

75- OUTGOING TELEGRAM
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

PPB 945
083304

FORM DS 322(OCR)

12 MAY 72 12 28

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S/S-O: JBRIMS
5/L2/72
S/S-O: JBRIMS

EUR:MR DAVIES

S/S-MR. ELIOT

HAD ON WRONG LINE *

70334

FLASH MOSCOW

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 96901 G
By NARA Date

EXDIS

FOR AMBASSADOR ONLY

SUBJ: MOSCOW SIGNAL PRESS GUIDANCE

FOLLOWING IS CONTINGENCY PRESS GUIDANCE UPON WHICH YOU MAY DRAW IN ANSWER TO QUESTIONS ON THIS SUBJECT: QUOTE STATEMENT - SINCE THE MIDDLE OF THE 1950'S, MICROWAVE SIGNALS HAVE BEEN BEAMED AGAINST THE REAR WALL OF THE U.S. CHANCERY BUILDING IN MOSCOW. FULL INVESTIGATIONS OF THIS MICROWAVE RADIATION SIGNAL HAVE BEEN CONDUCTED DOWN THROUGH THE YEARS. THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT WAS ESPECIALLY CONCERNED OVER THE POSSIBILITY THAT SUCH MICROWAVE RADIATION COULD HAVE HARMFUL BIOMEDICAL EFFECTS ON OUR EMBASSY PERSONNEL, PARTICULARLY THOSE WHO SERVED IN AFFECTED AREAS WITHIN OUR CHANCERY.

OUR INVESTIGATIONS HAVE PROVIDED NO EVIDENCE THAT THE RADIATION LEVEL COULD BE HARMFUL TO EMBASSY PERSONNEL. THE LEVEL OF RADIATION HAS REMAINED FAR BELOW THE DANGER LEVELS RECOGNIZED WITHIN THE UNITED STATES. THE U.S. SAFE EXPOSURE STANDARD IS 10.0 MILLIWATTS PER SQUARE CENTIMETER FOR CONSTANT EXPOSURE DURING A 24-HOUR PERIOD. THE SIGNAL BEAMED AT OUR EMBASSY IN MOSCOW HAS VARIED SLIGHTLY, BUT HAS BEEN AROUND 0.004 MILLIWATTS PER SQUARE CENTIMETER [MW/CM²]. THAT IS AN ENORMOUS DIFFERENCE AS YOU CAN SEE. THAT IS WHY WE BELIEVE NO HEALTH HAZARD IS INVOLVED.

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NEVERTHELESS, THIS ACTIVITY CAN ONLY BE DESCRIBED AS A FORM OF HARASSMENT. CONSEQUENTLY, THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT HAS MADE REPEATED PROTESTS TO THE SOVIET GOVERNMENT AGAINST THIS HARASSMENT. IN RESPONSE TO OUR APPROACHES, SOVIET AUTHORITIES HAVE CONSISTENTLY DENIED THAT A SPECIAL BEAM WAS DIRECTED AGAINST OUR EMBASSY AND HAVE MAINTAINED THAT THEIR INVESTIGATIONS INDICATED THERE WAS NO RADIATED SIGNAL IN THE VICINITY OF OUR EMBASSY ABOUT WHICH WE NEEDED TO FEEL CONCERN. THE SOVIET GOVERNMENT HAS ALSO SUGGESTED THAT THE SIGNALS WHICH WE WERE RECEIVING PROBABLY EMANATED FROM INSTRUMENTS IN RESEARCH INSTITUTIONS IN THE VICINITY OF THE EMBASSY. THE SOVIET GOVERNMENT HAS FURTHER STATED THAT ANY RADIATION IN THE AREA OF OUR EMBASSY IS ONLY A TINY FRACTION OF THE DANGER LEVELS ESTABLISHED BY THE UNITED STATES AND IS WELL BELOW SOVIET STANDARDS AS WELL. {THE SOVIET "SAFE" STANDARD IS .01 MILLIWATT PER SQUARE CENTIMETER.}

Q & A

- Q - WHEN DID WE FIRST BECOME AWARE OF THIS SIGNAL?
A - SHORTLY AFTER WE TOOK OCCUPANCY OF OUR PRESENT CHANCERY BUILDING IN MOSCOW, IN MARCH AND APRIL, 1953.
- Q - THEN THIS SIGNAL HAS BEEN BEAMED AGAINST THE EMBASSY FOR ABOUT NINETEEN YEARS? HAS IT VARIED IN ANY WAY IN THIS PERIOD?
A - IT HAS ALWAYS BEEN BEAMED IN DISCONTINUOUS FASHION, SOMETIMES ON SOMETIMES OFF.
- Q - WHAT WAS "PROJECT PANDORA" REFERRED TO IN THE PRESS STORY?
A - IT WAS AN EXPERIMENT DESIGNED TO SIMULATE THE BEAM AND TO DETERMINE ANY POSSIBLE EFFECTS IT MIGHT HAVE ON HEALTH. AS I MENTIONED IN MY STATEMENT, OUR INVESTIGATIONS HAVE DETERMINED THAT THE STRENGTH OF THE BEAM IS FAR TOO LOW TO CONSTITUTE A HEALTH HAZZARD.
- Q - THEN YOU ARE SAYING THAT THE REFERENCES IN THE PRESS STORY TO "DISTURBED DIPLOMATS" ARE NOT ACCURATE?
A - CORRECT. THEY ARE NOT ACCURATE.
- Q - IF BOTH THE STATE DEPARTMENT AND THE SOVIET GOVERNMENT ARE AGREED THAT THE RADIATION LEVEL IS FAR BELOW THE ACCEPTED MINIMUM SAFETY LEVEL, WHY DID WE PROTEST THIS IN THE FIRST PLACE?
A - REGARDLESS OF THE LEVEL, THERE IS A SIGNAL BEING BEAMED AGAINST OUR EMBASSY IN MOSCOW. WE WANTED TO CALL THIS TO THE ATTENTION OF THE SOVIET GOVERNMENT AND, IF POSSIBLE, TO HAVE THIS ACTIVITY CEASE.

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- Q - WHY DO WE THINK THE RUSSIANS ARE DOING THIS?
A - I'D PREFER NOT TO GET INTO SPECULATION ON THAT.
Q - HAVE YOU PROTESTED THIS MATTER RECENTLY?
A - WE HAVE MADE A NUMBER OF REPRESENTATIONS TO THE SOVIET UNION OVER THE YEARS. THEY ARE FULLY AWARE OF OUR DISPLEASURE. WE HAVE NOT RAISED IT WITH THEM IN THE LAST YEAR OR TWO. NATURALLY, WE RESERVE THE OPTION OF TAKING IT UP WITH THEM AGAIN.

TO BE USED ONLY IF ASKED:

- Q - DID THE STATE DEPARTMENT WARN ITS PERSONNEL GOING TO MOSCOW TO SERVE IN THE EMBASSY OF THIS DANGER?
A - WE DO NOT CONSIDER THIS A DANGER TO THE HEALTH OF OUR PERSONNEL, SO THERE WAS NO NEED TO WARN THEM. IF THIS HAD EVER BEEN THE CASE, WE WOULD HAVE DONE SO, BUT AS I'VE SAID IT WAS NOT THE CASE.

TO BE USED ONLY IF ASKED:

- Q - HAVE WE TAKEN THIS MATTER UP WITH GROMYKO? BREZHNEV?
A - I'M NOT GOING TO GET INTO THE SPECIFICS OF OUR PROTESTS. I CAN SAY THIS HAS BEEN TAKEN UP AT A HIGH LEVEL. UNQUOTE.44

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1970-73 Subject-Numeric File
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