

GPS 300

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FM WASHINGTON

TO ROUTINE FCO

TELNO 1120

OF 292110Z APRIL 86

INFO ROUTINE MOSCOW

INFO SAVING UKDEL NATO

US/SOVIET WORKING LEVEL CONTACTS

SUMMARY

1. TECHNICAL EXCHANGES CONTINUE IN A NUMBER OF FIELDS DESPITE THE HIATUS IN POLITICAL CONTACTS.

DETAIL

2. 'WASHINGTON POST' ON 27 APRIL REPORTED THAT A SOVIET TEAM WAS HERE LAST WEEK TO CONTINUE DISCUSSION OF TECHNICAL ASPECTS OF UPGRADING THE HOTLINE: THAT THERE WAS TO BE FURTHER DISCUSSION OF NUCLEAR RISK REDUCTION CENTRES SHORTLY: AND THAT THE NEXT SET OF TALKS ON REGIONAL ISSUES (LATIN AMERICA) ARE DUE TO BE HELD IN MOSCOW IN MAY.

3. STATE CONFIRM THAT THIS IS SUBSTANTIALLY CORRECT. WORKING LEVEL CONTACTS ARE CONTINUING IN A RANGE OF FIELDS. WORK ON UPGRADING THE HOTLINE HAS BEEN GOING ON FOR MORE THAN A YEAR AND HAS NOT BEEN INTERRUPTED. THE FIRST SESSION OF EXPLORATORY TALKS ON RISK REDUCTION CENTRES WILL BE HELD IN GENEVA ON 5-6 MAY. THE RUSSIANS HAVE RECENTLY CONFIRMED THAT THEY WANT THESE TO GO AHEAD, ALTHOUGH STATE HAVE THE IMPRESSION THAT SOVIET THINKING ON WHAT SUCH CENTRES MIGHT DO HAS NOT ADVANCED VERY FAR.

4. WE UNDERSTAND THAT TALKS ON LATIN AMERICA ARE INDEED PLANNED FOR LATE MAY.

FCO PASS SAVING UKDEL NATO

(REPEATED AS REQUESTED)

WRIGHT

EAST WEST & US/SOVIET RELATIONS

LIMITED

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