

Confidential

GRS 300

CONFIDENTIAL

FM WASHINGTON

TO PRIORITY FCO

TEL NO 2520

OF 030018Z OCTOBER 86

INFO PRIORITY MOSCOW

INFO ROUTINE BONN, PARIS, UKDEL NATO, MODUK, UKMIS NEW YORK

MODUK FOR DACU

YOUR TELNO 781: US/SOVIET RELATIONS

SUMMARY

1. FURTHER DETAILS OF THE US APPROACH TO REYKJAVIK.

DETAIL

2. WE BRIEFED STATE ON 2 OCTOBER ON THE MESSAGE FROM GORBACHEV TO THE PRIME MINISTER.

3. STATE COMMENTED THAT GORBACHEV'S DEFINITION OF THE TASKS FOR REYKJAVIK (QUOTE INDICATING STEPS FOR THE SWIFT ELABORATION AT THE LEVEL OF RESPONSIBLE ORGANISATIONS OF DRAFT DOCUMENTS UNQUOTE) WAS CONSISTENT WITH THE US VIEW THAT THE MEETING SHOULD GIVE IMPETUS TO WORK IN HAND, BUT SHOULD NOT ITSELF INVOLVE NEGOTIATION ON TEXTS.

4. STATE ADDED THE FOLLOWING ON PREPARATIONS FOR REYKJAVIK:

A) THERE WAS AS YET NO AGREED AGENDA. THE RUSSIANS (AS GORBACHEV'S MESSAGE TO US MAKES CLEAR) WERE FOCUSSED ON ARMS CONTROL. PRESIDENT REAGAN INTENDED TO BEGIN WITH HUMAN RIGHTS. HE WISHED TO LEAVE GORBACHEV IN NO DOUBT THAT PROGRESS IN US/SOVIET RELATIONS DEPENDED ON GREATER SOVIET RESPECT FOR INDIVIDUAL FREEDOMS. HE WOULD REFER TO DANILOFF, AND TO JEWISH EMIGRATION. AS WELL AS THE KEY ARMS CONTROL ISSUES, THE US ALSO INTENDED TO COVER REGIONAL ISSUES (STATE NOTE WITH INTEREST THAT SHEVARDNADZE INDICATED IN OTTAWA ON 1 OCTOBER THAT AFGHANISTAN COULD BE DISCUSSED): AND BILATERAL POINTS, INCLUDING THE UN EXPULSIONS (ON WHICH SEE MIFT, NOT TO ALL).

B) JOINT STATEMENT: THE ADMINISTRATION ARE DOING NO (NO) DRAFTING THEMSELVES BUT WOULD BE WILLING TO CONSIDER A SOVIET TEXT (NO SIGN OF ONE YET).

Confidential

C) THE MEETING IN REYKJAVIK WILL BE A LOGISTICAL NIGHTMARE. THE SOVIET PROPOSAL AND THE US ACCEPTANCE OF IT WERE HELD VERY CLOSELY INDEED ON THE US SIDE: UNTIL THE ANNOUNCEMENT, ONLY THE WHITE HOUSE AND SHULTZ'S PARTY IN NEW YORK WERE IN THE PICTURE. STATE ARE THEREFORE FACING THE FORMIDABLE PRACTICAL PROBLEMS OF ARRANGING THE MEETING FROM SCRATCH IN 12 DAYS.

ACLAND

YYYY

ORWBAN 6761

[COPIES SENT TO NO 10 DOWNING ST]

EAST WEST & US/SOVIET RELATIONS

LIMITED

SOVIET D
DEFENCE D
RES D
PLANNING STAFF
EED
NAD
WED
ACDD
CRD
NEWS D
INFO D
ECD (E)
FED
NED
POD
PUSD
CSCE UNIT
PROTOCOL D
PS
PS/LADY YOUNG

PS/MR RENTON
PS/MR EGGAR
PS/PUS
MR DEREK THOMAS
CHIEF CLERK
MR GOODALL
MR FERGUSSON

MR RATFORD
MR DAUNT
MR FEARN
MR LONG
MR BRAITHWAITE
MR BARRINGTON
MR WINCHESTER
MR RENWICK

ADDITIONAL DISTRIBUTION

ARMS CONTROL TALKS

2

Confidential