5/97 10:36:08 AM
FROM McEldowney, Nancy E.
CLASSIFICATION UNCLASSIFIED
SUBJECT Document2 [UNCLASSIFIED]
TO Vershbow, Alexander R.

CARBON_COPY**TEXT_BODY****TRANSLATED_ATTACHMENT**

Doc2.doc
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August 5, 1997

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A: In our view, it is absurd to consider prosecuting Meili for violating bank secrecy under these circumstances. In any case, now he is in U.S.; President has signed private bill that allows him to stay. Wish him well here.

If pressed: At this time, we are not in favor of restrictions on our normal commercial relations with Switzerland. Swiss are making serious efforts to uncover truth about Nazi assets and fund efforts to for victim relief. UBS itself has contributed to the "Special Fund" for Holocaust victims, now valued at 265 million Swiss francs.

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Many of neutral countries have established commissions to study Nazi gold issue and many have expressed interest in attending such a conference.

U.S. urges Vatican, along with all affected countries, to open historical records and share relevant findings.

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A: Communication between American Ambassadors and the President (or State Dept) are private matters. Have no further comment.

NORTHERN IRELAND August 5, 1997

Q: Is it true that a visa waiver has been granted to a Sinn Fein official, Joe Cahill?

A: Yes, Cahill has been issued a waiver for a visit here in early august. He received several visas during the earlier ceasefire.

If asked: We understand Cahill is not going to engage in fundraising

activities.

Q: Will you grant Adams a visa? What about fundraising?

A: Still hasn't applied but note that Adams was granted visa waivers during earlier ceasefire.

If pressed: Have seen the press reports of Adams' intent to visit U.S. in September. Still have not seen a visa application.

Q: What about fundraising?

A: Adams was permitted to participate in fundraising events for Sinn Fein during previous ceasefire. A monitoring system was and remains in effect that allows FBI to be sure funds used for Sinn Fein political activities.

If pressed: Sinn Fein is a legal political party in both Ireland and UK, which, like all parties, conducts normal fundraising activities.

Q: What will happen to the peace process now that the UUP has voted against the decommissioning proposal at the Belfast talks today?

British and Irish governments have expressed commitment to process, to negotiated settlement. Do not see negative vote as in any way end of process but how they take it forward is up to them, to Senator Mitchell and his colleagues and the parties involved.

Q: What is Senator Mitchell's role?

Senator Mitchell is chairing the talks in Belfast.

A: Did the Administration discuss with Sinn Fein the possibility of assurances, such as access and visits, in the event of a ceasefire

We were in touch with SF about our support for a ceasefire. As part of this dialogue, we discussed our likely response to a ceasefire, including the issues of travel to the U.S. and visits to the White House.

Q: Can you confirm that you are moving to suspend action on the

former IRA
members, who have been identified for deportation?

A number of aspects of our policy are under review in light of
ceasefire. Don't
wish to comment beyond what already said.

Extraditees -- ?? SV Can you add

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August 5, 1997

Q: What is the Administration's position on Imia-Kardak?

The dispute between Greece and turkey over ownership the Aegean
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The statement of principles governing relations between Greece and
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Our position remains that disputes such as Imia/Kardak should be
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basis of respect for international law and international agreements,
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use of force or threat of force -- principles affirmed by Greece and Turkey at Madrid.

IF ASKED: We would support the referral of the Imia/Kardak dispute to the International Court of Justice.

Exchange Mail

DATE-TIME 8/5/97 1:51:29 PM
FROM Vershbow, Alexander R.
CLASSIFICATION UNCLASSIFIED
SUBJECT FW: Ireland press guidance [UNCLASSIFIED]
TO Cicio, Kristen K.
Carter, Jacqueline F.
Kale, Dora A.
Friedrich, Mary K.
Helweg, M. Diana
Kerrick, Donald L.
Millison, Cathy L.
Malley, Robert

CARBON_COPY Dohoney, James P.
Crowley, Philip J.
Johnson, David T.
Luzzatto, Anne R.
Wozniak, Natalie S.

TEXT_BODY Did Jim ever clear this?

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

From: Vershbow,
Alexander R.
Sent: Tuesday, August 05, 1997 11:42 AM
To: @NSA
- Natl Security Advisor
Cc: McEldowney, Nancy E.
Subject: Ireland
press guidance [UNCLASSIFIED]
Importance: High

Now has Alan's
clearance -- changes to 2nd answer//Alan felt original was misleading.

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

From: McEldowney, Nancy E.
Sent: Tuesday, August
05, 1997 10:07 AM
To: Vershbow, Alexander R.
Subject: For Your
Chop [UNCLASSIFIED]
Importance: High

TRANSLATED_ATTACHMENT Doc2.doc
NORTHERN IRELAND
August 5, 1997

Q: Did the Administration give Sinn Fein assurances regarding visas for Sinn Fein leaders and access to the White House in the event of a renewed IRA ceasefire?

A: We were in touch with Sinn Fein and discussed what our response would be to the restoration of the IRA ceasefire. This included restoring the access that Sinn Fein leaders were provided before the ceasefire had been broken.

Q: Did you give assurances about suspending action on the former IRA members who have been identified for deportation from the U.S.?

A: A number of aspects of our policy relating to Northern Ireland were discussed prior to the ceasefire. Don't wish to comment on discussions with Sinn Fein beyond what already said.

Q: Did you give assurances about former IRA members in the U.S. subject to extradition to the UK?

A: Extradition is an international legal obligation on which we made no commitments to any third party.

Q: Is it true that a visa waiver has been granted to a Sinn Fein official, Joe Cahill?

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