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COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

## UNITED STATES SENATE

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Washington, D. C.

February 28: 1979

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			Washington, D. C.	
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## FY 1980 FOREIGN ASSISTANCE REQUEST.

Wednesday, February 28, 1979

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Committee on Foreign Relations,

Washington, D. C.

The Committee met, pursuant to notice, at 9:36 o'clock, a.m., in Room 4221, Dirksen Senate Office Building, the Honorable Claiborne Pell presiding.

Present: Senators Pell (presiding), Stone, Zorinsky, Javits, Percy, Helms, Hayakawa, and Lugar.

Also Present: William Bader, Staff Director; Albert A.

Lakeland, Jr., Minority Staff Director; Robert Barton, Hans

Binnendijk, Jerry Christiansen, Cliff Hackett, Mike Kraft, Mary

Locke, Dick McCall, Barry Schochet, Winslow Wheeler, John Carbaugh,

Chip Andreae, John Backer, Estrellita Jones, Carl Ford, Fred

Tipson, and Grayson Fowler -- Committee and Senators' Staffs.

Senator Pell. The Committee on Foreign Relations will please come to order.

On behalf of Senator Church, who cannot be with us this morning, I will read his opening statement and carry on.

The Foreign Relations Committee is meeting to consider the Administration's Fiscal Year 1980 authorization request for

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We are very pleased to have with us this morning Mrs. Lucy Benson, Under Secretary of State for Security Assistance, Science and Technology; Lieutenant General Ernest Graves, Director of the Defense Security Assistance Agency; and Mr. Barry M. Blechman, Assistant Director of the Arms Control and Disarmament Agency for Weapons Evaluation and Control.

In addition, we will be receiving testimony from representative of the GAO and the Congressional Research Service, who will summarize two studies requested by our Committee last year. Mr. J. Kenneth Fasick, Director of the International Division of the GAO will discuss the results of GAO's arms transfer study. Dr. Stanley J. Heginbotham, Assistant Chief of the Foreign Affairs and National Defense Division of the Congressional Research Service will discuss the implementation of the President's human rights policy.

Under normal circumstances, we would have already received testimony from the Department of State giving a general overview of the Administration's foreign aid requests. However, hearings scheduled last week with Deputy Secretary of State Warren Christopher were postponed due to the weather and the Committee's prolonged consideration of the Taiwan issue. Either the Secretary of State, Cyrus Vance, or Secretary Christopher will be rescheduled at a later date.

Our Committee decided to proceed on our regular foreign

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assistance hearing schedule rather than risk any further delays which would hamper our consideration of these programs.

Before receiving this testimony, we would like to make some observations concerning our consideration of security assistance issues. The issue of conventional arms sales poses particular problems. Speaking on behalf of Senator Church, we intend to hold future hearings which would be aimed at a comprehensive review of the President's arms transfer policy. There are two basic reasons as to why this review is necessary.

First, it appears there have been setbacks in the multilateral arms transfer talks which were recently held in Mexico City, and accounts lead me to believe that our extensive conventional arms control policy may be in disarray. At best, the prospects for future efforts at multilateral arms restraint seem uncertain.

The President's entire policy is based upon the assumption that we will be able to achieve a certain degree of multilateral cooperation. If this effort fails, and it indeed appears to be failing, we will have to come up with an alternative policy.

Since the multilateral effort appears to be going poorly, it is only prudent for the Committee to begin a re-evaluation which could lead to the formulation of a new arms transfer policy.

Second, the turmoil in Iran suggests a basic reassessment of the overall policy and its implied premise that the security of the United States and particular regions of the world are tied to unlimited or unquestioned arms sales. In addition, we have to

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undertake a serious review of all future arms sales from the standpoint of the potential for compromising United States and NATO security if we are unable to prevent sophisticated equipment from falling into Soviet hands.

Mrs. Benson, General Graves, and Mr. Bleckman, we welcome you here this morning.

Are there any statements from the Minority side of the Committee?

> Senator Lugar. No, Mr. Chairman. Thank you.

Senator Pell. In that case, Mrs. Benson, would you please proceed.

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STATEMENT OF THE HONONORABLE LUCY W. BENSON,

UNDER SECRETARY FOR SECURITY ASSISTANCE, SCIENCE AND

TECHNOLOGY, DEPARTMENT OF STATE.

Ms. Benson. Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman and members of the Committee.

I appreciate this opportunity to appear before you. My
purpose here is to explain the Administration's security assistance
budget for Fiscal Year 1980 and to review the President's arms
transfer restraint policy. With your approval, I shall submit
my formal presentation for the record and not repeat it now. But
I should like to emphasize certain points illustrating the
central thrust of these programs as a whole.

First, the security assistance budget represents a major interagency effort to strike a balance between a number of key objectives: fulfillment of treaty obligations of the United States; assurance that programs and the funding level proposed for them were adequate for our national security interests and the security of allies and friendly nations; the practice of the utmost austerity, in keeping with the overall character of the President's budget, to the maximum extent consistent with our security objectives; conformance with the President's arms transfer restraint policy; promotion of respect for internationally accepted standards of human rights and civil decency; provision for certain urgent humanitarian concerns, such as the refugee situations in Cyprus and Southern Africa.

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Formulation of this budget requires difficult, sometimes painful, choices, but we have satisfied the diverse objectives we sought to advance.

Second, this budget, like those of preceding years, consists of four component parts: grants of material, or MAP; the military training program, or IMET; quarantees for foreign military sales credits, or FMS; and security supporting assistance, or SSA.

Third, as in previous years, the application of these security assistance programs is worldwide in scope. However, the basic focus of the programs is upon the Middle East. Over threequarters of the total appropriation we seek is devoted to Israel and the Arab states bordering Israel. Only about \$1 billion is for all forms of security assistance to all other countries and regions.

The reason for such concentration upon the confrontation states of the Middle East is not just the austere funding levels I mentioned earlier, but the overriding importance of Middle East requirements.

We believe that few, if any, federal programs convey benefits so in excess of the sums involved as do the security assistance activities encompassed in the budget proposals you consider today.

I would like to say a few words about the President's arms transfer restraint policy, which is now almost two years old.

It has been successful in both policy and procedural terms.

We have met the twin objectives of (1) achieving demonstrable

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qualitative and quantitative restraint in transfers to the developing world while continuing to meet the legitimate needs of our allies and friends; and (2) developing a decision-making and management process that includes better forecasting and determination of priorities, thorough policy analysis of major sales cases, and more accurate bookkeeping.

Let me briefly review the six qualitative controls which are the heart of the policy.

First, the United States will not be the first supplier to introduce into a region newly-developed advanced weapons which would create a new or significantly higher combat capability.

Second, the United States will not sell such weapons until they are operationally deployed with United States forces.

Third, the United States will not permit development of advanced weapons solely for export.

Fourth, the United States will not permit co-production by other countries of significant weapons, equipment, or major components.

Fifth, the United States will not allow U.S. weapons or equipment to be transferred to third countries without U.S. Government consent.

Sixth, the United States will not permit United States Embassy, military or industrial representatives abroad to promote the sale of arms.

Virtually all of the turnoffs or turndowns of sales as a result

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of the policy were based on these controls. However, because the policy explicitly provides for presidential exception to the controls in extraordinary circumstances or to offset quantitative or other disadvantages to friendly countries where there is a threat to a regional balance, the controls have proved sufficiently flexible to permit sales considered important to our national security interest.

There is, as you know, a great preoccupation with the arms transfer ceiling. Some allege that the 8 percent reduction in FY 78 was achieved only by creative bookkeeping. Others claim that the ceiling is an arbitrary restraint, unrelated to U.S. national interests, that has prevented sales that ought to have been made.

In fact, the ceiling is not a shibboleth, but a tool to be used. It has been a valuable management tool which supplements the more substantive qualitative controls. It forces the decision-making machinery to think and act in new ways, reflecting the shift in the burden of proof from the opposers of an arms transfer to the proposers.

Moreover, by exempting NATO, Japan, Australia, and New Zealand from the ceiling, ample attention was paid to security needs and the President provided the safety valve of an exception if circumstances warrant.

Obviously the ceiling cannot be reduced indefinitely in the absence of fundamental political changes in the world or

multilateral cooperation. The President has stated that a key factor in the determination of arms transfer levels for FY 80 and beyond will be to the extent of cooperation we receive from others.

For Fiscal Year 1978, the President set the dollar ceiling at \$8.551 billion -- an 8 percent reduction from the relevant arms sales total of the preceding year. The final year-end total of the ceiling-related transfers was \$8.538 billion. Thus, there was a decline in sales of over three-quarters of a billion dollars from 1977 to 1978, adjusted for inflation. For the current fiscal year, the President has established another 8 percent cut, which, when adjusted for inflation, provides for a Fiscal Year 79 ceiling of \$8.43 billion.

Finally, Mr. Chairman and members of the Committee, recent events have reminded us that attainment and maintenance of security are sometimes long, difficult processes. In his address at Georgia Institute of Technology on February 20, President Carter referred to our basic objective of supporting the efforts of our friends to maintain their stability and independence. He pointed out, "Many nations are troubled -- even threatened -- by the turmoil in Southeast Asia, and in the Middle East. To stand by our friends and to help meet their security needs in these difficult times, I will consult with the Congress to determine what additional military assistance will be required."

Thank you very much. I welcome your views and questions on

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this important subject.

Senator Pell. Thank you, Mrs. Benson. Your full statement will be inserted in the record, as you requested.

(The prepared statement of Ms. Benson follows:)

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Senator Pell. General Graves, we are happy to hear from you now.

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STATEMENT OF LIEUTENANT GENERAL ERNEST GRAVES, DIRECTOR, DEFENSE SECURITY ASSISTANCE AGENCY,

Mr. Chairman, it is a pleasure to appear General Graves. today in support of the Fiscal Year 1980 security assistance program.

With your permission, I shall submit my prepared statement for the record. I would like, in just a few words, to summarize its main points.

Senator Pell. It will be inserted into the record at the conclusion of your remarks to the Committee.

Please proceed.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE.

General Graves: Thank you.

I would like in just a few words to summarize its main points First, the Administration this year is proposing an amendment to the Arms Export Control Act to facilitate NATO rationalization, standardization, and interoperability. The proposed amendments provide for simplification of foreign military sales administration and mutual waiver of administrative fees for certain NATO cooperative weapons programs.

The Department of Defense strongly supports these proposals as strengthening the NATO alliance and our combined defense effort.

Second, the Administration's proposed manning of our overseas security assistance management organizations, our MAAGs, is more austere even than last year. I believe that we have reached rock bottom. Considering MAP, IMET, FMS credit financing, and

FMS cash sales, the program is a very large undertaking. It is in our national interest to assure that we have effective overseas management.

Further, I have observed that our overseas personnel in the MAAGs can make an important contribution to our policy of arms transfer restraint.

Mr. Chairman, this concludes my summary.

Senator Pell. Thank you very much.

(The prepared statement of General Graves follows:)

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ASSISTANT DIRECTOR FOR WEAPONS EVALUATION AND CONTROL,

Mr. Blechman. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Like the other members of the panel, I will submit my full statement for the record, with your permission, and I would like to summarize it at this time.

Senator Pell. It will be printed in full in the record after your remarks.

Mr. Blechman. I think it is useful to remind ourselves that the roots of President Carter's arms transfer policies lie in the attitudes of the American public toward arms sales and in the legislation which resulted from those attitudes. The public opinion polls show us time and again that the American people strongly favor restraint in arms transfers. The largest portion of respondents to these polls state consistently that, as a general policy, the United States should not sell weapons to other countries.

For example, an NBC/AP toll taken this past December showed that 57 percent opposed all arms sales. The last time NBC/AP asked that same question in March, 47 percent opposed arms sales. The same or similar results have been obtained by other national polling organizations consistently for several years now.

I think these findings are particularly noteworthy in view of the broad public opinion trend in recent years favoring

military instruments of policy; apparently, attitudes towards arms sales stem from different perceptions of America's security.

These public attitudes have led to substantial legislation calling for restraint even prior to the adoption of the present Administration's policy.

For example, the Foreign Relations Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 1976 made ACDA a full partner in the arms transfer decision-making process, requiring for the first time that decisions to transfer arms be made in coordination with the Director of ACDA. As you are well aware, the Arms Export Control Act of 1976 and its subsequent amendments placed additional restrictions on U.S. weapon transfers and expanded ACDA's role in the process.

In evaluating the Administration's security assistance and arms transfer policies, we must also keep clearly in mind the purposes that they are intended to serve. Within the latitude permitted under the law, these policies seek to balance the pblic's basic disposition toward restraint against the demands posed by the international environment. Our policies recognize that arms transfers sometimes serve important military and political purposes. Many of these purposes are reflected in the congressional presentation document on security assistance.

Our purpose is not to end all arms transfers. We cannot realistically seek such an objective.

For example, as the President has made clear, transfers to our major security partners--the NATO allies, Japan, Australia,

and New Zealand -- cannot be subject to the same controls as are applied to our transfers elsewhere. Other weapon transfers necessary to our own security and the security of our friends and allies must go ahead as well.

In short, the Administration's arms transfer policy has been and must be designed to reduce the risks of transfers without jeopardizing the security of our friends and allies.

Our policy represents a first step toward restraining those particular arms transfers which can affect regional stability adversely, stimulate or aggravate local arms races, lead us into confrontations with other powers, or unduly hamper the economic and social development of poor nations.

The policy recognizes that in many cases, for the U.S. as well as for other suppliers, the political influence gained through arms transfers is short-lived and tightly constrained. In some instances, when a recipient believes its vital interests to be at stake or when there is a change of regime, we and other suppliers find that our arms may be used in unexpected and unwanted ways.

Thus, central to the policy are the series of qualitative controls which Mrs. Benson has listed for you. We also have established a ceiling on the dollar volume of U.S. Government transfers of weapons and weapons-related items to nations other than our major security partners.

ACDA recently conducted an examination of our first year's experience with this ceiling. We found that, quite apart from

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its impact on the volume of U.S. arms sales to non-exempt countries, it was a useful management tool. It has had the salutary effect of compelling consideration of prospective demands for U.S. arms as a whole and determining relative priorities among them.

On balance, I believe we have made substantial progress toward restraint during the past year. While it is not possible to put a dollar value on the sales we have turned off or turned down, they represent a significant amount. However, I know of no case where we were not able to meet a legitimate request.

In my judgment, our new management procedures make possible the careful and effective scrutiny of the risks and benefits of proposed sales and the relative priority which should be given to particular transfers.

I might add that my agency has played an important role in the formulation and implementation of this policy. By statute, ACDA advises the Secretary of State, the National Security Council and the President on the arms control implications of prospective transfers -- the extent to which a proposed transfer would, first, contribute to an arms race; second, increase the possibility of outbreak or escalation of conflict; and third, prejudice the development of bilateral or multilateral arms control arrangements.

In order to apply these legislated arms control control criteria, we have developed a set of procedures and guidelines, and I have attached a copy of those to my written statement.

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In 1978, ACDA reviewed 1,070 prospective arms transfer cases. That is about 10 percent of the total number. These included 713 applications for commercial export licenses, 251 requests from foreign governments for military equipment, and 106 proposed notifications to the Congress required by the Arms Export Control Act.

We raised some objection to 166 of those cases, about 15 percent of the number we reviewed. Our objections prevailed in more than 90 percent of these cases. In some instances, these objections were partial, involving the number of weapons in the proposal, a particular feature of the weapon system, or only certain of the proposed recipients, rather than the proposal as a whole. But in other cases, we voiced an objection to the transfer altogether.

In summary, Mr. Chairman, I believe that the President's arms transfer restraint policy has worked relatively well during this past year. On the one hand, responding to the mandate of the Congress and the American public, we have begun to restrain the heretofore uncontrolled proliferation of conventional weaponry in the developing world. On the other hand, we have continued, when necessary, to transfer arms to help friends and allies, as an element of our overall national security policy. This is the kind of balanced policy which I believe is necessary and which is clearly in the nation's interest.

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Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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(The prepared statement of Mr. Blechman follows:)
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Senator Pell. Thank you very much, indeed, Mr. Blechman.

I think that we sometimes think the extension of military assistance will secure the friendship, support and undying loyalty of the recipients. I think both we and the Soviets have had a good many rude experiences to the contrary. I am thinking in our case of Ethiopia and just recently of Iran. I am sure the Soviets would think equally regretfully of Egypt, Somalia and China, who were originally armed by the Soviets.

I think we should bear in mind that there is no relationship between insuring the political loyalty of a loyal and the military assistance that is extended to it.

My own view, as Mrs. Benson knows, has always been a little skeptical because I think so often for reasons of prestige nations want to have new weapons systems. It is a sort of one-upmanship or "keeping up with the Joneses."

I remember many years ago I took a trip to the Far East.

There was one chief of state who asked that he be given one of the old cruisers that we had at the time. The only reason he wanted one was because his neighbor wanted a destroyer, and he wanted to be one up.

I think sometimes we get a little carried away with this principle.

Well, please forgive this ramble of mine. I will ask you a few specific questions now. We will keep to the ten minute rule and will thus be able to have a second round, if it is needed.

It is the Committee's understanding that despite contingency plans, there was no effort made to destroy the sensitive American-made weapons in Iran.

Is that a correct statement?

This is addressed to any of the panel who is most informed.

Ms. Benson. Let me start an answer to that and I would be glad to have General Graves add to it.

I think, first of all, we have to understand that the equipment in Iran belongs to the Government of Iran. Of course we are concerned about its integrity. But we know of no instance in which that equipment has been compromised in any way.

I think it would not have been possible under international law, to which we generally try to adhere, for us to have destroyed or otherwise removed the equipment from Iran.

Perhaps General Graves would like to add to that.

General Graves. I think also we have observed that the Iranians have been very zealous in their security of this equipment. Now it is true that we have not had every item of equipment under constant surveillance. But the whole tenor of the Iranian approach was to safeguard this equipment as being their equipment. They wanted no interference with it by anyone, including Americans.

So, the security situation appeared to us to be favorable and not justifying such an action.

Ms. Benson. Senator, I might add that Mr. Khomeini made it very clear on at least two different equations that any tampering

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with that equipment would be considered an act of sedition and would be punished according to Islamic law for treason.

I believe General Graves made the point well that the Iranians have always taken extremely good care of this equipment and we hope that they will continue to do so.

Senator Pell. Well, as we all know, the situation there, to put it gently, is "in flux." It could change, of course.

A recent news report stated that a manual on sensitive weapons may already have been compromised. Is there any truth in that allegation?

Ms. Benson. No, not to our knowledge.

General Graves. We have no information to confirm that report.

Senator Pell. Thank you.

What would be the impact on NATO and also on Japanese defenses if the F-14, the AWG-9 radar, the PHOENIX missile and the HARPOON missile were compromised?

General Graves. Let me say that the compromise of this equipment would primarily facilitate countermeasures by a potential enemy. If we knew for certain that it had been compromised, then it would be necessary for us to undertake some sort of development program to further refine the guidance systems in order that they could not be defeated. Such a program would take a number of years.

Since we have no evidence that there has been a compromise, Page determined to be Unclassified

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yet undertaken we are not planning any such program, but we have looked at the It would take a substantial development program to revise issue. the electronics, if there were a compromise.

Senator Pell. Despite the fact that most American arms sales in the pipelines to Iran were cancelled, Iran still has contracts for us to produce two of the Spruance class destroyers. Do you think we ought to go ahead with selling the sophisticated Spruances under the circumstances?

Ms. Benson. Senator, we have been working very hard to divert many of the Iranian contracts. Two of the Spruance destroyers There are indications which Iran had on order have been cancelled. that they intend to cancel the remaining two, but we have not yet received formal notification.

Senator Pell. That does not answer my question.

Do you think it is a good idea that they receive these sophisticated destroyers -- that is, presuming they remain on our side, and we have seen from history that that does not always happen?

I think it is a little bit premature to make Ms. Benson. Those Spruance destroyers are a long way from being that decision. We have adequate time to analyze whether or not completed. the Government of Iran, which, as you say, is in a fluid condition, should have those ships exported or not. We are a long way from exporting them.

I happened to spend last Friday afternoon Senator Pell. Page determined to be Unclassified Reviewed Chief, Records & Declass Div, WHS ALDERSON REPORTING COMPANY, INC. IAW EO 13526, Section 3.5

was an Iranian submarine nearby. My recollection is it had the Iranian flag flying and there were a lot of Iranian trainees who are presently being fed from hand to mouth.

What is the plan with regard to these submarines and these young Iranians who are being trained?

General Graves. Iran originally arranged to purchase three tand class submarines, which would be refurbished by us. One of the three has been cancelled. The other two are proceeding. As you observed, there are trainees in this country.

We have not received any indications from the Iranians that they intend to suspend that equipment.

Senator Pell. But they are not sending money to feed their crews, are they?

General Graves. There is a problem there, but the new government is very much aware of the problem. We know from meetings with them that they are going to deal with this.

There was an interruption of support funding for these people. But, as I said, we know from conversations with the representatives of the new government that they are very well aware of this problem and they have a definite intention to deal with it.

With the change in government, of course, there has to be a re-establishment of their organization here in the United States which does provide for the pay and administration of these training Page determined to be Unclassified

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Senator Pell. In the meantime, who is paying for their board and lodging?

General Graves. To the best of my knowledge, they are getting by on either the money that they have been given already or, if they are lodged with the U.S. Government, then that cost would be borne by the trust fund money which we have for FMS sales to Iran.

Senator Pell. To really boil down this series of questions, what we would like to know is whether the United States intends to cut off the flow of arms to Iran or not.

Ms. Benson. We have negotiated an understanding with the Bakhtiar government of Iran, which is being upheld by the present government of Iran, for a reduction in their contracts of a rather major scale.

We will, if Iran continues to wish to purchase arms, consider those requests as we would consider such from any government, according to our standard procedures of reviewing, analyzing, and approving or not approving requests to buy arms.

The Iranians government is very interested in reducing the contracts which existed with the previous government, and we are working hard on that.

General Graves and his office of the Department of Defense and the Department of State have devised a program by which we can reduce contracts for Iran according to the

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terms of the understanding which we have.

So, I would not want to say that we are going to cease instantly, because we do have outstanding contracts with the Government of Iran and we can only assume, unless they say they do not want to go on with them, that these are still valid. Where possible, we are reducing and redirecting those contracts.

Senator Pell. Thank you.

General Graves. Mr. Chairman, I might just add that they have a very large amount of U.S. equipment which can only be supported if we continue a sales relationship with them.

> Senator Pell. Thank you.

I have a question now concerning a different area of the world, though one that is not too far distant.

The Administration has requested a \$76 million increase in assistance for Turkey and has requested a reduction of \$12 million At the same time, Turkey's use of American weapons, in violation of American law, in Cyprus continues exactly as it did before.

How do you justify this request for an increase to Turkey? The increase in the proposed program for Turkey Ms. Benson. is in three areas. We are recommending \$200 million in FMS, \$98 million in security supporting assistance, and \$2 million in The increase is designed to help the Turkish forces improve their level of readiness to perform their NATO tasks, while maintaining a military balance in the region.

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For Greece, we are proposing \$159.8 million in military assistance, both FMS and IMET, and \$202 million for Turkey altogether.

In approximation of previous ratios of U.S. assistance to those two countries, we consider the amounts as consistent with the congressional intention of insuring the present balance of military strength in the area. The \$98 million SSA program proposed for Turkey is designed to deal with a specific economic need that Turkey has, and very fortunately that same level of economic need does not exist in Greece. So we have not proposed that money for Greece.

We have not proposed military MAP for either country for next year.

Senator Pell. Thank you all. My time has expired. We can return to that subject later.

Senator Percy.

Senator Percy. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Secretary Benson, we welcome you here this morning, as we do General Graves and Mr. Blechman.

Let me finish up a question that I have for you on Iran.

It is the Committee's understanding that despite contingency plans, there was no attempt to destroy sensitive U.S.-made Is that true? Could you tell us why no action weapons in Iran. was taken? What would be the results and the impact on NATO and on Japanese defenses if the F-14 AWG-9 radar, the PHOENIX

missile, the HARPOON missile, and other weapons were compromised?

It is our understanding that there may have been sensitive

manuals already compromised.

Senator Pell. Senator Percy, if I might interrupt you, this was asked before you came in.

Senator Percy. Oh, it has. Thank you.

Well, I did not hear the answer. Would you please just answer my first question as to why no attempt was made?

Ms. Benson. No attempt was made, Senator, because the equipment of which you speak is owned by the Government of Iran. It was purchased by the Government of Iran and is owned by the Government of Iran. We do not have a legal right to destroy or to remove.

It was also made very clear by Mr. Khomeini that any tampering by anybody with that military equipment would be considered an act of sedition.

Senator Percy. When you visited Pakistan, Mrs. Benson, did you also visit India at the same time?

Ms. Benson. No. I visited Pakistan and Turkey last November.

Senator Percy. Oh, I see.

Would you give us some picture as to what the requests are that have been made of us by Pakistan and India and what is the Administration's attitude toward those requests. What is the Administration asking Congress for in this area?

Ms. Benson. The relationship with India is a very minimal

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relationship. Purchases which India has sought to make have been cash purchases. In fact, I don't remember, but I can certainly find out and send it to you for the record what India has bought recently. It has been very small.

They have purchased a great deal of their military equipment over the past years from the Soviet Union. They have recently agreed with the British to purchase 200 sophisticated fighters, the Jaguar, and have entered into a co-production agreement with Britain on this fighter.

For Pakistan, we propose only an IMET program under the security assistance program. In other words, there is no FMS financing at the present time.

We have been talking with Pakistan now for over a year about their military needs. When I was out there, I went over with their military leaders and their procurement officers the things which were in the process of being discussed. They were on an old list of Pakistan. They are in the process now of going over their list. We have told them that we are willing to sell to them for cash F-5E fighters, but not a more highly sophisticated fighter. They have not yet requested anything in a formal way, so there is nothing actually in process. It is still in the discussion stage.

They are interested ina number of other things, like TOW helicopters and tanks, though there is nothing unusual in the military equipment which they are requesting.

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Their economic situation, however, is such that it is highly unlikely that they would be able to afford to pay cash themselves and will need the assistance of friendly nations for financing.

Senator Percy. With what has transpired in Iran and Afghanistan, do they have legitimate concerns for their own security that we can assist them with?

Ms. Benson. Yes, Senator, it is our judgment that the concern of Pakistan is legitimate. Its armed forces are in a weakened condition in terms of their equipment. It is old and much of it is very much out of date, particularly their airplanes.

They perceive a very deep threat from the Soviet Union, from Afghanistan, and now to some extent from Iran because of the turmoil in that country; but that more affects their ability to keep peace among the tribes on the two borders between Iran and Pakistan than a threat of invasion.

They perceive a threat from India which is a very emotional problem between those two nations.

We do agree with them that they have defense needs, legitimate defense needs. But we have made it very clear to the Pakistanis that we will not contribute to an arms race in the subcontinent, which is why we have refused to consider a more advanced fighter airplane for Pakistan.

We tried very hard to persuade the Indians not to buy the Jaguar, but they were unpersuadable. We are hoping, if the Pakistanis decide they are going to have an aircraft,

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that they will be satisfied with the F-5, which is a good But of course, it is not the latest word. interceptor. infinitely cheaper than the latest word.

Senator Percy. I was in North Yemen in November. The President expressed deep concern about what was going on in South They feel that they have a very legitimate concern and Yemen. Saudi Arabia has expressed that concern to us and its willingness to underwrite the cost of defensive weaponry for North Yemen.

I understand that the Administration has agreed to sell North Yemen 12 F-5E's, 64 M-60 tanks, 100 armored personnel carriers and 2 C-130 aircraft, which would be transfers from Saudi Arabia.

Would you tell us what the implications are of the recent fighting and what we understand to be the nature of the confrontation on the borders of North and South Yemen? What effect does that fighting have upon the request that has been made of us? What is the intention of the Administration with respect to providing defensive weaponry for North Yemen?

Ms. Benson. Yes, Senator Percy.

Let me say at the outset that we are, of course, deeply concerned over this fighting, as is Saudi Arabia deeply concerned. We are very concerned over the presence of South Yemeni military units in North Yemen.

The situation on the ground is quite confused, but the South Yemen government has admitted that its forces are occupying North Yemen territory. So there seems to be no cause for

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disagreement on that score.

We do know that there are a number of Soviet advisers in South Yemen, somewhere between 800 and 1,000, somewhere between 500 and 700 Cuban advisers, and roughly 100 East German security advisers. Half of these are military advisers.

We have no information that these advisers have crossed into North Yemen territory, but obviously their supportive role has an impact on the military situation.

As part of our ongoing relationship with Saudi Arabia and the Yemen Arab Republic, to which you referred, we did agree three years ago to assist in the development of a modest defense capability based on Western equipment to be financed by the Saudis and to replace obsolete Soviet equipment in North Yemen.

This equipment, which has been or is in the process of being delivered, includes, in addition to the things you mentioned, LAW antitank guns, VULCAN antiaircraft guns, recoilless rifles, and support vehicles.

Following the assassination of the North Yemen president last June and the coup by the pro-Soviet elements within the Aden regime, we agreed in cooperation with the Saudis to seek congressional approval for additional military equipment for the YAR. You have just read in your question what that will include.

Deliveries will be phased over a period of time. assistance program is designed to meet the Yemen Arab Republic's

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most pressing defensive needs. We are not involved in an arms competition in Saudi Arabia or with the Soviet Union, which has provided significant quantities of equipment to the PDRY over the past ten years. But we are concerned that the government of the Yemen Arab Republic be able to provide for the security and integrity of its country.

We are hoping that a diplomatic, rather than a military effort, will be successful in stopping this present conflagration. But we don't know that it will be.

We have been talking with the Yemenis and with the Saudi Arabians about what either one or both of us can do to assist Yemen at this particular time. We have not made any specific decisions, other than what is already before the Congress.

Senator Percy. I appreciate that explanation very much and my own judgment was that if a request being made of us were justifiable, it would be a way of indicating to Saudi Arabia that we intended to support them.

I want to thank you very much. I also wish to comment
that in the places that I have been which you have visited, or
the Ambassadors to whom I have spoken who have had you visit
their countries have been extraordinarily pleased with your visits.
They have commented upon the thorough understanding which you
have of the problems there and that your visits have been
eminently worthwhile.

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Thank you very much.

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Ms. Benson. Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman.

Senator Percy. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Senator Pell. Senator Stone.

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Senator Stone. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Mrs. Benson, as I understand it, the Administration is proposing for Afghanistan \$20 million of of development aid, of which \$17 million is AID development, \$1.7 million is PL-480, \$1 million is Peace Corps, and \$339,000 is narcotics contribution. This compares with a Fiscal Year 1979 program of \$17.5 million, of which \$14.9 million would be AID development programs.

Are those figures right?

Ms. Benson. Well, I am not sure that we are looking at the same kinds of figures. I have figures for 1979 bilateral assistance of \$14.9 million. Is that what you said.

Senator Stone. That is what I said, yes.

Ms. Benson. We are proposing for Fiscal Year 1980, \$17 million on development assistance, AID development assistance.

Senator Stone. That's right.

Ms. Benson. Actually, as far as security assistance is concerned, we were proposing in our initial preparation of the budget, \$310,000 for IMET training for Afghanistan. This proposal, of course, antedated the tragic events connected with the death of Ambassador Dubbs. We have now cancelled the proposed 1979 IMET program with Afghanistan.

Senator Stone. In connection with the \$310,000 international military training program, would you be in a position to submit a formal request for withdrawal to the Committee, because we have not received one yet.

Ms. Benson. Yes, of course. I will do that. Senator Stone. That will help.

Ms. Benson, probably the Committee will feel as I feel, which is that any assistance at all to Afghanistan in advance or in absence of their complete and full apology for what happened to our Ambassador would meet with great resistance here at this level. It might assist you to pass that word back to your agency. In addition to our national feelings, most of us here knew and loved Spike Dubbs. I, for one, am certainly not about to vote for one dime for them unless and until we have the appropriate apologies and any other remediation that the Administration feels is appropriate.

Ms. Benson, in connection with the current conflict in

North Yemen, which of these items that the Administration proposes

to sell would assist North Yemen currently in the current

conflict, should the conciliation of the Arab League not

succeed?

Ms. Benson. Well, I think all of it would assist them, Senator Stone.

The trouble is that it is not all ready to be delivered. Senator Stone. What is ready?

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Ms. Benson. Let me refer that question to General Graves.

Senator Stone. General, what do you say?

General Graves. Sir, the earlier program included LAW

antitank missiles.

Senator Stone. Excuse me, but what was that?

General Grave. The earlier program included LAW antitank missiles. "LAW" is the nickname for this missile. It is a light amtitank weapon.

LAN antitank missiles, VULCAN guns and various vehicles are included. We are accelerating the delivery of the LAW antitank missiles, which can be used against South Yemen's tanks. We are accelerating the delivery of the VULCAN guns. These are 20 millimeter automatic weapon.

Senator Stone. Is that ready right away for delivery?

General Grave. There are some in country already, and

we are delivering the balance by air. Both these weapons would

be suitable to be employed against any incurions by the South

Yemenis.

Senator Stone. General, I think that any airplane deliveries of anything that you are going to sell anyway and that could be used by Northern Yemen currently would help the conciliation efforts. Capacity to resist always helps mediation. If there ever were a time to show direct and immediate response to resistance to the -- well, I will use a Chinese phrase -- to the "hegemony" efforts, now is the time. Wouldn't you agree?

General Graves. Yes, sir, and we are doing that. We are airlifting those materials.

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Ms. Benson, are we providing appropriate assistance for Egypt in connection with its African needs and any other needs in this proposal?

Ms. Benson. Do you mean military?
Senator Stone. Yes.

Ms. Benson. Let me say what the proposal for Egypt does include before I say what it does not include.

It includes \$750 million for security supporting assistance and \$1 million for IMET training, the same as in 1979. We have not provided, as of now, for any FMS credits for Egypt, which we have not done before, either.

of the SSA, \$200 million would be for commodity imports to enhance economic stability; \$300 million would go to rebuilding infrastructure relative to industrial and agricultural production; and \$250 million would be used to improve the life of the poor, for new jobs and improvement in basic village services, such as water, sewage and electricy and health care.

The IMET is designed to create a cadre of trained officers who have been primarily previously trained by the Soviets.

The emphasis in that training will be on professional and management training.

We are talking with the Egyptians and have been for some
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while about a military relationship. We did agree, of course, last year to F-5E's for Egypt and for C-130's. We are presently discussing with them and have promised to help them do a study of their military needs.

Senator Stone. Ms. Benson, I have just one other question on the North Yemen situation.

One of the lists of items has to do with the advanced M-60 tanks. Does that appropriately fit within the first guideline of the President's transfer policy, in light of the fact that South Yemen apparently does not have that kind of tank -- or do they?

General Graves. Well, sir, South Yemen has a large number of Soviet tanks. Of course, we have provided the M-60 tank to Saudi Arabia.

Senator Stone. Well, that takes care of the regional situation. You are not introducing something advanced into the region. This is the same thing.

General Graves. That's right, sir.

Mr. Blechman. Senator, I might add that in considering a request like this, you would have to balance the quality of the piece of equipment with the quantity that is arrayed against it. In certain situations, a large quantity of a less advanced item might indeed be more potent than a smaller quantity of a more advanced item. Both aspects have to be taken into Page determined to be Unclassified Reviewed Chief, Records & Declass Div, WHS consideration.

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Senator Stone. In connection with the sale of civilian versions of equipment which has military use, has the Administration thought of consulting with Congress about that kind of thing in advance of the commitments or approvals to sell?

Ms. Benson. Senator, I don't know what you are referring to, so I am a little uncertain how to answer the question.

Senator Stone. Well, let me give you an example, Mrs. Benson.

Last year, we apparently sold Syria four L-100's, which is the civilian version of the military transport C-130. That did not go through Congress and you did not notify Congress.

If you do that again, are you going to notify Congress?

Ms. Beason. That is a sale that I think was conducted on
an export permit from the Department of Commerce.

Senator Stone. That's right. Have you thought of notifying Congress when something like that happens?

Ms. Bemson. No, we haven't, and there is no reason why we can't except that the State Department is not -- nor is the Defense Department -- necessarily knowledgeable of Department of Commerce export licenses. If it is an item on the military list, the munitions list, it automatically comes under the Department of Defense and the Department of State. We don't always know about it, but there is no reason why we could not devise a way in which we would know about it.

Senator Stone. I see that I am out of time, but I would

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like to ask this one final question.

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Although there are some differences in the doors, the electronic systems, and other features, is it not the case that these planes surely can be used just as a C-130?

Ms. Benson. They could be used for transport, but they could not, without the back door, be used very easily for dropping things like bombs. But they could indeed be used for transport.

Senator Stone. Like military cargoes.

Ms. Benson. Yes -- but they would have a little difficulty getting most military equipment in through the regular type doors.

Senator Stone. (presiding) Thank you.

My time is up.

Senator Javits.

Senator Javits. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Mrs. Benson, I will not be able today to question you on the specifics of the arms sales or the other supplies about which you have testified. But I will examine them carefully, and if I have any questions, I will take the next opportunity here to do so, or I will put them in writing and will ask you to answer them for the record.

Today, however, I do want to question you on a matter which is very close to me and in which I think there has been highly unsatisfactory performance so far on the part of the State

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Department. This is the amendment to Section 25 of the Arms

Export Control Act, calling for a report by the President -- and
the only report we have is from you; now I love and admire you,
but you are not the President. Maybe in this case you should
be. It calls for a report from the President to the Chairman
of this Committee and to the Speaker of the House covering
all sales, that is, arms sales, other than those to NATO,

Japan, Australia, or New Zealand, of major defense equipment
which qualifies under Section 35(b) -- to wit, which you have to
give notice of: \$7 million for major defense equipment
items and \$25 million for defense articles or services -- and
"which are considered eligible for approval during the fiscal
year beginning on October 1 of such year." The current fiscal

Now, when you sent us this letter, you defined what you were sending us not in accordance with the requirements — to wit, the sales which are considered eligible for approval during the fiscal year. Your criterion, not the one in the law, was, and I quote: "The most accurate and up to date information on the defined arms sales which may be considered for notification to Congress."

Now we have very carefully reviewed the items which you have sent us and the enclosed classified document and we find very grave discrepancy. We find countries omitted, we find sales omitted, and then we find in another document which you submitted

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somewhat later -- to wit, the congressionally anticipated arms sales for Fiscal Year 1980 -- very different figures. We find the figures for 1979, which we have just mentioned, very different from the figures for the same year mentioned as part of your Fiscal Year 1980 security assistance congressional presentation document. We find discrepancies in countries. For example, Yugoslavia, Bahrain, and Singapore are listed on one list, on the congressional presentation documents, and are not in your letter. We find Lebanon, for example, again listed but not in your letter. We find a serious discrepancy on the two lists respecting Israel, \$900 million, and Saudi Arabia, \$5 billion, and South Korea, \$1 billion. Then we find the 1980 congressional presentation document cancelling some of the things which were on the 1979 report.

Now we consider this very unsatisfactory. The purpose is clearly spelled out in the conference report, the November 15 report, finally gets a grip on arms sales. Though the administration is making a good deal of the fact that it is cutting down arms sales, though not by terribly much, from \$9.2 billion in the preceding year to \$8.4 billion in 1979, and the fact is that if you add -- which is excluded by law -- watco, Japan, Australia and New Zealand and construction sales, they have actually increased from \$11.2 billion in Fiscal 77 to \$13.6 billion in 1978, and to over \$14 billion in 1979.

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So, as I said, we consider this highly unsatisfactory compliance, at least I do, and I would like to ask for your explanation.

Ms. Benson. Senator, may I say at the outset that this

Administration has attempted in every way possible to fully,

completely, and honestly comply with the requests of that

amendment, Section 25. I believe that if we were to sit down

together and go over this, you would see that the differences

which you find and of which you cited several examples between

the CPD and the list which was submitted by the President-delegatedto-the-Secretary-delegated-to-me. We will change that procedure

if you desire.

Senator Javits. Now let's stop at that point. You will change it? The President will report to us hereafter?

Ms. Benson. Well, I can only say that I will propose that.

I cannot say what the President will do.

Senator Javits. Well, I hope it will not be necessary for me to move a resolution of this Committee asking the President to comply with the law.

Does the State Department challenge that the amendment says that the President shall report?

Ms. Benson. No, the State Department does not challenge that.

But, sir, I think you would find, if we ware to sit down -- and I would be very glad to do that and so would General Graves --

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that we are talking about two different accounting systems.

In the case of the CPD, this is an overall proposed budget, which does not necessarily relate dollar for dollar exact sums to arms exports, arms sales, which may be made in a year. Those sums are for past purchases already approved there for management costs and all kinds of different things.

Your list is a request for weapons and weapons-related exports under 36(b).

The DOD estimates all FMS sales, whether they are 36(b) cases or not, in the CPD. So, there is not meant to be, nor can there be, an exact dollar for dollar relationship between the 36(b) proposals which we may make during a fiscal year, and the CPD, which is a budget figure.

I am sure that you would find, Senator Javits, that the report in answer to your amendment is as complete and full as we were humanly able to make it.

Senator Javits. Well, now, that is a very different criterion from the one you set in your letter. It is one thing to say, "We are reporting all sales under this act" -- to wit, the words of the amendment -- "insofar as we are humanly able to make it and we cannot humanly make it complete for the following reasons."

This is very different from what you sent us, which said,
"It is the most accurate and up to date information on the
defined sales which may be considered for notification to Congress

Let me explain why.

The purpose of this amendment is precisely to tie down the Administration in advance as to what we are going to sell, because that is the policy question, and to whom. This is because in my judgment, these unbelievable arms sales to Iran are part of the reason why we are in such trouble in that whole situation. I believe the reason we have to grab hold of this thing and why this amendment is so fortuitous and so much in advance of our trouble — and our trouble is always that we are caught flatfooted after the event — is these enormous arms sales which the Shah was able to use to shut us out of contact with oppositionist elements in Iran so that our intelligence was absolutely blind because he insisted that we only should talk to him or his people.

My time is up, Ms. Benson, but we are going to pursue this.

I would like to end by saying the following.

I would be glad to sit down and go over this with the Department, provided that the Department writes me a letter first in which it says first that these reports will hereafter be made by the President, as the law requires, and second, what will be the criteria, so that we can agree on that first.

Now if you cannot humanly do that, we may have to amend the law. We could go into that. But I will not accept as compliance with the law some new rubric that you invented or that somebody in the State Department invented, because that

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defeats its purpose, as I have stated.

Ms. Benson. Senator Javits, it is not our intention to defeat your purpose. It is our intention to cooperate fully in seeking to enable you to achieve your purpose.

Senator Javits. Thank you. We will see about that based upon what the State Department lets me know.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Senator Pell (presiding). Senator Zorinsky.

Senator Zorinsky. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Ms. Benson, I would like to ask a question concerning the agreement for the payment by Saudi Arabia for the 50 F-5's that are being sold to Egypt, the stated price of agreement being \$525 million.

I have seen reports from the inception of the package deal a year ago that due to inflation the cost had escalated anywhere up to \$750 million.

Do you know what the billing price was from the manufacturer for the 50 F-5's that are desired for Egypt, regardless of what agreement was made as to the \$525 million payment by Saudi Arabia?

Ms. Benson. Senator, we can get that figure for you if
General Graves does not have it on the top of his head. But,
if I may say so, that will not answer your question. The reason
it will not answer your question as to the reason for the
differences is that included in the proposed overall cost of

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50 F-5's for Egypt are the training costs, the maintenance costs, the setting up of maintenance systems cost, and costs for a great deal else that goes along with transferring a weapon system of any kind, whether it be tanks or aircraft. It is more expensive with aircraft. The difference in the price, it is true. does have to do with inflation; but it has more to do with just how much of various possible items does the proposal cover, aside from the 50 aircraft.

I would like to ask General Graves to explain that more fully because he is thoroughly familiar with the details.

Senator Zorinsky. Well, the purpose for the question is at the time the Senate was voting on this last year, we were led to believe that Saudi Arabia was paying for the package, not for \$525 million worth of planes.

Ms. Benson. Well, it is not \$525 million worth of planes: it is \$525 million worth of planes and support services that To with the aircraft.

Senator Zorinsky. Well, my question is has that figure held firm since its inception a year ago?

Ms. Benson. General Graves.

General Graves. Senator Zorinsky, the formal notification of Congress included a cost estimate of \$590 million. sent our site survey team to Egypt, there were several factors developed. One was a desire for a higher level of contract support of maintenance on the part of Egypt than we had

contemplated. The other was to add certain additional equipment, including an inertial navigation system to the aircraft, which we had not contemplated. There was also a need for substantially more ground support equipment.

All of this raised the estimated cost to \$731 million.

This was a much higher amount than the Government of Saudi

Arabia had understood would be required. Of course, since our

formal notification was \$590 million, they had reason to believe

that that was the scope of the program.

Since that time we have had discussions with Egypt with Saudi Arabia, and Egypt and Saudi Arabia have agreed on a program scope of \$525 million. This will include the 50 planes; it will include what we consider to be adequate training and adequate maintenance support.

The scope of ground support equipment will be reduced from what was contemplated under the \$731 million. We will eliminate a simulator and some other training equipment which is quite expensive.

I would have to say that I believe that the Saudi government and the Egyptian government have lived up to the spirit of the original notification of Congress, that the Saudi government are is paying for adequate 50-aircraft package.

Senator Zorinsky. Well, let me phrase my question this way. Are we paying for any difference?

General Graves. No, sir, we are not.

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Senator Zorinsky. Well, in the spirit of our taxpayers dollars, I think your spirit should be looked at also.

Thank you.

Mr. Blechman, I would like to ask you a question. A recent Committee staff study concludes that President Carter's arms export restraint policy may face major revisions by the Executive Branch if efforts to multilateralize the restraints fail to produce results. It is further concluded that these multilateral efforts face substantial difficulties. The conventional arms transfer negotiations cannot yet be considered a failure, but time appears to be running out on them.

Mr. Blechman, you are one of the chief negotiators for the conventional arms transfer talks with the Soviets. Could you comment on these conclusions?

Mr. Blechman. Yes, sir.

We have had a mixed record in our pursuit of multilateral agreements.

We have had four rounds of negotiations with the Soviet
Union on this subject. I would say that generally, over the
year, we have made more progress with the Soviets than had been
predicted. It is true that we ran into difficulty in the last
round in Mexico City and did not obtain as much progress at
that particular round as we had hoped. But overall, looking at
the full year, we exceded our expectations with the Soviets.

Our efforts with other suppliers have frankly not gone

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The view of other Western suppliers is that we should very far. first explore thoroughly the possibility of obtaining Soviet participation in a restraint regime before we seek to include them in negotiations.

We have also sought to get recipient countries to reach some agreement in this area. There we have had some success, as in the United Nations Special Session on Disarmament and there have been recent efforts and initiatives in Latin America which, perhaps, will lead toward restraint.

Having said that, it is certainly true that we do not have any tangible agreements so far. We have begun a dialogue and we feel we have made some progress in that regard. We will have to take a look by the end of this year, as required by legislation, in fact, at the progress in the talks and will review our policy accordingly. It is not our intention to continue the unilateral policy unaltered without some progress from other suppliers and recipients toward restraint.

Senator Zorinsky. A major conclusion of a recent Committee staff study is that the Fiscal Year 1979 arms sale ceiling may be meaningless because of sales reductions to Iran and Taiwan. The study states that the ceiling is likely to become a target.

Do you plan to modify the Fiscal Year 1979 ceiling to account for these sales reductions to Iran and Taiwan?

Senator, no, we do not at the present time plan Ms. Benson. to do this.

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We need, first of all, to be able to assess the impact on the ceiling figure of the change in the Iranian proposals, which we are not yet able to do. Secondly, there is really no need to change the ceiling. If we come in under the ceiling by X million dollars because Iran did not purchase what had been included, proposed for this year, why then it will just be that much less. There is no particular need in the middle of the year or in the middle of anytime to change the ceiling. I myself think, and the Department thinks, that it would create a good deal of confusion.

The President announced the ceiling as being \$8.4 billion, and if we come in at \$7 billion instead of \$8.4 because we did not export arms to Iran, it won't make any difference in the long run. I think it would be a confusion to the public and probably to a great many people working in the program if at every change in the international situation we changed the ceiling.

Senator Zorinsky. So you feel through self restraint, the differential will reflect in the end figure?

Ms. Benson. I think it may well. We may also decide to use that money for other arms exports which we might have made in a subsequent year. It gives us a certain amount of greater flexibility. But it does not mean that we will use that flexibility. We just have not yet time to assess the impact on the ceiling as a result of what has happened in Iran.

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Senator Zorinsky. Thank you.

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Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Senator Pell. Senator Helms.

Senator Helms. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Mrs. Benson, I read your statement with great interest and
I have made some marginal notes. I may well, Mr. Chairman,
file some written questions to which I would like to have answers
in writing.

Senator Pell. I am sure that will be agreeable to the Administration and that it will comply.

Ms. Benson. Certainly.

Senator Helms. I thank the Chairman.

I have only one questions and it may be, at best, ancillary to the subject.

I am curious -- and I address this to the whole panel -about the terrorists trained in Cuba who are now throughout

Latin America. Argentina comes to mind as one example of their
location. They go out into the hills and have what I understand
to be a vast operation. They come into the cities, such as
Buenas Aires, and they throw bombs and kill innocent people
and do that sort of thing.

I think for the last three years -- and I stand to be corrected on this -- Argentina has been trying to buy helicopters from us to have some sort of surveillance of these activities and to limit the extent of the terrorism by these people.

Yet the United States has steadfastly refused to permit the sale of the helicopters.

Would you be willing to comment on that?

Ms. Benson. Certainly, Senator. I would be glad to.

As you know, the Kennedy-Humphrey amendment to the 1977 act excluded Argentina from any form of security assistance, effective September 30, 1978.

Senator Helms. That I understand.

Ms. Benson. As a result of that, anything which is on the munitions list we are not able to export to Argentina.

Senator Helms. But the Senator did that at the urging of the State Department. At least that was my understanding from him at the time.

What I want to know from you is do you agree with that?

Does the State Department agree with that position now?

Ms. Benson. I believe, in fact I know that we took the position at the time, Senator, that we felt embargoes of all kinds directed at specific countries removed a flexibility which we would like to have by making it impossible for us to export an item if we thought that was a particularly good thing to do and [enabled] us to work with the Argentinians in this case, or whatever country it might have been. The State Department I believe historically has always opposed embargoes. I remember very distinctly that we were hopeful that the amendment would not pass.

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24 25 Senator Helms. Isn't that amazing. How do you suppose the Senator was confused on that point?

Ms. Benson. Well, unfortunately we cannot ask him. It was Senators Humphrey and Kennedy.

Senator Helms. Well, it was probably Senator Kennedy who angineered it. It sounds like him.

Ms. Benson. We do, of course, presently by law, exclude arms exports to Argentina and Chile and a number of other arms transfers are rather severely restricted for human rights reasons.

Senator Helms. So your position, or the State Department position, is that you would like some of us to remedy that situation, then. Would you support a change in the situation so that you would have more flexibility?

Ms. Benson. I think we would have to discuss that, Senator.

Whether or not this is the time to remove the embargo once
having been put on, what kind of signal it conveys when you propose
removing it, and other factors would have to be considered.

I would like to take that question for the record, if I might.

Senator Helms. I wish you would. It seems to me to be paradoxical that we would allow a situation of that sort to exist.

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 Senator Helms. There is not much aggression that can be committed with a helicopter, you know.

Ms. Benson. Well, as a matter of fact, a helicopter can do quite a lot of damage.

Senator Helms. But not the kind of helicopter they are talking about, the surveillance type.

I have one other question.

Are you satisfied with the extent to which the aid requests are prepared in terms of the human rights records of the various countries? How much consideration is given to the human rights records of the various recipient nations?

Ms. Benson. Senator, a great deal of consideration is given to human rights throughout the course of all of our decision-making processes, both as far as the proposed budget for security assistance is concerned and in connection with arms export proposals. The Bureau of Human Rights in the Department of State is a part of the Arms Export Control Board and is a part of the working group which prepares both the budget proposals and the arms export proposals. It is not, of course, our exclusive concern. There are many things which we have to consider in making decisions about security assistance and arms transfers, the primary one, of course, being our national security and the security of our friends and allies. So, each case is considered very seriously when human rights are concerned, and in some gases one kind of decision is made and in other

cases another kind of decision is made, depending upon the overall analysis of the given situation.

Senator Helms. I thank you for your candor. I do want to discuss with you and/or others giving some more flexibility.

Ms. Benson. I would be glad to discuss that with you at any time.

Senator Helms. I think there are a number of Senators who would be prepared to help you on that question if we could be assured of a flat-footed stance on the part of the State Department. If you are going to be ambivalent on it and try to get along with that element, well, we can't do much for you. But I think it really borders on the absurd, the position you are in in Latin America, in many countries which want to be our friends. They may not all have governments which are precisely our cup of tea; but nonetheless, they are far better than a lot of countries which we are embracing.

I thank you very much.

Ms. Benson. Thank you, Senator.

Senator Pell. There is an article that Mrs. Benson wrote which, with unanimous consent, I would have inserted into the record at this point. The article is on security and was written for the "International Security" magazine.

Ms. Benson. Thank you.

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(The information referred to follows:)

## FOR THE RECORD

Wording change has already been requested from the Committee to eliminate requirement for insert from DSAA on page 57. Will be changed to furnish information to Senator Pell. CRS does not now plan to include their report in the proceedings.

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Senator Pell. It is clear that the upcoming AmericanSoviet negotiations in Helsinki on conventional arms transfers
will be important to the future of the President's arms transfer
policy. Can we have your assurance that the Administration and
you will definitely consult carefully with our Committee
before those negotiations take place?

Ms. Benson. Yes. We will do so, Senator Pell.
Senator Pell. Thank you very much.

A provision of the 1978 International Security Assistance

Act requires that international military education and training

programs be designed to increase awareness of nationals of

participating countries of the basic issues involving internation
ally recognized human rights. At our Committee's request, the

Congressional Research Service held a seminar on the implementation

of this provision. We have just received a report reflecting

the conclusions of the seminar and related research. General

Graves, I would ask you to review this report in connection

with the implementation of the human rights provision passed

last year and to provide your comments for the record, if you

would.

General Graves. We would be very pleased to do that.

Members of my staff did participate in the seminar and we are

very supportive of this effort, Mr. Chairman.

Senator Pell. Good.

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Senator Pell. There are a series of questions that we will wish answered for the record. But some of them may be answered by the regional administration witnesses tomorrow.

I will therefore not ask them now. But the record will be kept open and we will need the answers to those questions when they are submitted. Also, the right of every member of the Committee is protected to submit questions for the record.

I do have one further question at this time. That relates to the Greek-Cyprus matter we were discussing earlier.

I notice that the Cyprus refugee relief request is only \$2 million, \$13 million less than last year's level. Do you believe that this assistance for Cyprus is no longer necessary? What is the reason for such a substantial reduction?

Ms. Benson. Senator, we do believe that the need is substantially reduced and for several reasons. The economy in Cyprus, the economic recovery is very nearly completed in the area controlled by the Government of Cyprus. The needs of the refugees, the Cypriot refugees, have greatly diminished in the past year.

We have looked into this very carefully and we feel quite certain that the \$2 million which we propose will be adequate, probably more than adequate for this year.

The Administration, as well as the Congress, remains concerned about the people of Cyprus and we are very interested in promoting a just and lasting peace. We do believe that

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\$2 million is adequate.

You will remember that last year we proposed \$5 million for aiding refugees in Cyprus and the House raised it to \$15 million So, actually the \$2 million is quite consistent with our previous proposal.

Senator Pell. It is, but not in the judgment of the Congress. It may well be raised again.

Ms. Benson. I suppose that it may be.

Senator Pell. In this regard, too, I would hope that the Administration would take a little more of a critical attitude in regard to the fact that Turkey continues to illegally occupy Cyprus, in violation of international law, and continues to illegally use weapons in Cyprus in violation of American law. As long as it does that, speaking as one Senator, I will take a very skeptical look at the request for military assistance for them until they comply with international law.

The request for Portugal includes \$30 million for grant military assistance, which is the fourth yearly installment in what was to have been a three-year program to upgrade the NATO-designated brigade.

How is that program coming along? Is that brigade presently militarily effective?

Ms. Benson. It is coming along, Senator. It is not completed yet. When the brigade was planned in 1976, it was anticipated that it would be equipped, including its own air transportation,

by Fiscal 1979. It is coming along, but the brigade still lacks its final C-130, as well as some important items of ground equipment.

The proposed FY 1980 program will enable Portugal to finish this up and to secure the additional items it needs for the brigade and to continue in the modernization of its forces in NATO participation.

Senator Pell. I am reminded, incidentally, that it was my amendment that increased the aid for Cyprus last year, so my feelings on that issue are consistent.

The request for Portugal also included \$50 million in economic support funds. Is that request connected with the continuing Azores base negotiations?

Are these base negotiations completed? What is their status?

Ms. Benson. The base negotiations are not completed.

There was, as you know, a change of government in Portugal and things were suspended for a rather long time while they solved that particular problem.

But we have made progress in getting back together again. The Foreign Minister and Secretary Vance made a joint press statement not long ago on this subject, confirming our mutual desire to get back together on this. We now have firm indications that the new Prime Minister is prepared to conclude the treaty. We expect to resume negotiations shortly.

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East and we wanted to send military planes there for any reasons, such as to transport goods, do we have any complete rights of overflight with any of our allies, with any countries, or is it always under sufferance of the individual nations? We do not now have the right to go into the Azores, do we? We do not have the right to go into these different countries. Where do we have the right to enter, as we will, if anywhere?

Ms. Benson. I don't know.

I would like to take that question for the record, if I might, unless General Graves has the answer to it.

General Graves. I think it would be best to give you a precise answer for the record.

Senator Pell. Thank you.

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General Graves. Let me say, however, that many of the countries are very forthcoming, and particularly Portugal has been consistently cooperative with respect to the support that was done.

Senator Pell. I notice, for instance, that Spain refused refueling privileges for a squadron of U.S. F-15's recently which we deployed to Saudi Arabia. Where did they go to get refueled?

Ms. Benson. That is not quite correct, Senator, if I might say so. The Spanish Government felt it had to take that to its chief decision-making body, and there was not time for it to do that in time for us to land and refuel on the way over when the planes went to Saudi Arabia.

However, before we actually left, before the F-15's actually left, the Spanish Government notified us that it had no objections to the planes landing in Spain, as a matter of fact, and several of the F-15's stopped over in Spain on their way back to the United States. Two of the aircraft stopped in Spain on their way to Saudi Arabia with mechanical trouble.

So, it really was a question of the processes of making a decision that was the problem, and not the actual landing of the plane.

Senator Pell. Thank you.

Thank you very much, Ms. Benson, General Graves, and Mr. Blechman.

Thank you all for being with us.

Our next witness is Mr. J. Kenneth Fasick, Director of the International Division of the General Accounting Office.

I see that, as usual, the GAO comes well equipped with its own nametags. That is a marvellous idea.

Mr. Fasick, would you proceed as you will. that you have a rather long statement which, I can assure you, will be inserted in full in the record if you care to abbreviate it.

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STATEMENT OF J. KENNETH FASICK, DIRECTOR,

INTERNATIONAL DIVISION, GENERAL ACCOUNTING OFFICE,

ACCOMPANIED BY: FRANK C. CONAHAN, ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR

(SENIOR LEVEL), INTERNATIONAL DIVISION, GENERAL ACCOUNTING

OFFICE.

Mr. Fasick. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. What I would like to do is to summarize my statement and excerpt some of its more pertinent points.

Senator Pell. Fine.

Mr. Fasick. We are pleased to be here today to provide the Committee with our evaluation of the implementation of the current policy of restraint with respect to conventional arms exports and the decision-making process for individual sales cases and the congressional oversight role in the process.

Our evaluation is being made jointly for this Committee and the Subcommittees on Europe and the Middle East, and on International Security and Scientific Affairs of the House Foreign Affairs Committee. We presented testimony on our evaluation last Friday to the House Subcommittee on International Security and Scientific Affairs.

We expect to issue a comprehensive report on our study some time in the very near future.

Arms transfers in this decade have assumed extraorindary importance for suppliers and recipients alike. Developments responsible for this increased importance include the following.

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Customers are now demanding and getting highly sophisticated and lethal weapons. The rapid escalation of arms transfers to nonindustrialized countries has contributed to this importance. The recent and rapid growth in arms production capacity of the industrialized countries is contributing to it. And, there are greater numbers of countries producing arms today.

For several years, the Congress encouraged restraint in exporting America's more sophisticated conventional weaponry. The President also concluded that this virtually unrestrained spread of conventional weaponry threatened the stability of every region of the globe and was a threat to world peace. Various observers have noted that dozens of conflicts and wars occurring since World War II all were fought on Third World territory. Primarily, and at times exclusively, they were fought with weapons imported from the industrialized countries.

As this Committee is very well aware, the President did come out with his arms control policy in May. As has been pointed out by earlier witnesses today and by the Chairman, it applied to all countries except those with which the U.S. has major defense treaties -- that is, the 14 NATO countries, Japan, Australia and New Zealand.

A fundamental aim of the restraint policy is to set an example of unilateral restraint for other nations to follow. This aim has received worldwide attention. Its declaratory value cannot be underestimated. Thus, the real test of the

policy in terms of setting examples for others to follow may
hinge on the degree to which unilateral restraint is achieved
and can be demonstrated in the future. In this respect, we do
not believe that credible accomplishments have yet been achieved.

A basic problem in establishing such credibility is the absence of a clear-cut definition by the Executive Branch as to precisely what it hoped to accomplish.

In terms of reducing overall U.S. arms transfers, arms
sales requests, or global transfers, all available evidence suggest:
that achievements under the restraint policy have been limited.

Total U.S. arms sales increased to the highest level in history
in 1978. Similarly, U.S. hopes for a decline in arms sales
requests were not realized. With respect to global transfers,
the U.S. does not have a satisfactory data base to measure such
transfers.

The U.S. is alone among the many arms suppliers to openly publish its arms transfers. The limited available evidence points to the fa-t that other nations to date have been ready and willing to sell if the U.S. refuses to sell.

One goal of the restraint policy is a limited overall reduction in the value of U.S. arms sales agreements for all countries covered by the policy. The formal ceiling for 1978 was ultimately achieved by "mortgaging the future" or breaking up approved sales cases to fit parts of the case under future ceilings. For example, the controversial F-15 aircraft case for

Saudi Arabia was approved by Congress with an estimated value of \$2.5 billion, but only \$1.5 billion was included in the Fiscal Year 1978 ceiling. The remainder was pushed forward to be included under future ceilings.

One method employed by the Executive Branch to measure and demonstrate achievements of the restraint policy is reporting turndowns and turnoffs of arms sales requests. Our examination of the evidence led us to conclude that claims of turndowns are questionable, primarily because there is no systematic record kept of such turndowns and there is no consistent criteria applied or established,

We found that a potential \$2 billion sale of ships had been turned off, but was not reported for fear of creating a U.S. domestic controversy over the economic impact.

On the other hand, we found one item on the list furnished to the Congress was not turned down until 9 months after the list was submitted. Several other items on the list were turned down prior to the current "restraint" program. In two cases, items were sole or released even though they had previously been reported as turndowns.

On balance, if criteria were established and records were systematically kept, turndowns and turnoffs might be one credible method for the Executive Branch to show the impact of restraint over time.

These are our observations with respect to the decisionmaking process within the Executive Branch.

Our basic observations are the following. First, the

Defense Department dominates the decision-making when policy
guidance is lacking from the Department of State. When there
are specific and overriding policy objectives for a given country,
State clearly asserts its leadership role. For example,
State plays an active role in considering sales requests from
Taiwan because of the potential impact of the normalization of
relations with the People's Republic of China.

Second, the review process tends to build a momentum for positive approval. What we mean by this is from the moment of the first interest through the step-by-step process of informal discussions, briefings, surveys, studies, official visits, test rides or firings and negotiations, the process is geared toward seriously responding to a buyer's perceived needs. The incremental nature of this process also tends to continuously reinforce expectations that requests will be approved.

Third, decision-making is reactive. The reactive nature of the process is perhaps best illustrated by the reluctance on the part of the U.S. in most cases to turn down a formal request. We would rather negotiate and talk in terms of deferrals or give some other reasons.

Decisions on requests are made through a process of building a consensus, which is sought within organizational units,

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within agencies, and between departments. Dissenting views
within agencies are filtered out but disagreements between agencies
are carried forward in the form of options. Consequently,
every attempt is made to reach agreement before asking a higher
authority to settle the issue, which could occur at the National
Security Council or at presidential level.

All participants, realizing that the goal is consensus, test the thinking of the other participants in the process.

A number of officials said their reading can influence the position they take or the vigor with which they pursue it. ACDA, for example, could view its role as the voice of arms restraint within the Executive Branch. ACDA officials pointed out, however, that if they "cried wolf" on every sales request they received, their credibility and effectiveness would be severely reduced.

Consequently, ACDA carefully picks and chooses the requests on which it will voice strong opposition.

Another key characteristic of the arms review process is compromise. Compromise is exhibited by U.S. officials who feel a need to be responsive to allies' perceived defense needs.

For example, State Department regional bureau and embassy officials tend to take predictable positions on cases. They see turndowns as complicating U.S. relations with the prospective buyer and therefore tend to support a country's request or to find an alternative.

The foreign requestor is sometimes willing to settle for an Page determined to be Unclassified Reviewed Chief, Records & Declass Div, WHS IAW EO 13526, Section 3.5 ALDERSON REPORTING COMPANY, INC. Date: Oct 23, 2018

on a number of jet aircraft requests finally accepted a U.S. counter-proposal for a purely defensive capability.

On the other hand, another country adamantly refused to accept what it perceived to be a lesser capability. The U.S. eventually agreed to sell the desired system. The perceived importance of compromise frequently results in less than clear-cut decisions. Even turndowns are couched in language such as "why don't you come back later," "we are still considering the request," or "we are giving you something in between."

In short, the review process strongly implies a positive response or at least that a request is turned aside positively with a deferral or counter-offer.

The May, 1977 restraint policy announcement was a bold departure from the past. A comprehensive study served as the foundation for the policy and identified several weaknesses in the then-existing system of arms sales decision-making. The Arms Export Control Board was created to help correct this weakness. This was a step in the right direction.

However, the policy has caused little change except for the establishment of an overall ceiling and the formalization of existing practices. If unilateral restraint is to be effective in setting an example for others to follow, much more needs to be done.

The restraint policy was intended as the barest outline of

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how to achieve restraint. To date, the Executive has not focused sufficient attention on the difficult task of systematically fitting a worldwide restraint policy to the needs and realities of U.S. relations with specific countries; nor has the Executive developed fully its policy aims, a comprehensive plan for achieving or realizing these aims, or a system for measuring and evaluating the accomplishments of the policy.

Stronger leadership on the part of the State Department in the completion of these unfinished tasks is needed.

There is little evidence to date to suggest that other supplier countries are willing to join with the U.S. in its restrain effort. If the U.S. takes the actions necessary to achieve effective unilateral arms restraint, a basic policy questions arises for the Executive as well as the Congress. How long can and should the U.S. suffer the political and economic costs of restraint if other nations not only refuse to cooperate, but also move in to make the sales the U.S. refrains from making?

For many years, most U.S. arms were given away as military assistance. Because the taxpayer was footing the bill, there was a built-in control to the authorization and appropriation process. As the industrialized and developing nations achieved an increased ability to purchase arms, U.S. arms grant programs shifted to sales. In effect, this change transferred authority over arms transfers from the Congress to the Executive.

The feeling of being left somewhat in the dark when matters

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of such importance gave rise to the demand for more congressional involvement and for a clearer understanding of what policy criteria this government applied in judging the merits of individual requests. We believe the information flow on arms sales to Congress continues to be less than adequate to permit the Congress to fully and effectively exercise its policy formulation and oversight responsibilities.

That completes my summary, Mr. Chairman.

(The prepared statement of Mr. Fasick follows:)

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Senator Pell. Thank you very much, indeed. I think you are to be greatly complimented on the report you have prepared. I realize that you were working on it for a number of months, I think nine. It is a good report.

In Mrs. Benson's opening statement this morning, she stated that the President's arms transfer policy has been successful "in both policy and procedural terms."

Some of us on the Hill are a little more skeptical of its success.

What is your own view, in essence, in this regard?

Mr. Fasick. Well, as we pointed out from a purely
arithmetical point of view, we think the ceiling has been
"managed." On the other hand, it would be difficult for us to
say that the President's restraint policy has not had some effects
in restraining arms sales. To quantitatively measure this,
though, would be very difficult for us or for anyone else,
I think.

Senator Pell. Your study, as you mentioned, concluded that when policy guidance from State is lacking, DOD still dominates the arms sales decision-making process.

How frequently, in your view, does State provide the guidance that controls Defense, and is Defense usually in the driver's seat, even with the creation of the Arms Export Control Board?

Mr. Fasick. I would judge, based upon our study, that in ALDERSON REPORTING COMPANY, INC.

most cases the Defense Department would still be in the driver's seat. It is a reactive system which works generally through the Defense system. As I pointed out, however, on the more sensitive issues, State does step in and does assert itself.

Frank, did you want to add anything to that?

Mr. Conahan. I think if you take a look at the entire process, the initiation of a sale precedes the formal notification by as much as two to three years. During this time, the sale has been reviewed by our government and principally by military people. They have brought an awful lot of influence to bear on how that sale will ultimately come out.

Senator Pell. On page 10 of your study you concluded that the Executive Branch's review process tends to build a momentum for positive approval, as you mentioned in your statement

What can be done to rectify the situation?

Mr. Fasick. One area that we think this Committee or the Congress may wish to consider is legislating a requirement that more precision and a better country by country program is developed, against which each individual sale can be related and weighed.

By doing this, it would not be so much a reactive system as it would be one in which the Congress itself was a partnership in the development of an overall plan for a country, for a region, indeed, for the world.

Senator Pell. Thank you.

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Finally, you say that a fundamental aim of the restraint policy is to set an example of unilateral restraint for other nations to follow. A recent study of our own staff concludes that European officials are usually skeptical about American implementation of its own policy.

So, if European officials are unwilling to participate in the restraint effort, do you think we have anybody to blame but ourselves?

Mr. Fasick. No, I don't think we have anyone to blame but ourselves.

As I pointed out, I think that the concept of setting up a ceiling, its declaratory value, was important. Our concern is that it well known throughout the world, I think, that the credibility of that ceiling and the criteria that was used to portray having lived within it is very questionable, and as our consequence our credibility with these countries is very limited.

Senator Pell. Thank you very much, indeed. There are a few more questions that we would like to ask you for the record. Would you please answer those questions as soon as possible.

Also, renewed congratulations to you on your study. It

has merit.

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Gentlemen, thank you.

Mr. Fasick. Thank you, Senator.

Senator Pell. Our final witness this morning is Mr. Stanley J. Heginbotham, Assistant Chief, Foreign Affairs and

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National Defense Division, Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress. He will discuss the implementation of the President's human rights policy.

I believe that Mr. Heginbotham's work is also based on a study that this Committee requested.

Mr. Heginbotham, I notice that you have a fairly lengthy statement. You may care to have it inserted into the record and summarize it for the Committee.

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STATEMENT OF STANLEY J. HEGINBOTHAM, ASSISTANT CHIEF, FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND NATIONAL DEFENSE DIVISION, CONGRESSIONAL RESEARCH SERVICE, LIBRARY OF CONGRESS.

Mr. Heginbotham. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would just like to briefly note the highlights of our study on "Human Rights and U.S. Foreign Assistance," prepared at the request of this Committee.

In 1976, Congress passed legislation declaring that, "a principal goal of the foreign policy of the United States is to promote the increased observance of internationally recognized human rights by all countries."

The joint efforts of Congress and the Executive to implement this goal are the focus of this report.

The Carter Administration's human rights initiatives were built on an extensive history of congressional interest and involvement in human rights policy. Frustrated with the apparent unwillingness of the Nixon and Ford Administrations to make human rights conditions abroad a significant consideration in its foreign policy, Congress passed legislation prohibiting, with some qualifications, foreign assistance transfers to any country whose government engaged in a consistent pattern of gross violations of human rights.

The Carter Administration has made it clear that it wants to go beyond the identification of a limited number of egregious violators and use its influence incrementally to improve human

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rights conditions in a wide range of countries.

A high level decision-making body, the Inter-Agency Committeb on Human Rights and Foreign Assistance, under the Chairmanship of Deputy Secretary of State Warren Ihristopher, became the focal point of its human rights efforts. The so-called Christopher group avoided the extensive formulation of principles to guide its decision-making. Rather, each case seemed to be reviewed on its merits and individual decisions did not seem to produce principles on which subsequent cases could be decided.

The resulting process has been time consuming and contentious. Small and seemingly insignificant aid transfers became the focus of lengthy discussions.

Frustration with this process, and often with the results it produced, was frequently expressed to us by working-level officials. Many in regional bureaus and aid program agencies argued that the Human Rights Bureau officials considered only human rights and were blind to other foreign policy considerations.

Those in the Human Rights Bureau on the other hand expressed concern that many in the regional bureaus were affected by clientism and were more interested in maintenance of cordial relations with other governments, even those controlled by repressive regimes, than with advancing broader U.S. foreign policy interests.

There was general acceptance on both sides, however, of the view that the Christopher group and the Deputy Secretary in

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particular was making a conscientious effort to find a very narrow middle ground between two competing sets of demands.

The case by case approach followed by the Administration, combined with its reluctance to articulate -- indeed, apparently even to formulate -- principles guiding individual decisions, contributed to public and congressional concern over the consistency with which the policy was being pursued.

In an effort to explore such questions, it seemed useful to us to differentiate between two types of consistency.

Consistency as commensurate response requires that the U.S., in reacting to human rights violations worldwide, gauge the severity of its response to the severity of the violations. The Carter Administration has effectively rejected this type of consistency as an impractical basis for decision-making.

consistency as policy coherence, in contrast, requires that a set of general principles, consistently applied, guide decision—making. Though such a set of principles has not been fully articulated publicly by the Administration, we found that a significant measure of consensus has begun to emerge among working level officials as to certain generalizations that seem to shape the making of human rights-related decisions.

First, severe violations of integrity of the person should receive high priority in U.S. policy concerns.

Second, levels of human rights performance can be expected

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Third, human rights initiatives should be suspended or curtailed when they threaten other significant U.S. interests.

Relations with countries that are critical to U.S. well-being should not be jeopardized by human rights initiatives. Moreover, short-term efforts to bring about significant changes in bilateral relations should not be compromised by ill-timed human rights afforts.

The appearance of consistency further requires that when a country is exempted from human rights initiatives, other countries with which clear parallels can be made should also be exempted.

Fourth, the leverage available to the United States with respect to specific countries should be a significant factor in determining the amount of human rights attention they receive.

Fifth, human rights initiatives will be responsible to incremental changes in levels of violations as well as to absolute levels.

Sixth, though public pressures and direct leverage can be effective instruments of human rights policy, quiet diplomacy and indirect hints of linkage between human rights conditions and U.S. support are often likely to be more successful.

Seventh, in determining the appropriateness of different policy instruments for human rights purposes, consideration should be given to the direct effect an action would have on human rights conditions in a country, to the likely cost of an action to U.S.

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interests and to the amounts of leverage an action affords the Reviewed Chief, Records & Declass Div, WHS United States. IAW EO 13526, Section 3.5

In general, these criteria have led to increasing reliance on the manipulation of bilateral aid program levels and transfers of police and military equipment that might have internal security uses. They have led apparently to more limited use of negative votes on multilateral bank loans and less frequent rejections of Export-Import Bank loans and Overseas Private Investment Corporation insurance and quarantees.

Using these guiding notions, then, one can develop a plausible interpretation of U.S. human rights initiatives that shows a significant measure of policy coherence.

Confusion and uncertainty still surround some important issues, however. Priorities in human rights goals beyond eliminatic of severe violations of integrity of the person are unclear.

Criteria for establishing levels of expectation of human rights performance in different countries remain ill-defined. And the grounds for determining when other policy concerns should take precedence over human rights considerations are highly ambiguous.

Within these broad areas of uncertainty, initiatives seem often to be shaped by chance and by bureaucratic politics.

In short, there remain significant areas where more systematic procedures and greater clarity in goals and criteria could substantially strengthen the coherence of human rights policy,

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Assessments of the impact of the first two years of Carter Administration human rights initiatives must be qualified. Recent developments in Iran and Nicaragua serve to emphasize how limited our understanding of political processes in the Third World is and how volatile the liberalization of repressive regimes may be. The significance of a decision to release large numbers of political prisoners, for example, can only be determined from a time perspective much greater than one or two years.

Nevertheless, some generalizations seem possible.

Reviews of human rights conditions in the fifteen countries on which we focused attention do suggest a broad pattern of tentative and marginal improvements in human rights conditions.

The question of the extent to which these changes are a product of U.S. human rights policy is much more difficult to answer.

Certainly, however, the record on direct and explicit use of foreign assistance as leverage to bring about specific improvements in human rights conditions is hardly encouraging. In only five or six instances did we find evidence that actual or explicitly threatened reductions in aid played a significant role in bringing about changes in human rights conditions. Direct pressures seem often to provoke counterproductive reactions.

This is not to say, however, that the use of leverage has been without positive consequence. A number of cases, drawn from countries as diverse as Guinea, the Dominican Republic, Indonesia,

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Korea and Tanzania, illustrate a general pattern in which a country that is interested in obtaining some form of benefit from the United States makes an effort to improve its human rights conditions.

In most of these cases, there is at least some evidence that the foreign government recognized that in the past, U.S. aid decisions directly had been affected by human rights conditions and that improvements in human rights conditions could well improve their chances of obtaining further support.

The ways in which leverage from foreign assistance combines with quiet diplomacy to produce impact on human rights conditions. then, are subtle, ambiguous, and sometimes mysterious.

Even where thereis reasonably firm evidence that there is a motivation, that the final effects be on U.S. foreign assistance State Department officials generally avoid taking credit for the change, lest the national leader concerned be offended.

The congressional impact on U.S. human rights policy seems, on the basis of our interviews, to have been significant, but sometimes in unexpected ways. A number of officials emphasized the strength that accrued to the policy from its joint Congressional and Executive support.

Though the Administration has avoided identifying countries with governments that engage in consistent patterns of gross violations of human rights, legislation containing this language seems, nevertheless, to be a significant legal consideration in

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policy deliberation.

A range of issues in human rights policy provides scope for possible future congressional attention.

First, in hearings and oversight activities, members may wish to press Administration representatives for greater clarity and specificity in defining principles guiding U.S. human rights policy.

Second, members may wish to explore and encourage the Administration to explore means of strengthening the foundations of respect for human rights throughout the world.

Third, members may wish to reassess the legislative requirement for country reports on human rights conditions. Though many argue the importance and value of these documents, others stress the inherent tension that results when a diplomatic establishment is required to publish documents that are critical of domestic political conditions in countries with which it is supposed to maintain friendly relations.

The possibility of transferring the reporting function to another type of institution has been suggested as one means of reducing this tension. Concern has also been expressed that the mandate for coverage of countries excludes severe violators, including many communist countries and some that no longer receive U.S. aid because of earlier conflicts over human rights conditions.

Further, members may wish to reassess existing legislation

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prohibiting assistance to governments of countries that engage in consistent patterns of gross violations of human rights.

Finally, of course, members may wish to reassess, in light of more than two years of experience, the much broader question of whether, or to what extent, it is appropriate to try to use foreign assistance as a mechanism for influencing human rights conditions in other countries.

Some will argue that the marginal and uncertain impact of such efforts is inadequate reward for the complications in bilateral relations, the costs in bureaucratic time and conflict, and the distortions in aid programs that are the by-products of those efforts.

Others will maintain that the impact on human rights conditions marks the beginning of a significant trend and that the credit that will accrue to the United States for its contribution to this process will far outweigh transient diplomatic costs.

Senator Pell. Thank you very much, indeed.

(The prepared statement of Mr. Heginbotham follows:)

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Senator Pell. Yours was certainly a comprehensive study and I congratulate you on it.

I have not had a chance to go through it. Do you make any mention in it of the Helsinki Commission and the work that we have been doing? I am speaking now as Co-Chairman of it.

Mr. Heginbotham. No, Mr. Chairman. We really focused on foreign assistance related issues and have not gone into European related problems for the most part.

Senator Pell. I see.

In studying the decision-making process and the dispute between the regional bureaus and the Human Rights Bureau, did you get any impression of a trend that human rigths considerations were being given either higher priority or lower priority in the course of the last 12 months?

Mr. Heginbotham. My sense, Mr. Chairman, is that the Human Rights Bureau was very aggressive in pressing a number of areas in the first year, that the Christopher group has, in a sense, effectively defined certain areas that it is not going to essentially support human rights initiatives on, and as a result, the focus of the Human Rights Bureau efforts have been somewhat narrowed. I think there was enormous concern at the amounts of time being consumed and a growing sense of impatience in the higher decision-making levels of the Department. think both sides have stepped back and reassessed which cases

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they can most effectively pursue. So the focus has, in some respects, been narrowed.

Senator Pell. Give me an example of an area that has been removed from consideration by the Human Rights Bureau.

Mr. Heginbotham. One of the areas that we cite, for example, was the general acceptance that the negotiations for normalization with the People's Republic of China made it difficult, again for consistency reasons, to talk about Taiwan, to talk about Korea, and to talk about Vietnam. So these areas were set aside.

Similarly, in the Middle East there was acceptance of the fact both that Saudi Arabia was critical to U.S. interests and therefore would not be a primary focus of human rights; that the Egyptian-Israeli negotiations were another central and immediate concern, and those two countries would not be the focus; but that then, in addition, a number of other Arab countries with which parallels to Egypt and Saudi Arabia could be drawn, would also be largely exempted from human rights pressures.

Senator Pell. I believe your study suggests that quiet diplomacy and hints of indirect linkage between human rights conditions and U.S. support are often more likely to succeed than public pressures. Would you list some specific cases?

Mr. Heginbotham. This gets very difficult, but I think

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we did list several in which there was a strong sensitivity.

For example, this occurred in Guinea and Indonesia and Korea,

where it was felt that direct pressures might well create

counter-reactions from the administrations that would produce

negative results, whereas the regimes would be responsive to more

subtle indications of concern with human rights interests.

Senator Pell. In connection with the abuse of human rights in Cyprus, have you had much of an impact on the Turks?

Mr. Heginbotham. Sir, we have not really attempted to explore that issue at all in the study. That was not one of the areas on which we focused, I'm sorry.

Senator Pell. Is Turkey one of the areas that had been removed from consideration because of military reasons?

Mr. Heginbotham. No, not necessarily. But we did limit our focus, simply for purposes of controlling our research task, to the regional areas of East Asia, the Pacific, Latin America and Africa. So we did not cover the Near East, South Asia, or Europe in our study.

Senator Pell. In discussing the annual human rights reports which the State Department prepared for Congress, you raised the idea of removing the reporting function from State and assigning it to some other type of institution.

Do you think such an institution might have greater or lesser access to assessments in the field and greater or lesser cooperation from the regional bureaus, which have been accused of

becoming too sympathetic with their clients?

In that regard also, I would like to crank into your answer your reaction of giving Amnesty International, a third party group, some responsibility in this regard.

Mr. Heginbotham. Let me begin with your last question.

My understanding of Amnesty International's research activities is that they are directed primarily to the requirements of their own adoption groups and that these requirements force upon them a certain range of biases, if you will, in coverage.

They are clear about that fact, I think.

They also limit the scope of their research to a fairly narrow range of violations of integrity of the person.

I think there are serious questions that have to be raised as to what kind of alternative institution might provide a reasonable option to having the State Department produce these reports. There is a large contingent of personnel in the field in these countries that are collecting on a part-time basis, year-round, human rights condition reports. They in many cases, do not have extensive time to do first-hand field investigation, though they often supplement materials available from other sources with such investigation.

I believe that any alternative organization would have to have a very sizeable staff and very serious problems would be raised as to the funding and balance of such efforts.

I think there is another trade-off between the extent to

which the research and efforts of such an organization would focus on concerns that were of direct relevance to U.S. human rights initiatives and efforts or would be more broadly focused around a wider range of international human rights concerns.

Senator Pell. Thank you very much, indeed. I trust that you will be willing to answer for the record any questions that any of my colleagues on the Committee wish to offer to you.

Remewed congratulations on your excellent report. We will go over it. Thank you for your work in this field.

This brings this hearing of the Committee to a close. The Committee is adjourned.

(Whereupon, at 11:45 o'clock, a.m., the Committee was adjourned, to reconvene upon the call of the Chair.)

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