TO AMBASSADOR MOSCOW IMMEDIATE 5023
INFO AMCONSUL LENINGRAD IMMEDIATE 7181
UNCLASSIFIED IMMEDIATE 5245

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PINT, OR, US, CSCE

SUBJECT: STATEMENT ON ORLOV

REF: MOSCOW 1040

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

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

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

S/P

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