

## Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 STATE 269477  
ORIGIN EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PA-02 PRS-01 USIA-15 (ISO)R

DRAFTED BY EUR/P:WJGEHRON:ST

APPROVED BY EUR/P:WJGEHRON

EUR/SOV - MR. LEVITSKY

S/PRS - MR. BROWN

USIA/IPS/PE - MR. KAREGEANNES

-----056382 102230Z /53

O 101520Z NOV 77

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS STATE 269477

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, MO

SUBJECT: TEXT OF NOON BRIEFING ON MICROWAVES, NOVEMBER 9

1. FULL TEXT NOON BRIEFING NOVEMBER 9 ON MOSCOW MICROWAVES CARRIED IN TODAY'S EUR WIRELESS FILE.
2. THERE FOLLOWS STATEMENT ON MICROWAVE SITUATION AS MADE BY DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN:

QUOTE: STARTING SEPTEMBER 7TH, THE LEVELS OF RADIATION HAVE INCREASED ON A NUMBER OF OCCASIONS FOR PERIODS OF LESS THAN ONE HOUR. ON TWO SUCH OCCASIONS MAXIMUM INTENSITIES OF ALMOST 9 MICROWATTS WERE MEASURED ON THE EMBASSY ROOF. MAXIMUM MEASUREMENTS IN OPEN EMBASSY OFFICE WINDOWS WITH SCREENS REMOVED DID NOT EXCEED 6 MICROWATTS.

PREVIOUS LEVELS FOR APPROXIMATELY THE LAST 18 MONTHS DID NOT EXCEED 2 MICROWATTS INSIDE THE BUILDING. LET ME JUST UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 STATE 269477

RECALL TO YOU THAT THE CURRENT U.S. SAFETY STANDARD IS 10,000 MICROWATTS PER SQUARE CENTIMETER FOR UNLIMITED PERIODS OF TIME. THE SOVIET OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY STANDARD IS 10 MICROWATTS PER SQUARE CENTIMETER FOR THE WORKING WEEK. YOU HAVE TO THINK ABOUT THAT FOR A MINUTE BEFORE YOU UNDERSTAND IT.

"WOULD YOU COMMENT ON THE BELIEF BY SOME PERSONS THAT THE MICROWAVES BEAMED AT THE EMBASSY COULD HAVE CAUSED THE HEALTH PROBLEMS?"

THE ANSWER TO THAT ONE IS, AS WE HAVE STATED REPEATEDLY, THERE IS NO EVIDENCE TO DATE THAT THESE SIGNALS AT RECORDED LEVELS NOW OR AT ANY LEVELS IN THE PAST HAVE ADVERSELY AFFECTED THE HEALTH OF OUR EMPLOYEES. IN ORDER TO IDENTIFY POSSIBLE DELAY HEALTH EFFECTS, IF ANY, OF EXPOSURE TO LOW-INTENSITY MICROWAVE RADIATION OVER PERIODS OF MONTHS, WE HAVE, AS YOU KNOW, CONTRACTED WITH JOHNS HOPKINS TO UNDERTAKE AN EXHAUSTIVE EPIDEMIOLOGICAL STUDY.

THE RESEARCH CONTINUES, BUT WE DON'T EXPECT TO HAVE THE FINDINGS UNTIL THE ANALYSIS OF THE DATA COLLECTED IS COMPLETED IN JUNE 1978. THE FINDINGS WILL BE MADE PUBLIC AS SOON AS THEY ARE AVAILABLE.

ON THE QUESTION OF WHY THE PROTECTIVE SCREENING WAS INSTALLED IF THERE WAS NO EVIDENCE TO DATE OF A HEALTH HAZARD, THE ANSWER IS THE SCREENING WAS INSTALLED DURING THE PERIOD OF ESCALATION IN 1975-76 OF THE INTENSITY OF RADIATION AS A PROPHYLACTIC MEASURE AS WE DID NOT KNOW HOW HIGH THE LEVELS WOULD GO.

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 STATE 269477

AT THE SAME TIME, WE WANTED TO ALLEVIATE THE ANXIETY OF THE STAFF AS A RESULT OF THE RADIATION. THE SCREENING HAS HAD THE EFFECT OF ATTENUATING THE INTENSITY BY 90 PERCENT OR MORE WITHIN THE CHANCERY BUILDING. SOME OF THE SCREENS WERE DESTROYED ON THE OFFICE FLOORS THAT WERE AFFECTED BY THE RECENT FIRE IN THE EMBASSY. THEY ARE BEING REPLACED.

WE ARE CONTINUING TO PRESS THE SOVIETS TO TURN OFF THE SIGNALS, AND ARE TAKING, OF COURSE, ALL POSSIBLE MEASURES MEANWHILE TO PROTECT OUR EMPLOYEES.

GETTING DOWN TO THE QUESTION THAT HAS BEEN MOST RECENTLY RAISED BY THE STORIES WE'RE TALKING ABOUT, THE STORY -- I THINK IT IS AN AP STORY FROM MOSCOW -- REPORTED THAT 223 ADULTS REPRESENTING VIRTUALLY ALL THE EMBASSY STAFF AND THEIR SPOUSES HAVE BEEN GIVEN MEDICAL TESTS REPORTEDLY SHOWING THAT 1 OUT OF 29 TESTED HAD A MYSTERIOUS BLOOD CONDITION RESULTING IN ABNORMALLY HIGH LEVELS OF WHITE CELLS.

WE HAVE NOT DETECTED TOTAL WHITE BLOOD COUNTS WHICH

HAVE DEVIATED FROM THE NORMAL SPREAD. IF YOU'RE GOING TO ASK ME WHAT THE NORMAL SPREAD IS, I DON'T HAVE IT HERE, BUT I THINK WE DO HAVE IT IN THE FILE. THE VOLUNTARY BLOOD COUNT PROGRAM AT OUR EMBASSY HAS SHOWN A MILD DEVIATION IN LYMPHOCYTE COUNTS AFFECTING AT TIMES AS MANY AS ONE-THIRD OF THE PERSONS TESTED. THESE ELEVATED COUNTS HAVE FREQUENTLY BEEN OBSERVED IN CONNECTION WITH VIRAL INFECTIONS AND INTESTINAL PARASITIC INFESTATIONS. THESE ELEVATED COUNTS HAVE OCCURRED WITH EQUAL INCIDENCE AMONG INDIVIDUALS WHO HAVE NOT WORKED OR LIVED IN AREAS OF THE EMBASSY SUBJECTED TO RADIATION. THE ELEVATED LYMPHOCYTE COUNTS ARE NOT PERMANENT. THEY RETURN TO NORMAL WITHIN A FEW WEEKS OF DEPARTURE FROM MOSCOW. VANCE  
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 04 STATE 269477

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** TEXT, BRIEFING MATERIALS, RADIATION MEASURING DEVICES  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 10-Nov-1977 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** Released in Full  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** 200604732  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 20-Dec-2007 12:00:00 am  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** Released in Full by FRANK PEREZ on 20-DEC-07 ;  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977STATE269477  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** WJGEHRON:ST  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D770416-0260  
**Format:** TEL  
**From:** STATE  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1977/newtext/t19771173/aaaackei.tel  
**Line Count:** 136  
**Litigation Code IDs:**  
**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Message ID:** 106b0c1d-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ORIGIN EUR  
**Original Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 3  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 27-Jan-2005 12:00:00 am  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 636306  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** TEXT OF NOON BRIEFING ON MICROWAVES, NOVEMBER 9  
**TAGS:** PFOR, PDIP, ASEC, MO, UR  
**To:** MOSCOW  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvkey:** odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/106b0c1d-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009