

OP IMMED

211000Z FEB 76
FM MOSCOW

TO WHITE HOUSE

S E C R E T 211000Z FEB 76

25X1

FROM: AMBASSADOR STOESEL - MOSCOW 284
TO: GENERAL SCOWCROFT - WHITE HOUSE IMMEDIATE
SUBJECT: PRESS GUIDANCE FOR PNE NEGOTIATIONS
REFS: A. STATE'S 840477 (PNE MESSAGE NO. 22)
B. STATE'S 841796 (PNE MESSAGE NO. 25) AND PREVIOUS

1. WHILE WE HAVE HAD SOME INQUIRIES FROM CORRESPONDENTS HERE ABOUT PNE NEGOTIATIONS AND REQUESTED GUIDANCE FOR RESPONDING TO THEM, I FEEL THE GUIDANCE WE HAVE RECEIVED (REF A) IS UNRESPONSIVE AND WILL CAUSE MORE PROBLEMS IF RELEASED THAN WE NOW HAVE. I ALSO HAVE SOME CONCERN ABOUT SOVIET REACTION TO OUR PROPOSAL.

2. THE INTEREST OF THE CORRESPONDENTS IS FOCUSED ON WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF TBT AND PNE TREATY ARE NOT RATIFIED BY MARCH 31, 1976. WE ARE CLEARLY NOT GOING TO COMPLETE PNE NEGOTIATIONS UNTIL WELL INTO MARCH, IF THEN. RATIFICATION THEREAFTER OF BOTH TREATIES BY MARCH 31 WOULD SEEM TO BE PATENTLY IMPOSSIBLE. CONTENT OF REPTEL B THEREFORE APPEARS UNREALISTIC TO ME.

3. UNLESS SOMETHING MORE FORTHCOMING CAN BE DEVELOPED FOR PRESS GUIDANCE, I WOULD PREFER TO MAKE NO RELEASE.

4. WARM REGARDS,
S E C R E T
BT

State Dept. review completed

ON-FILE NSC RELEASE INSTRUCTIONS
APPLY

MORI C03203978

***** W H S R C O M M E N T *****

SCOWCROFT, HYLAND, MCFARLANE, RODMAN

PSN1004105 PAGE 01 OF 01 TOR:052/101372 . DTG:211000Z FEB 76

S E C R E T

*****S COPY