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MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Deputies Meeting on Bosnia Policy

1. The Deputies met via teleconference on 9 February to discuss final details of the administration's policy on Bosnia. Berger chaired; Tarnoff, Inderfurth, and Johnson (State), Wisner and Slocombe (OSD), Fuerth (VP), Walker and Holl (NSC), and Helgerson and Blackwell (CIA) attended. Lake also dropped in briefly.
2. The meeting was long and rambling. It focused on reviewing the various documents to be considered by the Principals today. Most of the discussion centered on how much overlap there should be in the various letters, talking points and backgrounders that had been prepared. OSD played heavy with Berger struggling to keep the meeting focused and on track. The ABC story about possible US troop deployments forced the pace of events and effectively preempted their strategy for handling the release of the new policy.
3. The meeting decided that Reggie Bartholomew will be the President's envoy on Bosnia. He has agreed.
4. Several issues remain to be resolved:
 - OSD thought that the December demarche to Milosevic threatening use of military force under certain conditions should be repeated in the various messages sent to foreign leaders as well as restating it to Milosevic. The group discussed this but did not resolve how far we should go in broadcasting such a threat. Walker opposed because we had not decided that we would go that far. OSD was more bullish on the idea. This will be bucked up to the Principals for decision.
 - Berger will try to get Christopher's speech on the new policy moved up for late today. This will be coordinated with Stephanopoulos. A draft of the speech is supposed to be circulated to agencies today for review.

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- The Deputies will decide today who will take the lead in calling and briefing various members of Congress on the policy. A decision will also be made on whether to send Reggie to meet Yel'tsin before coming home.
 - There was a brief discussion of whether to send a humanitarian aid team into Bosnia to survey the need. No decision was made. (An AID "DART" team is in Zagreb and probably would implement such a decision.) [REDACTED]
 - A Fuerth-led working group paper was passed out on strengthening sanctions but was not discussed. We are following up on two ideas [REDACTED]
5. Because a number of loose ends remain, a followup teleconference is set for this morning to get the documents in shape for a Principals meeting later today. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
Robert Blackwell
Deputy Director of European Analysis

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