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2-5-76

Department of State

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TELEGRAM

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ACTION NODS-00

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INFO OCT-01 /001 W

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Z 062110Z FEB 76
FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
TO SECSTATE WASHDC FLASH 9628

SECRET MOSCOW 1835

NODIS CHEROKEE

FOR EAGLEBURGER FROM AMBASSADOR

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E.O. 11652: XGDS-3,4
TAGS: ASEC, US, UR
SUBJ: MOSCOW SIGNAL

1. ROBERT TOTTH, MOSCOW CORRESPONDENT FOR LOS ANGELES TIME, CALLED ME AT 11115 P.M. TODAY THAT HE HAD "FULL STORY" ON EMBASSY BRIEFING CONDUCTED TODAY FEB. 6. HE IS FILING STORY TONIGHT, OF WHICH FOLLOWING ARE HIGHLIGHTS: U.S. EMBASSY MOSCOW STAFF WAS TOLD TODAY IN SECRET BRIEFINGS THAT SOVIETS ARE LISTENING TO CONVERSATIONS WITHIN EMBASSY BY BEAMING RADIO SIGNALS AT EMBASSY; THESE SIGNALS COULD BE DANGEROUS TO HEALTH OF EMPLOYEES, ESPECIALLY PREGNANT WOMEN, AND HAVE POTENTIAL OF CAUSING LEUKEMIA.

2. I TOLD TOTTH I WAS UNABLE TO COMMENT. WE WILL HOLD TO "NO COMMENT" HERE BUT DEPARTMENT CAN EXPECT QUERIES AS SOON AS TOTTH'S STORY IS PUBLISHED. PLEASE ADVISE LINE SPOKESMAN WILL TAKE AND WHAT WE ARE AUTHORIZED TO SAY. AS PREVIOUSLY RECOMMENDED, WE FEEL IT WOULD BE USEFUL IF APPROPRIATE FACT SHEET COULD BE MADE AVAILABLE FOR DISTRIBUTION TO RESIDENT CORRESPONDENTS.

3. THIS DEVELOPMENT MAKES IT ALL THE MORE IMPERATIVE THAT WE NOTIFY DEPENDENTS SOONEST, PARTICULARLY TO COUNTER SENSATIONALIST ASPECTS OF TOTTH STORY AND INEVITABLE FOLLOW-UP. STOESEL

~~SECRET~~



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