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FM WASHINGTON

TO DESKBY 110900Z FCO

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OF 110545Z DECEMBER 87

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MIPT: WASHINGTON SUMMIT: PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS TO THE NATION

1. PRESIDENT REAGAN CONCLUDES THAT THE SUMMIT WAS A CLEAR SUCCESS.

DETAIL

- PRESIDENT REAGAN GAVE A TELEVISED ADDRESS ON THE EVENING OF 10 DECEMBER.
- 3. HE BEGAN BY DESCRIBING THE INF TREATY AS A LANDMARK IN POST-WAR HISTORY AND A SIGNAL OF A BROADER UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE US AND THE SOVIET UNION. IN A PASSAGE DIRECTED AT THE RATIFICATION PROCESS, HE SAID THAT HE WOULD BE MEETING WITH THE LEADERSHIP OF CONGRESS ON 11 DECEMBER. HE OUTLINED THE HISTORY OF THE INF ISSUE AND SUMMARISED THE TERMS OF THE AGREEMENT, EMPHASISING THE ASYMMETRICAL REDUCTIONS INVOLVED AND THE STRENGTH OF THE VERIFICATION REGIME.
- 4. ON REGIONAL ISSUES, HE HAD SPOKEN CANDIDLY ON AFGHANISTAN, IRAN/IRAQ, CAMBODIA, ANGOLA AND NICARAGUA. HE HOPED FOR REAL COOPERATION IN RESOLVING REGIONAL CONFLICTS. THIS WAS ESSENTIAL FOR A LASTING IMPROVEMENT IN RELATIONS.
- 5. ON HUMAN RIGHTS THERE HAD BEEN SOME VERY LIMITED MOVEMENT INCLUDING THE RESOLUTION OF A NUMBER OF INDIVIDUAL CASES. QUOTE THERE WERE ASSURANCES OF FUTURE, MORE SUBSTANTIAL MOVEMENT, WHICH WE HOPE TO SEE BECOME A REALITY UNQUOTE.
- 6. LOOKING AHEAD TO A MOSCOW SUMMIT IN 1988, THE PRESIDENT SAID THAT HE AND GORBACHEV HAD AGREED TO RE-DOUBLE THEIR EFFORTS TO REACH AGREEMENT ON A START TREATY AT THE EARLIEST POSSIBLE DATE. THAT AND THE DEVELOPMENT OF SDI WOULD DO MUCH TO MAKE THE WORLD SAFER. QUOTE FOR THAT REASON, I MADE IT CLEAR THAT OUR SDI PROGRAMME WILL CONTINUE, AND THAT WHEN WE HAVE A DEFENCE READY TO DEPLOY, WE WILL DO SO UNQUOTE. THEY HAD ALSO AGREED THAT AS NUCLEAR WEAPONS WERE REDUCED, IT BECAME ALL THE MORE IMPORTANT TO REDRESS THE DISPARITIES IN CONVENTIONAL AND CHEMICAL WEAPONS.

PAGE 1 UNCLASSIFIED 7. SUMMING UP, THE PRESIDENT SAID THAT QUOTE THIS SUMMIT WAS A CLEAR SUCCESS: WE MADE PROGRESS ON EACH ITEM IN OUR FOUR PART AGENDA UNQUOTE.

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