

IMMEDIATE

PS
 PS/LADY YOUNG
 PS/MR LUCE
 PS/PUS
 SIR J BULLARD
 MR WRIGHT
 MR JENKINS
 MR CARTLEDGE

MR COLES NO 10 DOWNING ST
 MR BLELLOCH DUS(P) MOD
 ED/DS17 MOD

ED/DEF DEPT
 ED/ACDD
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 ED/NAD
 ED/WED
 RESIDENT CLERK

UNCLASSIFIED

FROM UKDEL NATO 091812Z DEC 83

TO IMMEDIATE FCO

TELEGRAM NUMBER 348 OF 8 DECEMBER

INFO IMMEDIATE MODUK (DS17) WASHINGTON PRIORITY BONW PARIS
 ROUTINE ANKARA ATHENS BRUSSELS COPENHAGEN THE HAGUE LISBON
 LUXEMBOURG OSLO OTTAWA REYKJAVIK ROME MADRID UKDEL VIENNA

NORTH ATLANTIC COUNCIL: START

1. AT THIS AFTERNOONS SESSION SHULTZ DISTRIBUTED THE
 FOLLOWING

BEGINS

THE SOVIET NEGOTIATOR'S STATEMENT AT THE START TALKS THIS
 MORNING WAS AS FOLLOWS:

QUOTE THE USSR DELEGATION STATES THAT THE CHANGE IN THE GENERAL
 STRATEGIC SITUATION CREATED WITH THE BEGINNING OF THE DEPLOYMENT
 OF US ROCKETS IN EUROPE CAUSES A NECESSITY FOR THE SOVIET SIDE TO
 REVIEW ONCE AGAIN ALL THE QUESTIONS WHICH ARE THE SUBJECT OF DIS-
 CUSSION IN THE NEGOTIATIONS ON START. THEREFORE WE ARE ENDING THE
 PRESENT ROUND WITHOUT SETTING A DATE FOR RESUMPTION. UNQUOTE

AMBASSADOR ROWNY MADE A SHORT STATEMENT REGRETTING THAT THE
 SOVIETS WOULD NOT SET A DATE FOR RESUMPTION AND THAT THEY HAD BROUGHT
 IN EXTRANEIOUS ISSUES. KARPOV RESPONDED THAT HIS REMARKS HAD BEEN
 MADE ON INSTRUCTIONS AND THERE WAS NOTHING FURTHER TO SAY.

AMBASSADOR ROWNY HAS GIVEN A STATEMENT TO THE PRESS, AS FOLLOWS:

QUOTE WE REGRET THAT THE USSR HAS CHOSEN NOT TO SET A RESUMPTION
 DATE FOR THE NEXT ROUND. WE CANNOT AGREE WITH SOVIET ASSERTIONS
 THAT DEVELOPMENTS OUTSIDE THE SCOPE OF THESE NEGOTIATIONS REQUIRE
 THE SOVIET UNION TO WITHHOLD AGREEMENT ON A RESUMPTION DATE FOR
 THE 6TH ROUND OF START. THE US FOR ITS PART IS FULLY PREPARED TO
 CONTINUE THE REGULAR PATTERNS OF START NEGOTIATIONS. WE HAVE PROPOSED
 TO RESUME ROUND 6 IN EARLY FEBRUARY AND WE HOPE THE USSR WILL AGREE
 ON A DATE FOR RESUMING THESE NEGOTIATIONS WHICH ARE IN THE INTEREST
 OF BOTH OUR NATIONS AND THE ENTIRE WORLD. UNQUOTE

IF YOU ARE ASKED ABOUT THE SOVIET ACTION, I WOULD SUGGEST YOU
 RESPOND ALONG THE FOLLOWING LINES:

THE SOVIETS HAVE DECLINED TO SET A DATE FOR THE NEXT ROUND

IF YOU ARE ASKED ABOUT THE SOVIET ACTION, I WOULD SUGGEST YOU RESPOND ALONG THE FOLLOWING LINES:

-- THE SOVIETS HAVE DECLINED TO SET A DATE FOR THE NEXT ROUND OF THE START NEGOTIATIONS. WE BELIEVE THAT THESE NEGOTIATIONS SHOULD CONTINUE ON THEIR NORMAL PATTERN, WHICH WOULD INVOLVE A RESUMPTION FOLLOWING APPROXIMATELY A TWO-MONTH RECESS, IN FEBRUARY. WE HOPE THE SOVIETS WILL SOON AGREE TO A DATE FOR A RESUMPTION IN THAT TIMEFRAME.

-- CLEARLY IN START AS IN THE INF NEGOTIATIONS THE SOVIETS ARE SEEKING TO STIMULATE ANXIETY IN AN EFFORT TO TEST WESTERN RESOLVE. I AND MY NATO COLLEAGUES HAVE MADE CLEAR OUR OPENNESS TO A COMPREHENSIVE DIALOGUE WITH THE SOVIET UNION, AND OUR DESIRE TO REDUCE NUCLEAR AND CONVENTIONAL ARMS THROUGH NEGOTIATIONS. WE HAVE ALSO REAFFIRMED, HOWEVER, OUR DETERMINATION TO TAKE SUCH STEPS AS NECESSARY TO MAINTAIN ALLIANCE SECURITY.

-- IN THE PAST ROUND OF START NEGOTIATIONS, THE US HAS INTRODUCED NEW IDEAS WHICH RESPOND TO SOVIET CONCERNS. WE ARE PREPARED TO CONTINUE TO NEGOTIATE SERIOUSLY AND CREATIVELY, AND WE LOOK TO THE SOVIET UNION TO DO LIKEWISE.

ENDS

2. THERE WAS NO DISCUSSION.

GRAHAM

NNNN

SENT/RECD AT 081919Z DD/WJL