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UNCLASSIFIED FM WASHINGTON TO DESKBY D12000Z FCO TELNO 2121 OF 011810Z SEPTEMBER 90 AND TO DESKBY 012000Z ABU DHABI AND TO IMMEDIATE MOSCOW, UKMIS NEY YORK, MIDDLE EAST POSTS AND TO IMMEDIATE EC POSTS, ANKARA, OTTAWA, UKDEL NATO, OSLO AND TO IMMEDIATE HELSINKI, ACTOR, ESC LONDON, MODUK

ABU DHABI PLEASE PASS SECRETARY OF STATES PARTY.

BUSH/GORVACHEV SUMMIT: HELSINKI: 9 SEPTEMBER

SUMMARY

- 1. PRESIDENT BUSH ANNOUNCES MEETING WITH PRESIDENT GORBACHEV IN HELSINKI ON 9 SEPTEMBER
- 2. AT A PRESS CONFERENCE IN KENNEBUNKPORT TODAY PRESIDENT BUSH SAID THAT HE AND GORBACHEV WOULD MEET IN HELSINKI FOR WIDE RANGING DISCUSSIONS ON 9 SEPTEMBER.

HE EMPHASISED THAT THERE WOULD BE NO SET AGENDA. WHILE THE GULF CRISIS WOULD OF COURSE BE DISCUSSED THE PROPOSED MEET WAS NOT DRIVEN BY ANY WORRY THAT WE WERE APART ON THE GULF. HE INVISAGED NO NEGOTIATION ABOUT THE CRISIS. A WIDE RANGE OF OTHER ISSUES WOULD BE COVERED: HE MENTIONED CFE IN PARTICULAR 3. BUSH SAID THAT HE HAD MADE THE SPECIFIC PROPOSAL FOR THIS MEETING, BUT IT FOLLOWED AGREEMENT AT THE SUMMIT IN WASHINGTON IN MAY/JUNE THAT THERE WOULD BE ADVANTAGE IN MORE REGULAR MEETINGS BETWEEN THE TWO LEADERS WITHOUT THE FULL TRAPPINGS OF A SUMMIT. THE DETAILS HAD BEEN PUSUED IN DIRECT CONTACT BETWEEN BAKER AND SHEVARDNADZE.

- 4. IN RESPONSE TO QUESTIONS BUSH SAID THAT HE WOULD NOT GO TO HELSINKI WITH BURDENSHARING OVER THE GULF CRISIS IN MIND HE DOUBTED IF THE SOVIET UNION HAD A ROLE TO PLAY IN THAT RESPECT. THE MEETING SHOULD THEREFORE BE SEEN AS SEPERATE FROM BRADY'S AND BAKER'S MISSIONS ON BURDENSHARING
- 5. ASKED ABOUT PRESS REPORTS THAT THE US WAS ABOUT TO WAIVE EGYPTIAN DEBTS OF OVER DOLLARS 7 BILLION BUSH SAID THAT EGYPT HAD BEEN STALWART OVER THE GULF CRISIS MUBARAK HAD GRAVE FINANCIAL PROBLEMS AND BUSH WANTED TO WORK WITH HIM TO RELIEVE THEM, BUSH'S GUT FEELIN WAS TO MAKE RECOMENDATIONS TO CONGRESS IN THAT SPIRIT.

PAGE 1 UNCLASSIFIED



6. COMMENT, THE PRESIDENT'S ANNOUNCEMENT FOLLOWS TWELVE HOURS OF STONEWALLING BY THE WHITE HOUSE OVER PERSISTENT RUMOURS, LIMKED TO SUNUNU'S VISIT TO MOSCOW, THAT AN EARLY SUMMIT WAS IN PROSPECT.

WOOD

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21

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PAGE 2 UNCLASSIFIED