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WHITE HOUSE SITUATION ROOM

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E.O. 12065: RDS-1,3 1/29/12 (MCMANAWAY, C. E.)
TAGS: OVIP (HAIG, ALEXANDER M., JR.)
SUBJECT: MESSAGE TO THE PRESIDENT

FOR THE PRESIDENT

1. I HAVE JUST SPENT AN HOUR AND A HALF WITH MRS. THATCHER AND SEVERAL OF HER CABINET COLLEAGUES. SHE RAISED TWO CONCERNS WITH UNUSUAL VEHEMENCE: THE EXTRA-TERRITORIAL REACH OF THE SANCTIONS WE HAVE ALREADY IMPOSED AND RUMORS SHE HAS HEARD OF CONSIDERATION BY US OF ADDITIONAL, EXTREME MEASURES INCLUDING POSSIBILITY WE MIGHT CALL POLAND INTO DEFAULT ON ITS DEBTS. SHE POINTED OUT THAT WHATEVER THE PERCEPTION IN AMERICA, THE COST OF THE SANCTIONS IMPOSED THUS FAR ARE GREATER TO EUROPE THAN TO THE U.S. AND WENT ON TO DESCRIBE THE IMPACT ON WESTERN EUROPE'S ECONOMY OF FURTHER FINANCIAL AND TRADING SANCTIONS IN THE STRONGEST OF TERMS AND

DECLASSIFIED

NLS F96-102 #125

BY DMF NARA, DATE 4/9/00

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PREDICTED DIRE CONSEQUENCES FOR THE WESTERN ALLIANCE SHOULD WE PRECEED IN THAT DIRECTION. SHE IS WRITING YOU A LETTER EXPRESSING HER CONCERNS THAT MAY REACH YOU BEFORE WE MEET TOMORROW. SENSING UK IS READY TO TAKE MORE EFFECTIVE MEASURES AND HAS BEEN IN TOUCH WITH SCHMIDT, I DID NOT REPEAT DID NOT ALLEVIATE HER FEARS ON ANY ISSUE, POINTING OUT THAT PERCEPTION IN U.S. IS THAT ALLIES HAVE NOT DONE NEARLY ENOUGH. I ADDED YOU ARE ALSO UNDER CRITICISM FOR BEING TOO SOFT ON RUSSIA AND TOO SOLICITIOUS OF ALLIED FOOT DRAGGING.

2. MRS. THATCHER THEN URGED THAT WE MEET QUICKLEY WITH OUR GERMAN, FRENCH AND ITALIAN ALLIES TO DEVISE A TOUGH AND CREDIBLE SET OF MEASURES AGAINST THE USSR THAT WILL BE BEARABLE TO THE WEST AND FAIRLY SHARED AMONG THE ALLIES. THE UNSTATED BUT CLEAR QUID PRO QUO FOR SUCH A UNITED PROGRAM IN HER MIND IS RELIEF FROM THE EXTRATERRITORIAL DIMENSION OF CURRENT U.S. SANCTIONS. I MADE CLEAR TO THE PRIME MINISTER THAT FOR YOU TO STEP BACK, HOWEVER SLIGHTLY FROM THE ACTION YOU HAVE TAKEN WILL REQUIRE A MUCH STRONGER SET OF DECISIONS ON THE PART OF OUR ALLIES AND EVEN THEN WOULD BE POLITICALLY DIFFICULT.

3. I AM INSTRUCTING THE DEPARTMENT TO CONTACT THE BRITISH IMMEDIATELY TO ARRANGE SUCH A MEETING AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. I WILL GO INTO GREATER DETAIL WHEN WE MEET TOMORROW.

HAIG

BT

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