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FM WASHINGTON
TO IMMEDIATE FCO
TELNO 884

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OF 100445Z APRIL 86
INFO IMMEDIATE MOSCOW
INFO PRIORITY BONN, PARIS, ROME, UKDEL NATO, UKDEL VIENNA,
INFO PRIORITY UKDEL STOCKHOLM, UKDIS GENEVA
INFO ROUTINE EAST BERLIN, PRAGUE, WARSAW, BUDAPEST, SOFIA,
INFO ROUTINE BUCHAREST, BELGRADE, UKMIS NEW YORK, TOKYO,
INFO ROUTINE ANKARA, ATHENS, BRUSSELS, COPENHAGEN, THE HAGUE,
INFO ROUTINE LISBON, LUXEMBOURG, MADRID, OSLO, OTTAWA, REYKJAVIK

MY TELNO 858: US-SOVIET RELATIONS
SUMMARY

1. UP-BEAT US BRIEFING ON CONTACTS WITH DOBRYNIN. SHULTZ-SHEVARDNADZE DATES: 14-16 MAY. NO DATE YET FOR SUMMIT, BUT SUMMER NOT YET RULED OUT. US OFFERS DIALOGUE ON NUCLEAR TESTING. ON REGIONAL ISSUES, US PROPOSE MAY TALKS SHOULD CONCENTRATE ON AFGHANISTAN AND SOUTHERN AFRICA. DETAIL
2. AMBASSADOR RIDGWAY (ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE FOR EUROPEAN AND CANADIAN AFFAIRS) BRIEFED NATO AMBASSADORS ON 9 APRIL ON THE PRESIDENT'S MEETING YESTERDAY WITH DOBRYNIN. SHE SAID THAT DOBRYNIN HAD SPENT ANOTHER TWO HOURS ON 9 APRIL WITH SHULTZ, AND THAT THE TWO MIGHT MEET AGAIN ON 11 APRIL. US-SOVIET POLITICAL DIALOGUE
3. RIDGWAY SAID THAT THE US BELIEVED THAT MOMENTUM HAD BEEN RESTORED TO THE US-SOVIET DIALOGUE FOLLOWING THE DOBRYNIN MEETINGS. THE RUSSIANS HAD NOT RESPONDED TO THE US INVITATION TO GORBACHEV TO VISIT THE UNITED STATES IN THE SUMMER, BUT THERE WAS AGREEMENT THAT SHULTZ AND SHEVARDNADZE SHOULD MEET ON 14-16 MAY (NOT NECESSARILY FOR THE FULL THREE DAYS), TO PREPARE FOR THE SUMMIT, INCLUDING AGENDA. BOTH SIDES AGREED THAT THE SUMMIT HAD TO BE SUBSTANTIVE AND CAREFULLY PREPARED. SHE IMPLIED THAT A QUOTE INDICATION UNQUOTE OF WHAT MIGHT EMERGE WOULD BE NEEDED BEFORE FINAL AGREEMENT ON DATES. BUT JUNE/JULY WAS STILL A POSSIBILITY, THOUGH ON PRACTICAL GROUNDS A DATE BEFORE LATE JULY NOW LOOKED UNLIKELY.
4. THE DOBRYNIN TALKS HAD COVERED ARMS CONTROL, REGIONAL ISSUES, BILATERAL RELATIONS AND HUMAN RIGHTS. ARMS CONTROL
5. THE US SIDE HAD MADE CLEAR THAT THEY AWAITED SOVIET RESPONSES TO THE US NOVEMBER AND FEBRUARY PROPOSALS. BOTH SIDES AGREED THAT THE LAST ROUND IN GENEVA HAD MADE NO HEADWAY. THE US SIDE CONTINUED TO BELIEVE THAT AN INF AGREEMENT WAS POSSIBLE. SHULTZ HAD SAID THAT THE TWO SIDES SHOULD NOW GET DOWN TO NARROWING THE DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THE TWO PROPOSALS. THE US SIDE HAD OFFERED A DIALOGUE ON NUCLEAR TESTING WITHOUT PRECONDITIONS. RIDGWAY SAID THAT THE US SIDE WOULD AWAIT A RESPONSE IN PRINCIPLE BEFORE GETTING DOWN TO THE SPECIFICS. IF THE RESPONSE WAS FAVOURABLE, THE NEW DISCUSSION WOULD PUBLICLY BE A SEPARATE ONE, TO BE REVIEWED AT THE SUMMIT. REGIONAL ISSUES

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6. RIDGWAY SAID THAT THE PLANNED EXPERT-LEVEL MEETINGS WERE GOING AHEAD. SHULTZ WANTED TO CONCENTRATE WITH SHEVARDNADZE ON ONE OR TWO REGIONAL ISSUES, AND HAD SUGGESTED TO DOBRYNIN THAT AFGHANISTAN AND SOUTHERN AFRICA WERE PRIME CANDIDATES. THE US HAD COMPLAINED ABOUT SOVIET SUPPORT FOR LIBYA, EG SUPPLY OF SA5S, AND HAD CALLED ON THE SOVIET UNION TO GET THE LIBYAN PEOPLES BUREAU OUT OF THE SOVIET SECTOR OF BERLIN.

DOBRYNIN HAD DECLINED TO GIVE A DIRECT ANSWER.

HUMAN RIGHTS AND BILATERAL ISSUES

7. THE AMERICANS HAD ACKNOWLEDGED SOME POSITIVE HUMAN RIGHTS DEVELOPMENTS (EG THE RELEASE OF SHCHARANSKY), BUT WERE GENERALLY DISAPPOINTED BY THE RECENT SOVIET PERFORMANCE, EG OVER JEWISH EMIGRATION. SOME PROGRESS ON BILATERAL ISSUES (CONSULATES, AVIATION, EXCHANGES) WAS NOTED.

WRIGHT

EAST WEST & US/SOVIET RELATIONS

LIMITED

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DEFENCE D
R D
PLANNING STAFF
EED
NAD
WED
ACDD
CRD
FED
NED
PUSD
PROTOCOL D

PS
PS/LADY YOUNG
PS/MR RENTON
PS/MR EGGAR
PS/PUS
MR DEREK THOMAS
MR GOODALL
MR FERGUSSON
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