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ORIGIN ACDA-12

INFO	LOG-00	ADS-00	INR-10	EUR-00	SS-00	OIC-02	CIAE-00
	EB-00	DODE-00	H-01	IO-19	NSCE-00	NSAE-00	L-03
	NRCE-00	PM-10	EPA-01	INRE-00	OES-09	SP-02	DOEE-00
	NRC-02	SNP-01	CEQ-01	T-01	/074 R		

DRAFTED BY: ACDA/MA/STP:RMIKULAK  
APPROVED BY: STATE/EUR:TWSIMONS  
ACDA/VI:RMORROW  
PM/TMP:FVOGEL  
JSC/J-5:TCATALDO

EUR/SOV:NMCELDOWNEY  
OSD/ISP:GLOVELACE

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INFO USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY  
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY

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GENEVA FOR CD DEL

E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR  
TAGS: PARM, CDG, UR, CBW  
SUBJECT: BIOLOGICAL AND TOXIN WEAPONS CONVENTION;  
ACTION REQUEST

REF: (A) 86 STATE 323239 (B) 87 MOSCOW 4916

1. [REDACTED]
2. ACTION REQUEST PARA 7 BELOW.
3. SOVIETS HAVE RECENTLY BECOME MORE ACTIVE POLITICALLY ON BIOLOGICAL WEAPONS ARMS CONTROL ISSUES. IN THIS EFFORT THEY ARE CIRCUMVENTING OFFICIAL CHANNELS BY DEALING [REDACTED]

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PRIMARILY WITH NON-GOVERNMENTAL GROUPS IN THE UNITED STATES. WHILE WE DO NOT OPPOSE SUCH DISCUSSIONS, WE WOULD

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
REVIEW AUTHORITY: THEODORE SELLIN  
DATE/CASE ID: 2 APR 2003 200103181

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LIKE TO MAKE CLEAR TO THE SOVIETS THAT THEY NEED TO DEAL WITH USG CONCERNS THROUGH OFFICIAL CHANNELS AS WELL.

4. 1979 SVERDLOVSK ANTHRAX OUTBREAK --

-- PURSUANT TO REF A, EMBASSY MOSCOW REQUESTED USSR TO PROVIDE A REPORT ON THE 1979 SVERDLOVSK ANTHRAX OUTBREAK THAT HAD BEEN REFERRED TO BY A SOVIET OFFICIAL DURING THE 1986 REVIEW CONFERENCE FOR THE 1972 BIOLOGICAL AND TOXIN WEAPONS CONVENTION. REF B CONTAINS THE TWO-AND-A-HALF PAGE REPORT PROVIDED BY THE SOVIETS IN RESPONSE TO THE U.S. REQUEST.

-- DURING THE WEEK OF APRIL 11-15, 1988, THREE SENIOR SOVIET HEALTH OFFICIALS PRESENTED TALKS IN THE UNITED STATES UNDER NON-GOVERNMENTAL AUSPICES ON THE SVERDLOVSK OUTBREAK: PYOTR BURGASOV, RETIRED DEPUTY MINISTER OF HEALTH; VLADIMIR NIKIFOROV, INFECTIOUS DISEASES CHIEF AT THE MOSCOW INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED TRAINING OF PHYSICIANS; AND VLADIMIR SERGIYEV, DIRECTOR OF THE INSTITUTE OF PARASITOLOGY AND TROPICAL MEDICINE. (ALL THREE WERE REPORTEDLY DIRECTLY INVOLVED IN DEALING WITH THE 1979 OUTBREAK: BURGASOV AS THE RESPONSIBLE PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICIAL, SERGIYEV AS HIS DEPUTY, AND NIKIFOROV AS THE PRINCIPAL ANTHRAX SPECIALIST.) THE INFORMATION PRESENTED WAS MORE DETAILED THAN THAT PROVIDED IN THE REPORT REF B.

-- WE UNDERSTAND THAT NIKIFOROV HAS ALSO PREPARED A VOLUME CONTAINING A LARGE NUMBER OF PHOTOGRAPHS OF VICTIMS.

5. SOVIET DATA DECLARATION --

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-- PURSUANT TO THE AGREEMENT REACHED AT THE 1986 REVIEW CONFERENCE FOR THE CONVENTION, THE SOVIETS SUBMITTED TO THE UN IN OCTOBER 1987 DATA ON CERTAIN TYPES OF BIOLOGICAL FACILITIES. THEIR LIST INCLUDES TWO MILITARY RESEARCH INSTITUTES SPECIALIZING IN BIOLOGICAL DEFENSE:

--- SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH INSTITUTE FOR MILITARY MEDICINE, LENINGRAD;

--- SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH INSTITUTE FOR MICROBIOLOGY (FACILITIES IN KIROV, SVERDLOVSK, ZAGORSK, AND ARALSK.

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REPORTEDLY SVERDLOVSK FACILITY IS AT LOCATION WHERE  
MILITARY INSTALLATION BELIEVED TO HAVE BEEN INVOLVED IN  
SVERDLOVSK OUTBREAK IS SITUATED.)

6. DISCUSSIONS BETWEEN U.S. AND SOVIET SCIENCE ACADEMIES --

-- IN CONNECTION WITH SEMI-ANNUAL ARMS CONTROL DISCUSSIONS  
BETWEEN THE U.S. AND USSR ACADEMIES OF SCIENCE, U.S. AND  
SOVIET EXPERTS EXCHANGED VIEWS ON BIOLOGICAL WEAPONS ARMS  
CONTROL ON MAY 9, 10 AND 11. VISIT INCLUDED TRIP TO U.S.  
ARMY MEDICAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES, ONE  
OF THE PRINCIPAL FACILITIES IN U.S. BIOLOGICAL DEFENSE  
PROGRAM. SOVIETS WERE BRIEFED IN GENERAL TERMS ON U.S.  
PROGRAM AND PROVIDED COPY OF UNCLASSIFIED DOD REPORT TO  
CONGRESS ON IT. SOVIET GROUP INCLUDED MFA REP (SMIDOVICH)  
AND MOD REP (LISSOV); U.S. GROUP DID NOT, HOWEVER, INCLUDE  
USG REPS.

7. ACTION REQUEST --

PLEASE COMMUNICATE THE FOLLOWING POINTS TO APPROPRIATE  
FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIALS:

-- THE USG HAS NOTED WITH INTEREST THE STEPS BEING TAKEN BY  
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██████████

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THE USSR TOWARD GREATER OPENNESS IN AREAS RELATED TO THE  
1972 BIOLOGICAL AND TOXIN WEAPONS CONVENTION.

-- WE BELIEVE THAT THE SUBMISSION OF DATA TO THE UN  
CONCERNING CERTAIN TYPES OF BIOLOGICAL FACILITIES  
REPRESENTS A CONSTRUCTIVE ACTION. WE HAVE ALSO NOTED THE  
VISIT OF SOVIET HEALTH OFFICIALS TO THE U.S. IN APRIL TO  
DISCUSS THE 1979 SVERDLOVSK OUTBREAK WITH AMERICAN  
SCIENTISTS. ALTHOUGH US CONCERNS REMAIN, WE WELCOME THE  
PROVISION OF NEW INFORMATION AND THE OPPORTUNITY TO DISCUSS  
THESE ISSUES.

-- THE USG WISHES TO STRESS THE IMPORTANCE OF DEALING WITH  
BIOLOGICAL WEAPONS ARMS CONTROL MATTERS THROUGH OFFICIAL  
CHANNELS.

-- THE USG CONTINUES TO CONSIDER THE 1979 SVERDLOVSK  
OUTBREAK AN IMPORTANT UNRESOLVED ISSUE. WE ARE  
DISAPPOINTED THAT MUCH LESS INFORMATION HAS BEEN PROVIDED

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THROUGH OFFICIAL CHANNELS THAN THROUGH UNOFFICIAL ONES. FOR EXAMPLE, THE BRIEF DOCUMENT PROVIDED TO THE USG IN EARLY 1987 CONTAINED MUCH LESS INFORMATION THAN THE PRESENTATIONS RECENTLY MADE TO AMERICAN SCIENTISTS IN PRIVATE DISCUSSIONS. IN VIEW OF THE CONCERNS EXPRESSED OFFICIALLY BY THE USG, WE ASK THAT THE SOVIET GOVERNMENT PROVIDE, THROUGH OFFICIAL CHANNELS, ADDITIONAL INFORMATION THAT IT BELIEVES WOULD CONTRIBUTE TO RESOLUTION OF US CONCERNS AND THAT CAN BE INDEPENDENTLY SUBSTANTIATED.

-- IN THIS CONNECTION, WE ALSO REQUEST ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON THE LOCATION OF EACH OF THE FACILITIES ASSOCIATED WITH THE USSR MINISTRY OF DEFENSE SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH INSTITUTE FOR MICROBIOLOGY, AS LISTED IN THE

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OCTOBER 1987 SUBMISSION TO THE UN. WHILE STREET ADDRESSES WERE GIVEN, THIS IS INSUFFICIENT TO ELIMINATE AMBIGUITY, GIVEN THE LACK OF ACCESS TO THESE FACILITIES. THUS, WE WOULD APPRECIATE RECEIVING MATERIAL (FOR EXAMPLE, DIAGRAMS, MAPS, COORDINATES) INDICATING MORE PRECISELY WHERE THESE FACILITIES ARE LOCATED WITHIN THEIR RESPECTIVE CITIES. IN PARTICULAR, WE WOULD LIKE TO KNOW IF THE INSTITUTE'S MILITARY EPIDEMIOLOGY SECTOR, WHICH IS LOCATED IN SVERDLOVSK, IS SITUATED IN OR NEAR THE MILITARY FACILITY REFERRED TO IN PRESS REPORTS AS "MILITARY CANTONMENT 19"?

8. FOR GENEVA: CD DEL MAY ALSO RAISE POINTS PARA 7 WITH SOVIET DEL MEMBERS. . ARMACOST

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