



NO. 203

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 1982

(TEXT) SECRETARY OF STATE SHULTZ'S PRESS CONFERENCE AT SPASO
HOUSE, NOVEMBER 14, 1982

THIS IS ON THE RECORD WITH THE SECRETARY OF STATE. WE ARE GOING TO TAKE THREE QUESTIONS -- ONE EACH FROM THE NETWORKS ON CAMERA AND THEN WE ARE GOING TO ASK THE CAMERAS TO SHUT DOWN AND THEN WE WILL CONTINUE.

(BEGIN TEXT)

Q. NBC RANDALL - "MR. SECRETARY, I WONDER IF YOU WOULD ADDRESS YOURSELF TO THE QUESTION OF WHAT SHOULD BE UNDERSTOOD BY THE HIGH LEVEL OF AMERICAN REPRESENTATION AT MR. BREZHNEV'S FUNERAL. AND SHOULD IT BE TAKEN IN CONTEXT WITH OTHER EVENTS SUCH AS THE END OF THE PIPELINE SANCTIONS AND MR. REAGAN'S MESSAGE TO THE EFFECT THAT HE WOULD LIKE TO SEE AN IMPROVEMENT IN RELATIONS AFTER THE TRANSITION PERIOD IN THE SOVIET UNION. WHAT DOES YOUR VISIT AND MR. BUSH'S VISIT HERE SIGNIFY? IS IT A SIGNAL?"

A. "EXACTLY WHAT THE PRESIDENT SAID. IT IS AN EXPRESSION ON THE ONE HAND OF OUR RESPECT FOR A HUMAN BEING AND CONDOLENCES BEING EXPRESSED TO PRESIDENT BREZHNEV AND THE PEOPLES OF THE SOVIET UNION. IT IS ALSO AN EXPRESSION (ALSO LIKE THE PRESIDENT SAID) THAT IF CONSTRUCTIVE BEHAVIOR EMERGES ON THE PART OF THE SOVIET UNION, THE UNITED STATES IS PREPARED TO RESPOND AND IS PREPARED FOR A MORE CONSTRUCTIVE RELATIONSHIP THAN WE'VE HAD IN PAST YEARS.

Q. ABC ZELNICK - "MR. SECRETARY, THE SOVIETS HAVE IN ONE FORM OR ANOTHER BEEN PUBLICIZING A RATHER LONG LIST OF GRIEVANCES AS REGARDS U.S. FOREIGN POLICY EVEN BEFORE OCTOBER 27 BUT CERTAINLY SINCE PRESIDENT BREZHNEV'S OCTOBER 27 SPEECH -- ARE YOU BRINGING ANY SORT OF MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES, THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES, THAT THERE IS ROOM FOR CONCILIATION, NEGOTIATION, CHANGE ON BOTH SIDES?"

A. "WELL, I CAN'T REALLY IMAGINE WHY ANYONE WOULD HAVE GRIEVANCES AGAINST OUR POLICIES AND OUR FOREIGN POLICIES. THEY ARE CONSTRUCTIVE. OUR EFFORTS ARE FOR PROBLEM-SOLVING ALL AROUND THE WORLD. WE MUST OF COURSE MAINTAIN OUR STRENGTH, OUR STRENGTH IN OUR DEFENSE CAPABILITIES, THE STRENGTH OF OUR ECONOMY, OUR WILL POWER. THESE ARE THINGS WHICH ARE PRESENT AND AT THE SAME TIME, AS WE HAVE DEMONSTRATED, ALL OVER THE WORLD, WE HAVE A CONSTRUCTIVE POINT OF VIEW--WE ARE PART OF THE SOLUTION, NOT PART OF THE PROBLEM AND OUR MESSAGE HERE IS THE SAME.

Q. "MR. SHULTZ, (I'M DON MCNEILL OF CBS NEWS). HOW WOULD YOU CHARACTERIZE YURI ANDROPOV? I AM WONDERING WHAT THIS ADMINISTRATION THINKS ABOUT HIM -- PERSONALLY, AS A MAN.

A. "I DON'T THINK IT'S USEFUL FOR ME TO SPECULATE ABOUT THE NATURE OF VARIOUS SOVIET PERSONALITIES, INCLUDING MR. ANDROPOV. I'VE NEVER MET HIM SO I THINK IT'S BETTER TO LET THAT EMERGE.

Q. "ERIK AMFITHEATROV FROM TIME-LIFE MAGAZINE. MR. SECRETARY WHAT DO YOU FEEL ARE THE POSSIBILITIES FOR AN IMPROVEMENT IN US-SOVIET RELATIONS NOW THAT THERE IS A CHANGE OF LEADERSHIP?

A. "WELL, THERE IS THE SAME POSSIBILITY THAT THERE HAS BEEN. UNITED STATES POLICY HAS BEEN CLEAR, IT HAS NOT CHANGED. IT IS A POLICY OF REALISM, OF STRENGTH, OF WILLINGNESS TO WORK ON PROBLEMS TOGETHER AND THE EXPECTATION IF THAT CAN BE DONE SUCCESSFULLY, EVERYONE WILL BE BETTER OFF AS A RESULT. THAT'S BEEN OUR POLICY. THAT IS OUR POLICY, AND WE WANT TO MAKE IT CLEAR TO THE NEW SOVIET LEADERSHIP THAT THAT REMAINS IN PLACE.

Q. "MR. SECRETARY, HAVE YOU BEEN OFFERED ANY HIGH-RANKING MEETINGS WHILE YOU'RE HERE?

A. "WELL, WE'VE JUST ARRIVED AND IN MY BRIEF MEETING WITH AMBASSADOR DOBRYNIN IN WASHINGTON WHEN I WENT TO THE SOVIET EMBASSY TO SIGN THE BOOK OF CONDOLENCES WE TALKED BRIEFLY ABOUT IT AND I SIMPLY SAID I WOULD BE HERE, THE VICE PRESIDENT WOULD, I WASN'T SURE OF HIS PRECISE SCHEDULE AT THE TIME, AND THAT IF IT WERE POSSIBLE TO SEE PEOPLE IN THE SOVIET LEADERSHIP WE WOULD LIKE TO DO THAT. BUT WE CAN ALSO UNDERSTAND THAT IT'S A BUSY TIME AND IT MIGHT NOT BE POSSIBLE, SO AS OF RIGHT NOW I KNOW OF NO APPOINTMENTS.

Q. "ALBERT AXELBANK (NORTH AMERICAN NEWSPAPER ALLIANCE): I BELIEVE YOUR PREDECESSOR, GENERAL HAIG, REFERRED TO THE CARTER GRAIN EMBARGO AS A BLUNDER AND SOME PEOPLE NOW REFER TO THE PIPELINE SANCTIONS AS BLUNDER. WILL YOU PLEASE COMMENT ON THAT?

A. "WELL, I WOULD ONLY COMMENT WITHOUT CONNECTING THE TWO THAT WE NOW HAVE THE BASIS FOR A BROADER STRATEGIC APPROACH TO OUR ECONOMIC RELATIONSHIPS WITH THE SOVIET UNION, AND THE EMERGENCE OF A SUBSTANTIAL AGREEMENT WITH OUR ALLIES, ONE THAT HAS PROVIDED THE OCCASION FOR THE LIFTING OF THOSE SANCTIONS. THE SANCTIONS, I THINK CERTAINLY DID CALL ATTENTION TO THE PROBLEM, HAVE REGISTERED THE PRESIDENT'S VERY STRONG FEELING THAT THE EVENTS IN POLAND IN PARTICULAR ARE EVENTS THAT WE MUST REGISTER OURSELVES ON BEYOND JUST TALKING ABOUT THEM, AND AT THIS POINT WE ARE VERY PLEASED. OUR ALLIES HAVE JOINED US, WE HAVE HAD** HAVE JOINED WITH THEM, IT'S A MUTUAL THING TO DEVELOP A BROAD ECONOMIC STRATEGY HERE.

Q. "(DUSKO DODER): MP. SECRETARY, I WONDER IF I COULD ASK YOU A QUESTION HERE WHICH GOES, IT SEEMS TO ME, TO THE HEART OF THE RELATIONSHIP WITH THIS COUNTRY. FOR ABOUT 21 MONTHS THE REAGAN ADMINISTRATION HAS DONE VARIETY OF THINGS SPECIFICALLY IN THE FIELD OF SECURITY -- INCREASING THE BUDGET AND SO FORTH -- TO WHAT THE SOVIETS REGARD AS TREMENDOUS PROPORTIONS. THEY HAVE BEEN WAITING FOR SOME TIME AND NOW THEY HAVE CRANKED THEMSELVES UP JUST BEFORE MR. BREZHNEV DIED TO START TO RECIPROCATE (IN KIND?). DO YOU THINK THAT YOU AND MR. BUSH BY COMING HERE HAVE SOMETHING CONCRETE TO TELL THESE PEOPLE? THAT SOMETHING CAN BE DONE TO STOP THIS VICIOUS CIRCLE, OR IS THERE ANYTHING ELSE YOU CAN SAY ON THIS PARTICULAR MATTER?

A. "WELL, OBVIOUSLY, SOMETHING CAN BE DONE TO MODERATE BEHAVIOR ALL AROUND. I WOULD SAY FIRST OF ALL I THINK YOUR ACCOUNT OF THE SEQUENCE OF THINGS IS NOT THE WAY I SEE IT -- QUITE THE REVERSE. THE STEADY, RELENTLESS BUILDUP OF SOVIET MILITARY CAPACITY HAS IN EFFECT FORCED THE UNITED STATES AFTER QUITE A PERIOD OF NOT PUSHING ITS DEFENSE ESTABLISHMENT FORWARD POWERFULLY, HAS IN EFFECT FORCED US TO LOOK TO OUR DEFENSES AND OUR STRENGTH AND I MIGHT SAY THAT I BELIEVE EVERYBODY KNOWS THAT WE HAVE IT. WE HAVE A TREMENDOUS ECONOMY, A VERY PRODUCTIVE ECONOMY, SO WE'RE ABLE TO DO THAT AND SUSTAIN THAT. IT ISN'T A QUESTION OF US SUDDENLY INCREASING OUR EFFORTS IN THIS REGARD AND THE SOVIETS DECIDING THAT THEY BETTER DO SO ALSO. IT IS QUITE THE REVERSE. THEIR EFFORTS HAVE BEEN VERY STRONG AND SUSTAINED. AND WE HAVE HAD TO RAISE OUR SIGHTS AND WE WILL CONTINUE TO DO SO AND WE WILL MAINTAIN THE STRENGTH OF OUR DEFENSES. NOW, I PRESUME THAT EVERYONE, NOT ONLY OURSELVES, BUT OUR ALLIES WOULD PREFER A WORLD IN WHICH WE DON'T HAVE TO SPEND SO MUCH OF OUR EFFORTS ON PURELY MILITARY MEANS. AND IF SO, WE ARE READY TO WORK AT THAT, AS IS EVIDENCED BY THE PRESIDENT'S ARMS REDUCTION PROPOSAL, AS AN EXAMPLE.

Q. "MR. SECRETARY: THE AMBASSADOR SAID THE OTHER DAY (OR A TOP WESTERN DIPLOMATIC SOURCE)....

- 4 -
A. "YOU'D BETTER GET THE AMBASSADOR HERE -- YOU'RE BEING QUOTED."

Q. "IN THIS ROOM I'M SUPPOSED TO SAY A TOP AMERICAN DIPLOMATIC SOURCE SAID THAT WE MUST TRY TO BE AS FORTHCOMING AS POSSIBLE WITH THE SOVIETS NOW. COULD YOU ELABORATE ON THAT, OTHER THAN WHAT THAT MEANS?"

A. "WELL, THE AMBASSADOR IS HERE AND WE'LL LET HIM ELABORATE. AMB: "THIS IS A COLLABORATIVE OPERATION HERE. WE ARE TALKING TO A NEW LEADERSHIP HERE AND WE ARE REITERATING OUR POSITION. IT IS VERY CLEAR TO THE (NEW) LEADERSHIP."

SECRETARY: "I DON'T THINK THE MESSAGE IS COMPLICATED. THAT'S WHAT MAKES IT A GOOD MESSAGE. IT'S A SIMPLE MESSAGE. AND IT IS THAT WE ARE REALISTS. WE'LL STAY THAT WAY, WE'RE STRONG, WE'LL STAY THAT WAY, WE'RE CONSTRUCTIVE AND WE'RE READY TO SOLVE PROBLEMS AND WE WILL CONTINUE READY TO DO SO, READY TO RESPOND, AND IF THAT TAKES PLACE THEN THE WORLD CAN BE BETTER FOR EVERYONE."

Q. "MR. SECRETARY. THAT MEANS YOUR HAPPENING TO BE HERE IS NOT NECESSARILY TO CARRY A NEW MESSAGE BUT TO RESTATE A STANDING MESSAGE FROM THE UNITED STATES. YOU'RE NOT BRINGING ANYTHING NEW IN THE WAY OF PROPOSALS FROM THE ADMINISTRATION FOR EASING THE SITUATION BETWEEN US."

A. "I THINK OUR BASIC POLICY IS CLEAR. WE HAVE SOUGHT TO MAKE IT CLEAR. THE PRESIDENT HAS AND WE HAVE EMPHASIZED, PARTICULARLY RIGHT NOW, OUR READINESS TO WORK FOR A MORE CONSTRUCTIVE RELATIONSHIP THAN THE ONE WE'VE HAD IN THE RECENT PAST. YOU MIGHT SAY THAT IS POINT THREE IN THE FOUR-POINT LIST THAT I GAVE. ALL FOUR POINTS ARE THERE, I ONLY SOUGHT TO PUT A LITTLE EMPHASIS ON NUMBER 3."

Q. "MR. SECRETARY COULD YOU BRING US UP TO DATE ON THE STATUS OF THE TWO NEGOTIATIONS GOING ON IN GENEVA ON ARMS LIMITATIONS ISSUES."

A. "WELL, I DON'T KNOW THAT THERE IS TOO MUCH TO BE SAID THERE. THEY ARE GOING ON. THEY ARE GOING ON IN A BUSINESSLIKE MANNER. THE PEOPLE WHO ARE CONDUCTING THE NEGOTIATIONS ARE PROFESSIONALS--SKILLFUL PEOPLE. WE KNOW THAT OUR NEGOTIATORS ARE SUCH AND THEY TELL ME THAT THEIR ESTIMATE OF THE SOVIET NEGOTIATORS IS THAT THEY ARE PROFESSIONAL, COMPETENT PEOPLE WHO ARE BUSINESSLIKE IN THEIR APPROACH SO THE NEGOTIATIONS ARE GOING ON AND I DON'T THINK THAT I WANT TO CHARACTERIZE THEM FURTHER."

Q. "IF I MAY FOLLOW UP FOR JUST A MOMENT AND MAKE MY QUESTION MORE PRECISE, I THINK THE REAL QUESTION IS DO YOU SEE ANY PROGRESS IN THESE TALKS OR ARE THEY JUST AT A STAGE WHERE BOTH SIDES ARE JUST EXCHANGING POSITIONS WITHOUT ANY GIVE OCCURRING ON EITHER SIDE."

A. "WELL, I THINK THERE IS AN INTENSIVE EXCHANGE OF

POSITIONS WHICH I SUPPOSE IN THE PROCESS OF EXPLAINING TENDS TO DEVELOP THEM IN MORE RICHNESS AND DETAIL, SO THAT'S WHERE I WILL LEAVE THAT.

Q. "MR. SECRETARY CAN YOU EXPLAIN THE QUID-PRO-QUO FROM THE LIFTING OF THE PIPELINE SANCTIONS. APART FROM PROMISING TO MAKE STUDIES ON EAST-WEST TRADE, IT'S NOT EXACTLY CLEAR WHAT CONCRETE COMMITMENTS THE WESTERN EUROPEANS HAVE TAKEN IN RESPONSE TO OUR LIFTING THE SANCTIONS.

A. "WELL, WE HAVEN'T CONDUCTED OUR DISCUSSIONS WITH THE EUROPEANS ALONG THAT LINE AT ALL. WE HAVEN'T DISCUSSED THE SANCTIONS AS I HAVE DISCUSSED THESE MATTERS WITH THE FOREIGN MINISTERS GOING BACK TO THE NEW YORK, U.N. SESSION WHEN I STARTED MEETING WITH THEM. AND WHILE THEY WERE TALKING WITH ME ABOUT IT, AND AT THE LA SAPINIERE MEETING OF THE NATO FOREIGN MINISTERS -- OUR EFFORTS WERE TO FIND THE BASIS FOR A COMMON STRATEGIC UNDERSTANDING OF HOW WE WOULD CONDUCT OUR ECONOMIC RELATIONSHIPS WITH THE SOVIET UNION. THE GENERAL IDEA IS THAT WE'RE NOT LOOKING FOR A TRADE WAR, HOWEVER, WE ARE LOOKING TO FOCUS ON CERTAIN ASPECTS OF TRADE AND FINANCE; ASPECTS OF TRADE THAT ARE RELATED TO THE MILITARY CAPABILITY OF THE SOVIET UNION, TO THE STRATEGIC POSTURE OF THE SOVIET UNION, AND IN VIEW OF THE HUGE EXPENDITURES THAT WE AND OUR ALLIES ARE UNDERTAKING FOR OUR DEFENSE. THE ONLY REASON WE'RE UNDERTAKING THEM IS THAT THE LEVEL OF DEFENSE EFFORT IN THE SOVIET UNION IS SO GREAT. IN VIEW OF THAT IT MAKES NO SENSE TO SUBSIDIZE THE SOVIET ECONOMY. SO, BASED ON THOSE PRINCIPLES, WE WILL WORK TOGETHER TO DEVELOP A STRATEGY IN THE MEANTIME. THE COCOM LIST IS BEING EXAMINED AND STRENGTHENED AND A STRONGER ADMINISTRATIVE CAPACITY IS BEING CONNECTED TO IT. AN INTENSIVE STUDY OF ENERGY ALTERNATIVES WILL BE UNDERTAKEN. IN THE MEANTIME, THE GOVERNMENTS INVOLVED HAVE UNDERTAKEN NOT TO HAVE ANY ADDITIONAL PURCHASES OF SOVIET GAS WHILE PEOPLE LOOK AROUND AND REFLECT AND SEE WHAT THE ALTERNATIVES ARE. THE AGREEMENT AT VERSAILLES TO EXAMINE THE FLOWS OF TRADE AND FINANCE WILL BE IMPLEMENTED IN AN ADMINISTRATIVE CAPACITY. THERE IS RENEWED EMPHASIS ON WORKING OUT EXPORT CREDIT ARRANGEMENTS. SO, THERE ARE A WHOLE SERIES OF THINGS THAT ARE INVOLVED. SOME ARE IN THE NATURE OF IMMEDIATE ACTION, SOME ARE IN THE NATURE OF A WORK PROGRAM. I THINK IN THE LONG LONG RUN, WELL OF COURSE YOU CAN'T SAY WHAT A WORK PROGRAM WILL PRODUCE. IT'S ALWAYS POSSIBLE THAT IT WON'T PRODUCE ANYTHING, EXCEPT MY OWN ESTIMATE IS THAT THE EFFORT TO FIND A BETTER STRATEGIC POSTURE IS LIKELY TO BE A VERY PRODUCTIVE AND WORTHWHILE EFFORT IN THE LONG RUN.

Q. "EXCUSE ME MR. SECRETARY FOR INTERRUPTING YOU, DOES THE CHANGE IN LEADERSHIP IN THE SOVIET UNION INCREASE IN ANY WAY YOUR VIEW OF THE POSSIBILITY OF A SUMMIT MEETING.

A. "OUR ATTITUDE TOWARD A SUMMIT MEETING REMAINS AS BEING IN FAVOR OF ONE IF IT IS WELL PREPARED SO THAT IT'S POSSIBLE TO IMAGINE THAT SOMETHING CONSTRUCTIVE MIGHT COME OUT OF IT. AND I THINK THE SAME WOULD HOLD NOW WITH A NEW SOVIET LEADERSHIP. WE WILL JUST HAVE TO SEE, BUT IN PRINCIPLE THE PRESIDENT IS WILLING TO HAVE SUCH A MEETING BUT ONLY IF IT CAN BE A CONSTRUCTIVE ONE AND HAVE A CONSTRUCTIVE OUTCOME.

Q. "MR. SECRETARY: A RECENT SOVIET SPEECH SEEMS TO SAY THAT THE WAY TO PEACE IS THROUGH MILITARY MIGHT.

A. "WELL, SOVIET MILITARY MIGHT HAS BEEN INCREASING. THAT'S A DESCRIPTION OF THEIR POLICY. WE CAN SPEAK ABOUT OUR OWN POLICY WHICH IS TO BE STRONG, TO DEVELOP OUR STRENGTH, TO SEE THAT IT'S BASED SOLIDLY ON A VERY STRONG AND PRODUCTIVE ECONOMY AND AT THE SAME TIME TO SAY BEYOND THAT, IF YOU WANT TO TRY TO WORK TOWARD A WORLD THAT IS LESS TENSE, THAT HAS MORE CONSTRUCTIVE POSSIBILITIES IN IT, THAT INCLUDES THE POSSIBILITY OF REDUCTIONS IN ARMAMENTS, WE'RE PREPARED TO DO SO.

Q. "MR. SECRETARY: IS IT PRESENT U.S. POLICY TO ENCOURAGE AMERICAN TRADE WITH THE SOVIETS AND WILL YOU PLEASE COMMENT ON THE VISIT THIS WEEK OF HUNDREDS OF AMERICAN BUSINESSMEN TO MOSCOW.

A. "WELL, I THINK THE FACT THAT THE U.S. DELEGATION (BUSINESSMEN) COMING TO MOSCOW, AS LARGE AS IT IS AND I MIGHT SAY AS DISTINGUISHED AS IT IS (THERE ARE SOME VERY IMPORTANT AND STRONG BUSINESS LEADERS INCLUDED IN THAT DELEGATION), IS AN INDICATION OF THE FUNDAMENTAL INTEREST AND GOODWILL OF THE AMERICAN PEOPLE. AND IN A SENSE THAT COMPLEMENTS THE MESSAGE THAT PRESIDENT REAGAN ENUNCIATED IN HIS VARIOUS STATEMENTS WHICH HAVE BEEN QUOTED HERE--THAT WE ARE READY TO WORK WITH THE SOVIET UNION IF THE CIRCUMSTANCES ARE RIGHT. I THINK THE FACT OF THE MATTER IS THAT THE CIRCUMSTANCES HAVE NOT BEEN RIGHT, THEY HAVEN'T BEEN CONDUCIVE TO THE EXPANSION OF TRADE PARTICULARLY BUT ALONG THE LINES OF THE ANSWERS TO VARIOUS QUESTIONS HERE, IF THE CIRCUMSTANCES CHANGE, THE FACT THAT SO MANY HIGH LEVEL BUSINESSMEN ARE COMING HERE SUGGESTS THE INTEREST AND THE POTENTIAL FOR A RESPONSE. WHEN PEOPLE COME HERE, THAT'S NOT TRADE, THAT IS AN EXHIBITION OF A WILLINGNESS TO TRADE. FOR AN ACTUAL TRADE TO TAKE PLACE, IT REQUIRES A LOT MORE. I MIGHT SAY THAT THERE'S AN INTERESTING CLOSING OF THE CIRCLE HERE. I BELIEVE THAT THE LAST TIME I WAS IN MOSCOW IN 1973--ALMOST

TEN YEARS AGO--THAT WAS THE MEETING AT WHICH THE FIRST AMERICAN BUSINESS GROUP MET WITH THE GOVERNMENTAL COUNTERPARTS TO START THIS PROCESS. THAT IS STILL IN EXISTENCE ALTHOUGH IT HAS BEEN ON A VERY SLOW TRACK IN RECENT YEARS.

Q. "MR. SECRETARY: WHEN YOU SPEAK OF THESE CIRCUMSTANCES, WHAT EXACTLY DO YOU HAVE IN MIND? CAN YOU JUST SPECULATE.

A. "WELL, WE HAVE EXPRESSED OUR CONCERNS IN VARIOUS WAYS. THERE ARE A VARIETY OF HUMAN RIGHTS CONCERNS THAT THE PRESIDENT AND THE AMERICAN PEOPLE GENERALLY FEEL VERY STRONGLY ABOUT. WE REALLY DO CARE A LOT ABOUT HUMAN BEINGS IN THE UNITED STATES. THERE ARE REGIONAL ISSUES OF VARIOUS DIMENSIONS, THERE'S ARMS CONTROL, THERE'S A VARIETY OF THINGS THROUGH WHICH PROGRESS CONCEIVABLY COULD BE MADE. AND PROGRESS HAS TO CHANGE THE ATMOSPHERE.

JOHN HUGHES: "MR. SECRETARY: I THINK YOU HAVE TIME FOR ONE MORE QUESTION.

A. "WELL, IF THERE IS ONE--I THINK WE HAVE RUN THE WELL DRY HERE!

Q. "MR. SECRETARY: I WAS WONDERING IF IN THE LAST TWO OR THREE DAYS IF THE SOVIET LEADERSHIP HAS DONE OR SAID ANYTHING THAT WILL MAKE YOU HOPE FOR AN IMPROVEMENT IN RELATIONS BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES. IS THERE ANY SIGN AT ALL?

A. "WELL, I THINK IT'S REALLY TOO EARLY IN THE EMERGENCE OF A NEW LEADERSHIP TO BE TRYING TO READ THE TEA LEAVES THAT WAY. THEY ARE IN THE PROCESS OF GETTING ORGANIZED. WE WILL SEE WHAT COMES FORWARD. IN THE MEANTIME, WE WILL TRY TO EXPRESS OUR OWN VIEWPOINT. THE PRESIDENT HAS, AND SUPPLEMENTING AND COMPLEMENTING HIS VIEW, THERE IS THE FACT THAT THE VICE PRESIDENT HAS BROKEN OFF FROM A VERY IMPORTANT TRIP TO AFRICA, TO WHICH HE WILL RETURN, AND HE WILL COMPLETE ALL OF THE VISITS. BUT NEVERTHELESS, HE BROKE OFF FROM THAT VISIT TO COME HERE--ALL AS AN EXPRESSION OF THE IMPORTANCE THAT THE UNITED STATES ATTACHES TO THE SOVIET UNION AND OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH THE SOVIET UNION.

Q. "CAN WE PERHAPS MEET WITH YOU AGAIN BEFORE YOU LEAVE MOSCOW?

A. "WELL, IT DEPENDS UPON THE SCHEDULE. EVERYTHING HANGS ON THE SCHEDULE. WE HAVE SOME MEETINGS TOMORROW MORNING. I DON'T KNOW, I CAN'T SPEAK FOR THE VICE PRESIDENT'S SCHEDULE. I DON'T KNOW, PRECISELY WHEN HE WILL RETURN. SO THERE'S A LOT OF UNCERTAINTY THERE BUT IF THERE IS ANYTHING TO SAY AS A RESULT OF WHATEVER HAPPENS HERE, WE WILL CERTAINLY WANT TO GET YOU TOGETHER AND TELL YOU WHAT IT IS. I'VE ALWAYS BEEN TAUGHT BY JOHN HUGHES, "IF YOU HAVE ANY NEWS, DON'T SIT ON IT " CHANCED ARE IT IS VERY UNLIKELY THAT WE WILL HAVE ANY NEWS. BUT IF WE DO WE WILL SEE THAT YOU GET IT.

Q. "DID YOU SAY WHO THESE MEETINGS ARE WITH TOMORROW MORNING?

A. "OH, THEY ARE NOT WITH SOVIET OFFICIALS. MR. PYM HAS GOTTEN IN TOUCH WITH ME AND I HOPE I CAN GET TOGETHER WITH HIM, HE'S MADE THE REQUEST AND MR. GENSCHER OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY HAS ALSO SUGGESTED THAT I TALK WITH HIM. AS YOU KNOW, MR. KOHL IS IN WASHINGTON SO I SUPPOSE SINCE WE ARE NOT IN WASHINGTON WE HAD BETTER HAVE OUR OWN MEETING TO SEE WHAT WE THINK, AND THERE MAY BE SOME OTHERS.

Q. "WILL YOU BE TRYING TO MEET WITH THE CHINESE BEFORE YOU LEAVE SIR?

A. "I DON'T HAVE ANY SCHEDULED MEETINGS AND I DOUBT THAT IT'S POSSIBLE. WE CHECKED SCHEDULES." (END TEXT)
