

State Dept. review completed

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TO: LHMED

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FM BRUSSELS

TO THE WHITE HOUSE

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TO: GEN. BRENT SCOWCROFT, THE WHITE HOUSE
 FROM: DONALD RUMSFELD, AMBASSADOR USNATO, BRUSSELS 485
 PLEASE PASS TO HAL SONNENFELDT - EXCLUSIVELY EYES ONLY

1. HAL, I APPRECIATE YOUR MESSAGE (WH-40838) ALERTING ME THAT THE BRITISH WOULD MAKE A SUGGESTION IN THE TUESDAY PEPYREPS LUNCH TO HOLD AN ANNIVERSARY MINISTERIAL MEETING TOWARDS THE END OF APRIL. UNFORTUNATELY, THE MESSAGE ARRIVED AFTER I HAD LEFT FOR THE LUNCHEON. HOWEVER, AS YOU WILL SEE FROM MY REPORT OF THE LUNCH (USNATO-1819), I AGREED TO REPORT THE SUGGESTION AND THUS WAS MUCH MORE POSITIVE THAN MY PREVIOUS INSTRUCTIONS HAVE BEEN. I WILL BE SENDING A NODIS CONTAINING A STATEMENT ABOUT WHERE WE STAND ON THE NATO DECLARATION WHICH I SHOULD MAKE IN RESTRICTED NAC ON FRIDAY, APRIL 5. I HOPE THAT YOU CAN HELP IN GETTING PROMPT GUIDANCE BACK. IT IS NECESSARY TO OFFICIALLY INFORM NATO OF THE SITUATION. IN ADDITION, IT WOULD BE USEFUL IN PAVING THE WAY FOR ANY BRITISH INITIATIVE WHICH MAY COME, AND CERTAINLY IT WOULD NOT CLOSE ANY OPTIONS.

2. I HAVE A FEW COMMENTS ON THE PAPER YOU AND ART LEFT WITH ME AND WHICH YOU REFERRED TO IN YOUR MESSAGE. I DO NOT KNOW, OF COURSE, WHAT THE BRITISH MAY HAVE DONE TO THE TEXT TO SHORTEN IT AND SO DO NOT KNOW HOW RELEVANT THESE COMMENTS ARE. HOWEVER, I WOULD SAY THE DRAFT AS IT STANDS IS PROBABLY NON-NEGOTIABLE. FURTHERMORE, I QUESTION WHETHER SOME POINTS IN IT ARE IN OUR INTEREST EVEN IF THEY WERE NEGOTIABLE. IN THE LATTER CATEGORY, I HAVE IN MIND LANGUAGE ON PARAGRAPH 10, WHERE THE COMMITMENT TO "KEEP EACH OTHER FULLY INFORMED ON POLICIES AS THEY DEVELOP" IS SO SWEEPING THAT I DOUBT WHETHER THE U.S. OR ANY ALLY COULD LIVE UP TO IT. IN PARAGRAPH 10, I ALSO HAVE SOME MISGIVINGS ABOUT "NEW MULTILATERAL AND BILATERAL CHANNELS," ON GROUNDS I HAVE OFTEN CITED, NAMELY, THE POTENTIAL FOR UNDERMINING EFFECTIVE NATO CONSULTATIONS. SOME ALLIES (FRANCE) WILL OBVIOUSLY OBJECT TO THE LANGUAGE IN PARAGRAPHS 9 AND 10 WHICH INTRODUCE LINKAGE BETWEEN ECONOMIC, POLITICAL, AND SECURITY ISSUES. LESSER PROBLEMS APPEAR IN PARAGRAPHS 4 AND 8 WHERE WE INTRODUCE IN A GENERALIZED WAY THE IDEA OF NATO'S INTERESTS

ON-FILE NSC RELEASE
INSTRUCTIONS APPLY

*****WHSR COMMENT*****

SCOWCROFT, MCFARLANE, RODMAN...SITRM DID NOT PASS SONNENFELDT

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OUTSIDE THE TREATY AREA, BUT THIS IS WORTH WORKING ON.

3. FINALLY, AS I TOLD YOU, MUCH OF THE LANGUAGE IN THE TEXT IS LANGUAGE WHICH I ALREADY SUBMITTED IN THE "THOUGHT GROUP" AND WHICH THE BRITISH DID NOT OFFICIALLY HAVE IN THEIR POSSESSION. SO, AS WE DISCUSSED, I PASSED A COPY OF THE LATEST "THOUGHT GROUP" DRAFT TO THE UK DELEGATION HERE INFORMALLY. NEVERTHELESS, ATTENTION WILL HAVE TO BE GIVEN TO HOW THE BRITISH HANDLE THE TEXT HERE IN NATO.

4. WARM REGARDS.

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RECALLED

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