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STATEMENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
REGARDING A NATIONAL SECURITY OR NATIONAL EMERGENCY PROVISION

October 31, 1997

(AS DELIVERED TO THE RUSSIAN DELEGATION)

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Our delegation would appreciate the support of all members of this body in examining how we can protect world peace while preserving our planet through some kind of national security or national emergency provision. This Protocol must not create a conflict between our collective ability to preserve peace and our desire to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. We must pursue both goals. We believe we have an obligation to the world community, our individual nations, and ultimately to the men and women who serve in our military forces to carefully consider how we address military operations in this Protocol. We look forward to discussing this issue further in the preparations for Kyoto.

Notes:

-The United States hopes that the parties to the Convention will consider the foregoing statement in the context of their potential military contributions to multilateral operations in support of peacekeeping, peace enforcement, humanitarian assistance and UN-mandated operations.

- In view of the active involvement of other developed nations in numerous multilateral peacekeeping and collective security operations world-wide, we believe it is important for the US as well as all other nations to have a common understanding of the impact of emission limitations on the operations of their forces.

- We are concerned that emission limitations, if not properly addressed, could prevent rapid decisions about training and employing multilateral peacekeeping and peace enforcing forces. Likewise, the calculating and assessing the emissions of these forces in areas outside their own borders is a relatively difficult task.

- We seek to discuss the issue of emissions of military forces with interested parties prior to the meeting in Kyoto.

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