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PASS DEFENSE

ALTHOFF-PARR INCIDENT

MILNIKIEL INFORMED ME AS FOLLOWS:

1. LT. COL. WOOTTEN HAS ENGAGED IN ACTIVITIES CONTRARY TO HIS DIPLOMATIC STATUS AND POLISH AUTHORITIES REQUEST HIS DEPARTURE WITHIN TWO WEEKS.
2. MILITARY PROSECUTOR GENERAL HAS WRITTEN TO FONMIN STATING THAT MATERIALS FOUND IN BRIEFCASE SHOW CONCLUSIVELY THAT

DECLASSIFIED
E.O. 12958, Sec. 3.6
NLJ 01-278
By us, NARA, Date 1-6-03

PAGE TWO RUDKRW 135A ~~C O N F I D E N T I A L~~

ALTHOFF AND PARR WERE ENGAGED IN ACTIVE INTELLIGENCE WORK. WHILE INVESTIGATION CONTINUES CONTENTS OF BRIEFCASE MUST BE RETAINED BY POLISH AUTHORITIES AS MATERIAL EVIDENCE. BOTH WLTTHOFF AND PARR MUST ALSO DEPART WITHIN TWO WEEKS.

3. IN VIEW RECURRENCE ATTACHE INCIDENTS, FONMIN REQUESTS THAT UNITED STATES SERIOUSLY CONSIDER THE REDUCTION IN THE NUMBER OF DEFENSE PERSONNEL ASSIGNED TO WARSAW.

4. FONMIN INTENDS TO INITIATE NO PUBLICITY IN THIS MATTER AND URGES THAT WE DO LIKEWISE.

5. I SAID THAT ALTHOUGH WE WOULD TRY TO PREVENT PUBLICITY AT THIS END IT SEEMED UNLIKELY THAT THREE MEMBERS OF STAFF COULD DEPART EXPEDITIOUSLY WITHOUT CAUSING PRESS INQUIRIES. MILNIKIEL VOLUNTEERED TO ASSIST EMBASSY IN ANY WAY TO MAKE UP STORIES ABOUT THESE SUDDEN DEPARTURES THAT WOULD HIDE TRUE FACTS. HE SAID HE WAS SURE THAT WE COULD DEVELOP "LITTLE COMEDIES" WHICH COULD MISLEAD THE PRESS.

6. I REPLIED THAT I WAS NOT SURE WHAT WASHINGTON'S REACTION WOULD BE WITH REGARD TO PUBLICITY BUT WOULD TRANSMIT HIS THOUGHTS FOR CONSIDERATION.

COMMENT: MILNIKIEL REFUSED TO BE DRAWN OUT RE WOOTTEN

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SIMPLY NO COMMENTING ALL MY REQUESTS FOR DETAILS. RE CONTENTS OF BRIEFCASE, MILNIKIEL EXPRESSED PERSONAL OPINION THAT THEY NEVER WOULD BE RETURNED. REMARKS RE REDUCTION OF DEFENSE STAFF CARRY IMPLIED THREAT THAT REPLACEMENT VISAS WILL NOT BE GRANTED IF WE RETALIATE IN ANY WAY. THOSE MEMBERS OF STAFF WHO HAVE BEEN INFORMED ABOUT CONVERSATION ARE UNDER STRICT INSTRUCTIONS TO HOLD INFORMATION CLOSELY PENDING WASHINGTON DECISCCN RE PUBLICITY. PLEASE INFORM AMBASSADOR GRONOUSKI URGENTLY.

GP-3.

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