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SUMMARY

The Reykjavik Ministerial Meeting of NATO

A. The following issues comprise the Agenda at Reykjavik:

1. Mutual Force Reductions

We have proposed a resolution (declaration) on mutual force reductions indicating NATO is studying the matter and expressing the hope that the Communist countries will also study it with a view of exploring such reductions together. Overall NATO military strength should be maintained. Unilateral troop reductions by the West could undermine our efforts toward MFR. In addition, such reductions would cast doubt on the validity of the strategy of flexible response and reduce the President's options in a time of crisis.

2. Mediterranean Security

The meeting will discuss ways and means of countering Soviet penetration into the Mediterranean and its growing political and military power there. We have recommended modest, non-provocative measures which will be considered. These are: a watching brief for Brosio to report to the North Atlantic Council and make recommendations; increased surveillance of Soviet fleet activities by use of existing NATO resources; the study of the establishment of an on-call NATO naval force for use in time of crisis or tension.

3. East-West Relations

Developments in East-West relations since 1966 will be reviewed, particularly recent events in Czechoslovakia and developments regarding access to Berlin. The Ministers will note a report on contacts between NATO governments and the Eastern European countries including the Soviet Union.

B. Additional Items

1. Vietnam

Secretary Rusk plans to meet in restricted session to

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discuss Vietnam and the European views on what they would like to see develop in Southeast Asia after peace is achieved.

2. Non-Proliferation Treaty

A favorable attitude and possible adherence to the Treaty by potential nuclear states (Italy, Federal Republic of Germany) have been facilitated by intensive consultations in NATO during the negotiation of the NPT. We hope to gain further support at Reykjavik. To reassure our Allies, we are prepared to state once again our continued commitment to NATO. A favorable reference in Reykjavik to progress in the NPT and an expression of hope for similar arms control measures could exert pressure on the USSR to move forward on limitation of offensive and defensive strategic delivery systems. German efforts to link Berlin access developments and signature of NPT by FRG will also be discussed in US-FRG bilateral talks at Reykjavik.

3. Burden-Sharing

We continue trying to get the Europeans to increase their own defense efforts. We have negotiated arrangements with several of our Allies -- most recently with the Federal Republic and Belgium -- to neutralize the balance of payments impact of our military expenditures in Europe.