

GRS 170

UNCLASSIFIED

FM BONN

TO PRIORITY FCO

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INFO PRIORITY UKDEL NATO, WASHINGTON, MOSCOW, PARIS

YOUR TELNO 2082 TO WASHINGTON

SALT IN CEILINGS

1. FEDERAL SPOKESMAN OST TOLD THE PRESS TODAY THAT THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT HAD ALWAYS ADVOCATED A CONTINUED OBSERVANCE OF SALT IN CEILINGS BY BOTH TREATY PARTNERS. THE GOVERNMENT REMAINED OF THE OPINION THAT THE PRIMARY GOAL OF THE SUPERPOWERS MUST BE DRASTIC REDUCTIONS IN THE NUCLEAR OFFENSIVE CAPABILITY ON BOTH SIDES. SUCH REDUCTIONS WERE ALREADY IN PRINCIPLE AGREED AT REYKJAVIK, IN THE FORM OF A 50 PERCENT REDUCTION IN ALL STRATEGIC SYSTEMS. AGREEMENT ON SUCH A BASIS WOULD MAKE THE QUESTION OF FURTHER OBSERVANCE OF THE SALT IN CEILINGS IRRELEVANT. THIS GOAL (50 PERCENT) SHOULD THEREFORE BE PURSUED VIGOROUSLY.

2. COMMENTING ON SALT IN IN A TELEVISION INTERVIEW LAST NIGHT, WOERNER SAID HE DID NOT THINK REAGAN'S DECISION WOULD UNDERMINE THE CREDIBILITY OF WESTERN ARMS CONTROL POLICY. REAGAN WAS SENDING A SIGNAL TO THE SOVIET UNION. HE THEN SPOKE ABOUT 50 PERCENT REDUCTIONS AS ABOVE.

3. NOTWITHSTANDING THE ABOVE, PRESS AGENCY COMMENT ON THIS LINE IS THAT THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT WAS DISTANCING ITSELF FROM THE UNITED STATES.

BULLARD

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BPLNAN 2875

US/SOVIET ARMS CONTROL TALKS

LIMITED

ACDD

DEFENCE D

SOVIET D

NEWS D

NAD

EED

WED

PLANNING STAFF

RES D

INFO D

FUSD

NED

CSCE UNIT

POD

PS

PS/LADY YOUNG

PS/MR RENTON

PS/PUS

MR DEREK THOMAS

MR GOODALL

MR RATFORD

MR FALL

MR FERN

MR BRAITHWAITE

MR SLATER

MR BARRINGTON

MR GILLMORE

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ARMS CONTROL TALKS

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