



Mr. Hyland passed to  
M. Vorontsov - 12:30 pm,  
3/9/76

The American side regards the account of events and facts surrounding the problem of non-ionized electromagnetic radiation directed at our Moscow Embassy contained in Ambassador Dobrynin's presentation of February 16 to be distorted, ~~and incorrect~~.

The American side has never accepted and does not accept the contention that the electromagnetic radiation experienced in our Moscow Embassy is industrial in nature or comparable in any fashion to background levels of radiation in Moscow or any other large industrial center. The American side considers that the measurements jointly made by US and Soviet experts conclusively prove that the radiation is highly directional in nature and stems from nearby sources, despite the fact that the level of these emanations during the period of experts' measurements was well below levels consistently observed by US experts during the previous months. Beyond this, it was apparent that the Soviet experts had been instructed not to join US experts in taking measurements in areas surrounding the Embassy and on the Embassy roof which would have proved this point even more conclusively.

The American side cannot agree with the contention that measurements jointly taken by US and Soviet experts indicate that US installations are in any way responsible for the levels of radiation jointly measured inside the Embassy. This suggestion was rejected by the US experts at the time and it remains the position of the US side that the source of the radiation which has been described to the Soviet side is external to the Embassy building.

It is the position of the American side that any avoidable level of radiation above that normally present in large metropolitan areas is unacceptable for a general population of men, women and children, and that levels observed within the American Embassy have at times exceeded Soviet safety standards, present a potential health hazard and should be promptly stopped.

The American side has long since laid out its considerations to the Soviet side, and has urgently pursued every avenue leading to meaningful negotiations on all aspects of the problem. In meetings at the



highest level and personal messages from President Ford attempts have been made over several months to impress upon the Soviet side the full seriousness of the situation and the potential consequences of a failure to find a solution for US-Soviet relations. It had long been clear to the Soviet side that the American side recognized its obligation to brief its employees and install protective screening in the event that no prompt and definitive solution was found to the problem, and the Soviet side was informed that these steps would be initiated on or after February 4. It was only on that date, after arrangements for a briefing the following day were announced, that the Soviet side belatedly expressed readiness to deal with the situation frankly and seriously.

The US side remains ready to reach a mutually satisfactory solution which will lead to complete cessation of the emanations directed at our Embassy, as evidenced by recent unilateral steps we have taken in Moscow. American spokesmen have avoided any but the briefest of comments on press stories which inevitably resulted from the briefing of our employees, and from a story appearing in the Soviet Government newspaper, "Izvestiya," in the hopes that this would assist the negotiating process. But it should be clear that the American side views the unilateral actions of the Soviet authorities in this case as a violation of accepted norms of international behavior and as inconsistent with efforts to relax tensions between our countries. If these activities are not stopped, it is the Soviet side which must bear the full and inevitable consequences in terms of the inevitable deterioration of the atmosphere in which our relations are conducted.

*and which we assume the Soviet side has observed.*

