

GRS 570

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FM WASHINGTON  
TO PRIORITY FCO  
TELNO 32

OF 092340Z JANUARY 87

INFO PRIORITY MOSCOW  
INFO ROUTINE UKDEL NATO

US/SOVIET RELATIONS

1. YOU MIGHT FIND IT USEFUL, IN ADVANCE OF MR RENTON'S VISIT TO MOSCOW, TO HAVE A SUMMARY OF THE STATE OF PLAY ON NON-ARMS CONTROL ISSUES.
2. THERE HAS BEEN A DISTINCT LULL SINCE THE SHULTZ/SHEVARDNADZE MEETINGS IN VIENNA IN EARLY NOVEMBER. BUT ACTIVITY IS NOW PICKING UP AGAIN.
3. REGIONAL ISSUES. STATE HAVE BEEN PRESSING THE RUSSIANS TO AGREE TO A FURTHER ROUND OF TALKS AT ARMACOST'S LEVEL, COVERING THE WHOLE SPECTRUM OF REGIONAL ISSUES. ADAMICHIN CAME TO WASHINGTON FOR THE LAST ROUND IN SEPTEMBER; THE NEXT SESSION IS LIKELY TO BE IN LATE FEBRUARY OR MARCH, IN MOSCOW, WITH AFGHANISTAN AS A MAJOR ISSUE.
4. HUMAN RIGHTS. STATE SAY THAT THE SIGNALS ARE MIXED. THE RETURN OF SAKHAROV AND MRS BONNER TO MOSCOW HAS BEEN WELL RECEIVED HERE. BUT THE FIGURES FOR JEWISH EMIGRATION REMAIN VERY LOW. THE RUSSIANS HAVE BEEN PUTTING OUT HINTS OF SOME FURTHER MAJOR INITIATIVE IN THE HUMAN RIGHTS FIELD IN THE EARLY PART OF THE YEAR.
5. BILATERAL ISSUES. AGAIN A MIXED PICTURE. TALKS IN A NUMBER OF FIELDS ARE CONTINUING. THERE IS TO BE A FURTHER ROUND OF DISCUSSION ON NUCLEAR RISK REDUCTION CENTRES IN GENEVA ON 13 JANUARY. THE US HAVE RECENTLY AGREED TO SEND A MAJOR INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY EXHIBITION TO TOUR NINE SOVIET CITIES OVER THE NEXT EIGHTEEN MONTHS. THERE HAS BEEN LESS PROGRESS ON THE OPENING OF CONSULATES IN KIEV AND NEW YORK. THE AMERICANS HAVE CONCLUDED THAT THE POST-CHERNOBYL RADIATION LEVELS IN KIEV ARE SATISFACTORY; BUT THERE IS VERY LITTLE MONEY LEFT IN THE FY87 BUDGET FOR KIEV AND IT IS UNLIKELY THAT THE TWO CONSULATES WILL OPEN MUCH BEFORE THE END OF 1987. THE RUSSIANS DECLINED AN EXCHANGE OF NEW YEAR TELEVISED MESSAGES, JAMMED VOAS BROADCAST OF PRESIDENT REAGAN'S MESSAGE, BUT THEN BROADCAST MOST OF IT ON RADIO MOSCOW.

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