

*** Current Classification *** ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

<<<<*** SAS DOCUMENT HEADER ***>>>>

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FROM= STATE

DRAFTER= PM/TMP:BTUA

OFFICE= ORIGIN PM

TO= MOSCOW
GENEVA

Dept. of State, RPS/IPS, Margaret P. Grafeld, Dir. **AA**
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SUBJECT= VISIT TO MOSCOW OF PROFESSOR MATTHEW MESELSON

REFERENCE= 86 STATE 267418, 86 MOSCOW 14971, 86 STATE 291907

CONTROL_NBR= n/a

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CONCEPTS= VISIT, SCIENTIST, CONSULTATION, INCIDENT, INVITATION, SCIENTIFIC VISIT

TAGS= PARM, UR, (MESELSON, MATTHEW)

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GENEVA FOR USDEL CD

E.O. 12356: DECL:OADR
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~~1. CONFIDENTIAL~~ - ENTIRE TEXT

2. ON JANUARY 20, HARVARD BIOCHEMIST MATTHEW MESELSON INFORMED PM/TMP CW OFFICER TUA THAT HE WILL BE IN MOSCOW JANUARY 25-30 AT THE INVITATION OF THE SOVIET ACADEMY OF SCIENCES TO CONTINUE HIS CONSULTATIONS WITH SOVIET SCIENTISTS ON THE 1979 ANTHRAX OUTBREAK IN THE SOVIET CITY OF SVERDLOVSK. ADDRESSEES WILL RECALL THAT MESELSON VISITED THE USSR IN 1986 TO DISCUSS THE INCIDENT (REFTELS).

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3. MESELSON, WHO WILL TRAVEL FIRST TO GENEVA TO ATTEND THE PUGWASH CONFERENCE ON MONITORING OF THE CHEMICAL INDUSTRY, TOLD US THAT HE PLANS TO PUSH THE SOVIETS TO SPEED UP WORK ON THE SCIENTIFIC ARTICLE ON THE SVERDLOVSK INCIDENT WHICH THEY HAD AGREED TO PREPARE. HE ALSO INTENDS TO POSE ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS TO THE SOVIETS ON

THE INCIDENT AND HOPES TO ESTABLISH A DATE FOR A PRIVATE VISIT TO THE US BY SOVIET SCIENTISTS WHO WOULD DELIVER A SERIES OF TALKS ON OUTBREAKS OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES IN THE USSR AND DISCUSS THE SVERDLOVSK INCIDENT.

3. DURING HIS 1986 TRIP, MESELSON DEBRIEFED EMBASSY MOSCOW CHARGE ON HIS DISCUSSIONS WITH THE SOVIETS, AND HE HAS OFFERED TO MEET WITH EMBASSY OFFICIALS AGAIN. WE SUGGESTED THAT HE CONTACT POL COUNSELOR RAMEE TO SEE WHETHER MEETING WITH AMBASSADOR OR DCM WOULD BE POSSIBLE.

4. MOSCOW MINIMIZE CONSIDERED.
SHULTZ

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