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Направляю полученное на имя М.С.Горбачева письмо А.Хаммера (основное содержание письма изложено в телеграмме из Вашингтона, спец. № 2399).

В письме предлагается принять в СССР президента американского исследовательского электроэнергетического института Ф.Каллера для оказания содействия в ликвидации последствий аварии на Чернобыльской АЭС. По словам Хаммера, Ф.Каллер является крупнейшим авторитетом в США в области ядерной энергетики и имеет опыт участия в подобного рода работах. Эта поездка, как и пребываниев Москве американского специалиста д-ра Гейла, носила бы частный характер.

Хаммер просит дать ответ до его отлета в Москву, который: намечен на 13 мая с.г. В случае нашего согласия Каллер вылетел бы вместе с ним.

Представляется целесообразным поручить Правительственной комиссии по ликвидации аварии на Чернобыльской АЭС рассмотреть предложение Хаммера и представить в оперативном порядке соображения на этот счет.

Одновременно А.Хаммер обращается с просьбой, чтобы М.С. Горбачев принял д-ра Гейла и его коллег для краткой беседы, после которой они провели бы пресс-конференцию, а также, если возможно, присутствовал на открытии выставки произведений искусств из коллекции Хаммера, которая откроется в Москве 15 мая с.г.

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HIS EXCELLENCY MAKHAIL S. GORBACHEV Ela om Xamey, non, de GENERAL SECRETARY OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE CENTRAL MICHAGY IN JULIA OF THE COMMUNIST PARTY OF THE SOVIET UNION in given like MOSCOW, USSR

DEAR MR. GENERAL SECRETARY:

LAST WEEK I SENT TO YOU AN URGENT MESSAGE IN THE WAKE OF THE CHERNOBYL ACCIDENT WHICH RESULTED IN THE EXCELLENT COOPERATIVE EFFORT NOW ON GOING BETWEEN DR. ROBERT GALE AND HIS TEAM AND YOUR EMINENT PHYSICIANS IN MOSCOW. I UNDERSTAND THIS PROGRESSES WELL AND HOPE THAT LIVES WILL BE SAVED AS A RESULT OF THIS NON-GOVERNMENTAL HUMANITARIAN EFFORT. THIS HAS BEEN WELL RECEIVED BY THE PRESS AND THE MEDIA.

YESTERDAY, THROUGH A MUTUAL FRIEND, I MET WITH A MR. FLOYD CULLER,
PRESIDENT OF THE ELECTRIC POWER RESEARCH INSTITUTE (EPRI) LOCATED IN
PALO ALTO, CALIFORNIA. EPRI IS THE RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT ARM OF
THE ELECTRIC UTILITY INDUSTRY IN THE UNITED STATES. IT IS A PRIVATE
ORGANIZATION FUNDED ENTIRELY BY THE UTILITIES. MR. CULLER IS ONE OF
AMERICA'S MOST EMINENT NUCLEAR POWER AUTHORITIES. I HAVE ATTACHED
HEREWITH A PARTIAL LISTING OF HIS ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND ACTIVITIES.

WAS SO IMPRESSED WITH THE POSSIBILITY FOR WIDENING OUR COOPERATIVE EFFORT THROUGH MR. CULLER'S EXPERTISE AND PERSONAL INVOLVEMENT ON A PRIVATE BASIS JUST AS WE DID WITH DR. GALE THAT I FELT COMPELLED TO BRING THIS TO YOUR ATTENTION.

WR. CULLER AND EPRI CAN DRAW UPON THE UNPARALLELED EXPERTISE AND EXPERIENCE OF THE US NUCLEAR POWER INDUSTRY. THE INDUSTRY HAS GAINED THIS KNOWLEDGE FROM YEARS OF OPERATIONAL ENTERPRISE AND FROM THE ACCIDENT AT THREE MILE ISLAND (TMI). WHILE NOT AS SERIOUS AN ACCIDENT AS CHERNOBYL IN THAT IT CAUSED NO DEATHS, IT HAS BEEN INDIRECTLY RESPONSIBLE FOR STOPPING ALL NEW NUCLEAR REACTOR ORDERS BY THE U.S. NUCLEAR INDUSTRY DUE TO MISCONCEPTIONS ABOUT THE ACCIDENT ITSELF AND CONCERN ABOUT SIMILAR OR WORSE ACCIDENTS AT OTHER AMERICAN FACILITIES.

WHILE CHERNOBYL APPEARS TO HAVE BEEN MORE SERIOUS THAN TMI. IT IS SHARING EFFECTS PARALLEL TO TMI IN THAT LOCAL AND WORLD POPULATIONS ARE BEING VERY FRIGHTENED AS A RESULT OF TWO SERIOUS ACCIDENTS IN SEVEN YEARS, ONE IN THE US AND ONE IN THE USSR. FOR CHERNOBYL THE NEED NOW IS TO UNDERSTAND HOW THE REACTOR ACCIDENT OCCURRED AND TO UNDERSTAND THE CONSEQUENCES. AN EVALUATION AND CONSULTATION BY AND WITH THE AMERICAN NUCLEAR POWER INDUSTRY WOULD BE OBJECTIVE AND SYMPATHETIC TO THE SOVIET SITUATION. THE AMERICAN INDUSTRY DESIRES FIRST AND FOREMOST TO DEMONSTRATE THAT NUCLEAR ENERGY WORKS. NOT THE OPPOSITE. THUS, THE SOVIETS WOULD NOT HAVE TO FEAR AN ACCUSING PROBE, RATHER THEY WOULD HAVE THE COOPERATION OF EXPERTS IN THIS AREA WHO COULD ASSIST THEM WITH INFORMATION EXCHANGE. SPECIFIC AREAS OF DISCUSSION COULD INCLUDE CLEAN-UP OF THE REACTOR SITE, CONTAINMENT OF RADIOACTIVITY, WATER SUPPLY MANAGEMENT, GENERAL HEALTH EFFECTS, METHODS OF AVOIDANCE OF FUTURE SUCH ACCIDENTS, AND LESSONS FOR THE WORLD NUCLEAR INDUSTRY IN PEACEFUL USES.

THERE HAVE BEEN PAST EXCHANGES WITH THE SOVIETS IN THIS REGARD. LAST SUMMER, MR. KONSTANTINOV, ONE OF YOUR OUTSTANDING NUCLEAR POWER EXPERTS WHO IS CURRENTLY A RANKING MEMBER OF THE INTERNATIONAL ATOMIC ENERGY AGENCY (IAEA), SPENT SEVERAL DAYS AT MR. CULLER'S INSTITUTE. THEY ARE WELL ACQUAINTED FROM THIS AND THROUGH THE IAEA.

THERE MAY BE RELUCTANCE TO ACCEPT AMERICAN AID. HOWEVER, WE HAVE SEEN THAT DR. GALE HAS ASSISTED IN SAVING LIVES. INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION, PARTICULARLY WITH THE UNITED STATES THROUGH NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS, COULD BE ESSENTIAL TO REPAIRING THE DAMAGE DONE, BOTH PHYSICALLY AND PSYCHOLOGICALLY. IT COULD ALSO PAVE THE WAY TO A NEW ERA OF COOPERATION IN PEACE FUL USES OF ATOMIC ENERGY, AS FORESEEN BY THE UNITED NATIONS MUCH EARLIER. MR. CULLER'S STANDING IS SO HIGH THAT HIS REPORT WOULD HELP CORRECT THE EXAGGERATIONS BY THE MEDIA AND ESTABLISH THAT THE USSR HAS BEEN AS FORTHCOMING AS POSSIBLE IN GIVING INFORMATION TO THE WORLD AS IT OBTAINS IT. HE ALSO UNDERSTANDS THE NECESSITY OF KEEPING THIS ON A CONFIDENTIAL BASIS SO AS TO AVOID A PANIC.

MR. GENERAL SECRETARY, I OFFER ASSISTANCE IN WHAT MUST BE A MUTUAL EFFORT TO TURN THIS ADVERSITY INTO A STRENGTHENING BOND OF PEACE.

PLAN TO ARRIVE IN MOSCOW ON TUESDAY AFTERNOON MAY 13 TO BE PRESENT FOR THE OPENING OF MY ART COLLECTION AT THE NEW STATE MUSEUM IN MOSGOW ON MAY 15 WHERE IT WILL REMAIN FOR SIX WEEKS AFTER A VERY SUCCESSFUL SHOWING AT THE HERMITAGE IN LENINGRAD. IF YOU HAVE NO OBJECTION, MR. CULLER WOULD FLY TO MOSCOW WITH ME TO BEGIN HIS MEETINGS WITH APPROPRIATE OFFICIALS SUCH AS MR. KONSTANTINOV. THIS WOULD BE A PRIVATE CONFIDENTIAL VISIT DESIGNED TO PROMOTE PEACE AND UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN OUR PEOPLE, AS I KNOW YOU WORK SO HARD TO DO. I HAVE ALREADY RECEIVED STATE DEPARTMENT APPROVAL AS THIS A PRIVATE VISIT.

I HOPE IT WILL BE POSSIBLE WHILE I AM IN MOSCOW FOR YOU TO RECEIVE DR. ROBERT GALE AND HIS THREE COLLEAGUES FOR A SHORT VISIT AFTER WHICH WE COULD HAVE A PRESS CONFERENCE TO SHOW THE WORK OF THE PRIVATE SECTOR TO SAVE LIVES. I ALSO HOPE YOU WILL HAVE A FEW MINUTES TO BE PRESENT AT THE OPENING OF MY ART COLLECTION IN MOSCOW.

I WILL AWAIT YOUR DECISION. I WILL BE IN LOS ANGELES UNTIL I DEPART. FOR MOSCOW ON MONDAY. I WOULD APPRECIATE RECEIVING AN ANSWER, AS IN THE GALE MATTER, THROUGH THE ACTING AMBASSADOR, MR. SOKOLOV.

WITH WARMEST REGARDS.

RESPECTFULLY,

ARMAND HAMMER

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