

CONFIDENTIALCOCOM Document No. 3833Date: December 22 1959STATEMENT OF THE UNITED STATES DELEGATIONconcerningHELICOPTERS FOR THE SOVIET UNION

On the 17th of December, the United States Delegate made the following statement:

"At the time of Premier Khrushchev's recent visit to the United States, he expressed an interest in acquiring a helicopter of the type in which he had flown with the President of the United States. At a press conference on September 28, the President indicated that Under Secretary of State Dillon would be available to assist the Soviet Union in arranging a contact with the company manufacturing the type of helicopter in which Mr Khrushchev had flown. The Soviet Union availed itself of this offer of good services and expressed an interest in purchasing three helicopters substantially identical with that in which Khrushchev had flown with the President. The Department of State indicated to the Soviet Embassy, to the Sikorsky Division of the United Aircraft Corporation - which manufactures the type of helicopter used by the President, and, in response to an inquiry, to the Vertol Corporation - which manufactures a similar type of helicopter, that three helicopters substantially identical to the model assigned to the use of the President might be purchased by the Soviet Union. It was understood that the helicopters sold to the Soviet Union would represent commercial versions and would not include any equipment appearing in either the international or the United States munitions list.

"General offers have now been submitted to the Soviet Union by both the Sikorsky Company and the Vertol Corporation, and the Soviet Union has indicated its interest in purchasing two Sikorsky models and one Vertol helicopter. The Sikorsky is standard commercial model S-58B, single engine, single main rotor with an anti-torque tail rotor, 7,630 pounds empty weight, 15-passenger capacity. The Vertol is understood to be standard commercial model 44-B, single engine with two rotors, 9,400 pounds empty weight, 15-passenger capacity.

"Although sales contracts have not yet been concluded, and although export license applications with final specifications have not yet been presented to the United States Department of Commerce, it seems clear, on the basis of information thus far provided by the two companies in question, that the three helicopters will not be covered by either International Munitions List Item 10 or International List I Item 1460. In the event that information on actual export license applications discloses a question as to the permissibility of the transactions under COCOM agreements, the United States Delegation will submit further specific information to COCOM.

"I have been asked to make it clear that the prospective sale of these three helicopters is regarded by my authorities as a special situation arising from special circumstances - the Khrushchev visit to the United States - and does not reflect any change in the United States policy of not permitting the export of aircraft or associated aeronautical equipment to the Soviet Union except for the sale of aviation safety equipment required to carry out the general objectives of the civil aviation policy of the United States."

CONFIDENTIAL