

*****U N C L A S S I F I E D*****E COPY

M/K
5/18

OP IMMED
DE RUEHC #6245 1381651
O 181648Z MAY 78 ZFF4
FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW NIACT IMMEDIATE 5023

INFO AMCONSUL Leningrad IMMEDIATE 7181

UNCLAS STATE 126245

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, UR, US, CSCE

SUBJECT: STATEMENT ON DRLOV

REF: MOSCOW 10480

1. THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT WAS RELEASED AT THE MAY 18
NOON PRESS BRIEFING:

2. "THE UNITED STATES STRONGLY DEPLORES THE CONVICTION
AND SENTENCING BY A SOVIET COURT OF DR. YURIY DRLOV, THE
LEADER OF THE MOSCOW PUBLIC GROUP TO PROMOTE OBSERVANCE
OF THE HELSINKI FINAL ACT IN THE USSR. THE HARSH SENTENCE
WAS AGGRAVATED BY PROCEDURES AND ACTIONS DESIGNED TO
HUMILIATE BOTH THE DEFENDANT AND MRS. DRLOV. YET THE CON-
DUCT FOR WHICH DR. DRLOV IS BEING PUNISHED WAS THE MONITOR-
ING OF THE PERFORMANCE OF THEIR GOVERNMENT UNDER THE CSCE
FINAL ACT. SUCH PARTICIPATION BY PRIVATE CITIZENS IN THE
CSCE PROCESS SHOULD BE WELCOMED BY SIGNATORY GOVERNMENTS
RATHER THAN REPPRESSED BY THEM. TO PUNISH AS 'SUBVERSIVE',
ACTIVITIES AIMED AT INCREASING FREE EXPRESSION OF OPINION
AND AT PROMOTING GOVERNMENTAL OBSERVANCE OF FORMAL OBLIGA-
TIONS SOLEMNLY UNDERTAKEN IS A GROSS DISTORTION OF INTER-
NATIONALLY ACCEPTED STANDARDS OF HUMAN RIGHTS SET FORTH IN
SUCH DOCUMENTS AS THE UNIVERSAL DECLARATION OF HUMAN

RIGHTS, THE UNITED NATIONS COVENANT ON CIVIL AND POLITICAL
RIGHTS, AND THE CSCE FINAL ACT. VANCE
BT

***** W H S R C O M M E N T *****

S/P

PSN:025531 PAGE 01

TOR:138/17:36Z

DTG:181648Z MAY 78

*****U N C L A S S I F I E D*****E COPY