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FM WASHINGTON
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TELNO 2804
OF 050350Z NOVEMBER 86

H/O
Pakenham
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Powell No 10 D.P.

YOUR TELNO 1907: MID-TERM ELECTIONS

1. THE FOLLOWING IS THE FOREIGN POLICY SECTION OF THE STANDARD PRESIDENTIAL SPEECH DURING THE LAST WEEKS OF THE ELECTION CAMPAIGN.

QUOTE

(A) BECAUSE OF THE SUPPORT OF MEN LIKE X (LOCAL REPUBLICAN CANDIDATE) WE'VE BEEN ABLE TO RESTORE AMERICA'S STRENGTH. THERE'S NOTHING I'M PROUDER OF THAN THE TWO MILLION MEN AND WOMEN IN OUR MILITARY SERVICE. AND FOR SOME PEOPLE THE ONLY SAVINGS THEY WOULD TRY TO RECOGNISE IS TO TRY TO REDUCE THE SPENDING BY THE DEFENSE DEPARTMENT. WELL, LET ME TELL YOU, IF WE EVER HAVE TO ASK THOSE YOUNG MEN AND WOMEN TO PUT THEIR LIVES ON THE LINE FOR THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, THEN THEY DESERVE TO HAVE THE FINEST WEAPONS AND EQUIPMENT THAT WE CAN PRODUCE, AND, WITH X'S HELP, WE'RE GOING TO SEE THAT THEY GET IT.

(B) BECAUSE OF OUR YOUNG MEN AND WOMEN IN UNIFORM, THINGS HAVE CHANGED A LITTLE AROUND THE WORLD. YOU KNOW, AMERICA USED TO WEAR A QUOTE KICK ME UNQUOTE SIGN AROUND ITS NECK. WE THREW THAT SIGN AWAY - AND NOW IT READS, QUOTE DON'T TREAD ON ME UNQUOTE. TODAY EVERY NICKEL-AND-DIME DICTATOR AROUND THE WORLD KNOWS THAT IF HE TANGLES WITH THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, HE WILL HAVE A PRICE TO PAY. AND ONE OTHER THING I'M ESPECIALLY PROUD OF - AFTER SIX YEARS OF THIS ADMINISTRATION, NOT ONE SQUARE INCH OF TERRITORY IN THE WORLD HAS BEEN LOST TO COMMUNISM, AND ONE SMALL COUNTRY, GRENADA, HAS BEEN SET FREE.

(C) AND, FINALLY, THERE'S ANOTHER SPECIAL ACCOMPLISHMENT. WE REMAIN COMMITTED TO OUR DECISION TO MOVE AHEAD WITH OUR STRATEGIC DEFENSE INITIATIVE AGAINST BALLISTIC MISSILES - THE SDI. TODAY WE'RE DEALING WITH THE SOVIET UNION FROM A POSITION OF STRENGTH, AND IT WAS SDI THAT BROUGHT THE SOVIET UNION TO THE BARGAINING TABLE. AND LET ME PLEDGE TO YOU, OUR GOAL IS TO KEEP AMERICA STRONG, TO SAVE THE WEST FROM NUCLEAR TERROR, TO MAKE BALLISTIC MISSILES OBSOLETE AND, ULTIMATELY, TO ELIMINATE THEM FROM THE FACE OF THE EARTH.

(D) SDI IS AMERICA'S INSURANCE POLICY TO PROTECT US FROM ACCIDENTS, OR JUST IN CASE - WELL, OR ANY MADMAN WHO MIGHT COME ALONG LIKE A HITLER OR A GADHAFI - OR JUST IN CASE THE SOVIETS DON'T KEEP THEIR SIDE OF A BARGAIN. THE RECORD ON SOVIET TREATY

ALONG LIKE A HITLER OR A GADHAFI - OR JUST IN CASE THE SOVIETS DON'T KEEP THEIR SIDE OF A BARGAIN. THE RECORD ON SOVIET TREATY VIOLATIONS IS CLEAR. WE CAN EITHER BET ON AMERICAN TECHNOLOGY TO KEEP US SAFE, OR ON SOVIET PROMISES, AND EACH HAS ITS OWN TRACK RECORD. I'LL BET ON AMERICAN TECHNOLOGY ANY TIME.

(E) NOW, I KNEW THAT THERE WERE THOSE WHO HAD THEIR DOUBTS, BUT FLYING BACK FROM ICELAND, I KNEW THE AMERICAN PEOPLE WOULD SUPPORT FIRMNESS WITH THE SOVIET UNION. SO I COULDN'T COME HERE TODAY WITHOUT THANKING EACH ONE OF YOU FOR THAT SUPPORT.

(F) AND I ALSO WANT TO MAKE AN ANNOUNCEMENT. SECRETARY SHULTZ AND FOREIGN MINISTER SHEVARDNADZE WILL MEET NEXT WEEK IN VIENNA. THESE MEETINGS WILL BE A FOLLOW-UP TO THE DISCUSSIONS MR GORBACHEV AND I HAD AT REYKJAVIK. I HAVE DIRECTED SECRETARY SHULTZ TO TELL MR SHEVARDNADZE THE PROPOSALS WE PUT ON THE TABLE IN ICELAND REMAIN ON THE TABLE, AND THAT WE'RE READY TO TAKE UP WHERE WE LEFT OFF IN REYKJAVIK. WE WANT TO CONFIRM AND BUILD ON THE AGREEMENTS REACHED THERE. WE HOPE THE SOVIETS ARE PREPARED TO JOIN US TO REDUCE THE THREAT OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS. AND I BELIEVE THIS IS A UNIQUE OPPORTUNITY FOR PROGRESS IF THE SOVIETS ARE WILLING TO MOVE FORWARD. UNQUOTE

2. OCCASIONALLY THERE WERE ADDITIONAL INTERPOLATIONS, EG IN COLORADO SPRINGS ON 30 OCTOBER WHEN THE FOLLOWING ADDITIONAL PARAGRAPHS WERE INSERTED (BETWEEN (E) AND (F)):

QUOTE

(G) THERE ARE SOME PEOPLE THAT DON'T QUITE UNDERSTAND ABOUT SDI AND WHAT IT REALLY AMOUNTS TO. IT IS A SHIELD THAT WE BELIEVE AND OUR SCIENTISTS BELIEVE CAN PROTECT A NATION AGAINST INCOMING NUCLEAR MISSILES.

(H) OUR PRESENT DEFENSE POLICY IS THE ONCE CALLED THE MAD POLICY - MUTUAL ASSURED DESTRUCTION - MEANING THAT IF WE'VE GOT A LOT OF MISSILES AND THEY'VE GOT A LOT OF MISSILES, WELL, WE'RE BOTH SO SCARED OF EACH OTHER THAT MAYBE WE'LL NEVER SHOOT THEM. THAT'S A LITTLE FLIMSY.

(I) NOW, WE ARE RESEARCHING AND STUDYING AND HAVE MADE BREAK-THROUGHS IN THIS SDI PROGRAM. BUT TO THOSE PEOPLE WHO DON'T QUITE UNDERSTAND IT - LET ME POINT OUT WHAT OUR PROPOSAL WAS TO THE SOVIET UNION AND STILL IT. IF AND WHEN WE HAVE DEVELOPED THAT SYSTEM, THAT WE KNOW WE HAVE A DEFENSIVE SHIELD, WE WILL THEN APPEAL TO THE SOVIET UNION TO JOIN US IN ELIMINATING ALL THE STRATEGIC AND INTERMEDIATE RANGE NUCLEAR MISSILES AND THEN WE WILL SHARE SDI WITH THEM SO THAT WE CAN BOTH LIVE IN COMFORT, GO DOWN THROUGH THE YEARS WITHOUT HAVING TO BE SUSPICIOUS OF EACH OTHER. UNQUOTE

3. ADVANCE COPIES TO PAKENHAM, FOWLER, AND POWELL (NO 10).

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