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MR C POWELL

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PLEASE DELIVER THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE TO CHARLES POWELL FROM COLIN L. POWELL, ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT FOR NATIONAL SECURITY AFFAIRS.

SUBJECT: DRAFT WHITE HOUSE PRESS STATEMENT

PER OUR CONVERSATION, A PROPOSED WHITE HOUSE PRESS STATEMENT FOLLOWS. PLEASE CALL ME IN LOS ANGELES AS SOON AS YOU HAVE HAD A CHANCE TO REVIEW AND DIGEST THE STATEMENT.

BEST REGARDS.

COLIN L. POWELL

BEGIN TEXT OF DRAFT WHITE HOUSE PRESS STATEMENT:

PRESIDENT REAGAN HAS AUTHORIZED THE US DELEGATION IN VIENNA TO SUPPORT, IN COOPERATION WITH LIKE-MINDED ALLIES, US PARTICIPATION IN AN AGREED SCHEDULE OF CSCE FOLLOW-ON CONFERENCES DEALING WITH HUMAN RIGHTS. THE FIRST CONFERENCE WILL BE IN PARIS IN 1989, THE SECOND IN COPENHAGEN IN 1990, AND THE THIRD IS SCHEDULED FOR MOSCOW IN 1991.

THE PRESIDENT DECIDED TO AGREE TO THIS SCHEDULE, INCLUDING THE MOSCOW CONFERENCE, AS A MEANS OF ENCOURAGING CONTINUATION OF THE SIGNIFICANT PROGRESS IN HUMAN RIGHTS THAT HAS TAKEN PLACE IN THE SOVIET UNION OVER THE PAST THREE YEARS. THAT PROGRESS HAS INCLUDED THE RELEASE OF HUNDREDS OF POLITICAL PRISONERS AND EXIT PERMISSION FOR MANY PEOPLE LONG REFUSED THE RIGHT TO EMIGRATE. EMIGRATION RATES FROM THE SOVIET UNION ARE SUBSTANTIALLY HIGHER AND JAMMING OF THE VOICE OF AMERICA, RADIO LIBERTY AND OTHER WESTERN BROADCASTS HAS CEASED. NEW LAWS RESPECTING INDIVIDUAL LIBERTIES HAVE BEEN PROMISED TO THE WORLD BY CHAIRMAN GORBACHEV IN HIS RECENT SPEECH TO THE UN.

SUCH NEW LAWS -- THE INSTITUTIONALIZATION OF REFORM -- ARE CRUCIAL, AND THE PRESIDENT RECOGNIZES THAT THERE IS MUCH YET TO BE DONE IN THE SOVIET UNION BEFORE THAT NATION MEETS ACCEPTABLE AND UNIVERSAL HUMAN RIGHTS STANDARDS. WE AND SEVERAL OF OUR ALLIES HAVE MADE IT CLEAR TO THE SOVIET UNION THAT THE LACK OF FUTURE AND INSTITUTIONALIZED PROGRESS OR A REVERSAL OF PROGRESS MADE TO DATE WILL CAUSE US TO RECONSIDER OUR DECISION TO ATTEND A MOSCOW CONFERENCE IN 1991. AT PRESENT, WE AGREE WITH THE ADVICE OF MANY SOVIET CITIZENS OF GOOD WILL, INCLUDING ANDREI SAKHAROV, THAT WESTERN CONCURRENCE IN PRINCIPLE IN SUCH A MOSCOW CONFERENCE MAY BE THE BEST WAY TO ENCOURAGE AND SUPPORT FUTURE IMPROVEMENT IN SOVIET HUMAN RIGHTS PERFORMANCE. THE SOVIET UNION NOW HAS A UNIQUE OPPORTUNITY TO TAKE FURTHER ACTION TO DEMONSTRATE ITS CONTINUING COMMITMENT TO ACHIEVE COMMONLY ACCEPTED HUMAN RIGHTS STANDARDS.

END TEXT OF DRAFT WHITE HOUSE PRESS STATEMENT.

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