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PRINCIPAL DEPUTY UNDER SECRETARY
OF DEFENSE

2000 DEFENSE PENTAGON
WASHINGTON, DC 20301-2000

February 14, 1995

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DEPT. OF THE
SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

POLICY

MEMORANDUM FOR SECRETARY OF DEFENSE (FEB 17, 1995)
DEPUTY SECRETARY OF DEFENSE (FEB 15, 1995)

THROUGH: UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE FOR POLICY

FROM: PRINCIPAL DEPUTY UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

SUBJECT: Russian Arms Sales to Iran (\$) -- INFORMATION

Three weeks ago, Russian Deputy Foreign Minister Mamedov provided Under Secretary Lynn Davis a list of Russian weapons planned for future delivery to Iran. The main items on the list were:

- one KILO submarine
- 120 anti-ship mines
- 1,000 BM(B) Infantry Fighting Vehicles (IFVs)
- 1,080 T-72 tanks.

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Date: JUN 17 2019

Most of the IFVs and tanks are in the form of kits.

Undersecretary Davis met with Vice President Gore on Monday to obtain his guidance on whether this disclosure satisfied Yeltsin's commitment to the President. I presented the results of an OSD/JCS analysis which concluded that the weapons to be transferred would not be destabilizing to the military balance in the region:

-- While the additional KILO submarine (bringing the total to three) will add to the challenge we face in the Gulf, it would be a manageable challenge.

-- The armor will increase Iran's capability measurably -- if all deliveries take place. But Iran will face difficulty paying, especially if they carry through with the \$8 billion purchase of light water reactors. In any event, Iraq will likely maintain a quantitative armor advantage even after the deliveries.

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The Vice President accepted the recommendation of the interagency group that an exchange of letters be negotiated which would remove these arms sales as a barrier to Russia's participation in the follow-on COCOM regime. An open issue was whether to insist on a deadline for completing the deliveries. The Vice President directed that Under Secretary Davis attempt to obtain a deadline, but not allow this to stand in the way of completing the exchange of letters.

We have a very large agenda with the Russians: BMD demarcation, CFE, chemical and biological weapons, Chechnya, Baltic housing, Iranian LWRs, CTR implementation, etc. In almost every case we have little to offer the Russians, other than continuation of our existing policies and programs. Our diplomatic challenges will remain significant, even if this issue is now quickly resolved.

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