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RECEIVED: 06 SEP 00 15

TO: PRESIDENT

FROM: MALINOWSKI

DOC DATE: 11 JUL 00
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SUBJECT: POTUS DEPARTURE STATMENT ON CAMP DAVID SUMMIT ON JUL 11

ACTION: FOR RECORD PURPOSES

DUE DATE: 12 SEP 00 STATUS: C

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ACTION DATA SUMMARY REPORT

RECORD ID: 0005627

DOC ACTION OFFICER

CAO ASSIGNED ACTION REQUIRED

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THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN

7-11-00

Malinowski

**President William Jefferson Clinton
Departure Statement on Camp David Summit
July 11, 2000**

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In a few moments I will leave for Camp David to join Prime Minister Barak and Chairman Arafat in their effort to reach agreement on the core issues that have divided Israelis and Palestinians for half a century.

The two leaders face the most profound and wrenching questions, and there can be no success without principled compromise. The road to peace is a two-way street.

Both leaders feel the weight of history; but both, I believe, recognize this moment in history. We have an opportunity to bring about a just and enduring end to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, which is the key to lasting peace in the Middle East.

While there is no guarantee of success, not to try is to guarantee failure. And the path ahead builds on the journey already taken. From the first Camp David summit, to Madrid and Oslo, to the first handshake on this lawn between Prime Minister Rabin and Chairman Arafat to the peace between Israel and Jordan and the Wye Accords, the parties have proven that peace is possible when they are determined to make it.

In the process, they have passed the point of no return. The only way forward now -- is forward.

Both sides must find a way to resolve competing claims and give their children the gift of peace. It will take patience. It will take creativity. It will take courage. But Prime Minister Barak and Chairman Arafat have those qualities, or they would not have come this far. And they will have the unstinting and unequivocal support of the United States.

I will work as hard as I can over the coming days to see that the promise of this moment is fulfilled.