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E.O. 12958: N/A TAGS: MNUC, PARM, PREL, KCFE SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL STATEMENT: REMOVAL OF NUCLEAR WARHEADS FROM UKRAINE AND AGREEMENT ON CFE FLANK ISSUE

1. THE FOLLOWING PRESIDENTIAL STATEMENT AND ACCOMPANYING FACT SHEET (PARAS 2-3) WERE RELEASED BY THE OFFICE OF THE THE WHITE HOUSE PRESS SECRETARY SATURDAY JUNE 1. EMBASSIES MAY SHARE THE STATEMENT AND FACT SHEET WITH HOST

GOVERNMENTS.

2. BEGIN TEXT OF PRESIDENTIAL STATEMENT

THE WHITE HOUSE

OFFICE OF THE PRESS SECRETARY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE JUNE 1, 1996

STATEMENT BY THE PRESIDENT

REMOVAL OF NUCLEAR WARHEADS FROM UKRAINE AND AGREEMENT ON

CFE FLANK ISSUE

UKRAINIAN PRESIDENT KUCHMA HAS ANNOUNCED THAT ALL NUCLEAR WARHEADS HAVE BEEN REMOVED FROM THE TERRITORY OF UKRAINE. THIS IS A REMARKABLE ACHIEVEMENT. IN 1991, THERE WERE MORE THAN 4000 STRATEGIC AND TACTICAL NUCLEAR WARHEADS IN UKRAINE. TODAY THERE ARE NONE. I APPLAUD THE UKRAINIAN GOVERNMENT FOR ITS HISTORIC CONTRIBUTION IN REDUCING THE NUCLEAR THREAT. WHEN THE PRESIDENTS OF UKRAINE, RUSSIA AND I SIGNED THE JANUARY 1994 TRILATERAL STATEMENT ON THIS ISSUE, WE LOOKED FORWARD TO A DAY THAT HAS NOW ARRIVED.

THE TRUST AND COOPERATION THE UNITED STATES AND UKRAINE HAVE ESTABLISHED IN RESOLVING THIS ISSUE ARE A CORNERSTONE OF A BROAD AND PRODUCTIVE RELATIONSHIP. UKRAINE HAS EMBARKED ON A BOLD COURSE OF POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC

REFORM, LAYING THE FOUNDATIONS FOR DEMOCRACY AND A MARKET ECONOMY. WE REMAIN COMMITTED TO SUPPORTING UKRAINE THROUGH ITS AMBITIOUS AND FAR-SIGHTED REFORMS AND TO WORKING WITH UKRAINE AND OUR EUROPEAN PARTNERS TO PROMOTE UKRAINE'S INTEGRATION INTO THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY.

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I ALSO WANT TO NOTE THE FACT THAT BOTH THE UNITED STATES AND RUSSIA ARE AHEAD OF THE REDUCTION SCHEDULE PROVIDED FOR IN THE START I TREATY. TO DATE, THE UNITED STATES HAS ELIMINATED 750 STRATEGIC NUCLEAR DELIVERY VEHICLES; AND ABOUT 800 STRATEGIC DELIVERY VEHICLES IN THE FORMER SOVIET UNION HAVE BEEN ELIMINATED, INCLUDING MORE THAN 700 IN RUSSIA. THE COOPERATIVE THREAT REDUCTION (NUNN-LUGAR) PROGRAM HAS PLAYED A MAJOR ROLE IN THE ELIMINATION OF THESE WEAPONS IN THE FORMER SOVIET UNION AND THE DENUCLEARIZATION OF UKRAINE.

I HAVE ASKED SECRETARY PERRY TO MEET NEXT WEEK WITH HIS UKRAINIAN AND RUSSIAN COUNTERPARTS, MINISTERS SHMAROV AND GRACHEV, AND MARK THE SUCCESSFUL IMPLEMENTATION OF THE TRILATERAL STATEMENT BY VISITING A DESTROYED ICBM SILO AND A FORMER NUCLEAR WEAPONS STORAGE FACILITY IN UKRAINE. IN DOING SO, THEY WILL CELEBRATE ANOTHER IMPORTANT STEP IN MAKING THE WORLD SAFER FOR US ALL.

ON THIS DAY OF IMPORTANT MILESTONES, I ALSO WELCOME THE AGREEMENT THAT WAS REACHED TODAY IN VIENNA BY THE 30 NATIONS PARTY TO THE CONVENTIONAL FORCES IN EUROPE (CFE) TREATY, THIS AGREEMENT RESOLVES A DIFFICULT PROBLEM THAT HAD ARISEN CONCERNING THE LEVEL OF RUSSIAN AND UKRAINIAN MILITARY EQUIPMENT ALLOWED ON THE NORTHERN AND SOUTHERN

FLANK OF THE CFE REGION.

THIS AGREEMENT IS THE CULMINATION OF TWO YEARS OF NEGOTIATIONS LED BY THE UNITED STATES. I CONGRATULATE ALL PARTIES, INCLUDING OUR NATO ALLIES, RUSSIA, UKRAINE AND THE STATES OF THE CAUCASUS AND CENTRAL AND EASTERN EUROPE, FOR THEIR HARD WORK, COOPERATION AND DEDICATION TO PRESERVING THE INTEGRITY AND EFFECTIVENESS OF THIS CRUCIAL TREATY.

THE CFE TREATY IS A KEY ELEMENT OF A NEW, MORE STABLE EUROPE. THE TREATY HAS RESULTED IN THE DESTRUCTION OF OVER 50,000 TANKS, ARMORED COMBAT VEHICLES, ARTILLERY PIECES, COMBAT AIRCRAFT AND ATTACK HELICOPTERS. IT HAS ALSO ESTABLISHED A SYSTEM OF TRANSPARENCY MEASURES, WHICH WILL INCREASE CONFIDENCE THROUGH ON-SITE INSPECTIONS, NOTIFICATIONS, AND INFORMATION EXCHANGES.

END TEXT OF PRESIDENTIAL STATEMENT.

3. BEGIN TEXT OF FACT SHEET

THE WHITE HOUSE

OFFICE OF THE PRESS SECRETARY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE JUNE 1, 1996

FACT SHEET

REMOVAL OF NUCLEAR WARHEADS FROM UKRAINE

THE U.S.-RUSSIA-UKRAINE TRILATERAL STATEMENT AND ANNEX WERE SIGNED ON JANUARY 14, 1994 IN MOSCOW BY PRESIDENTS CLINTON, YELTSIN AND KRAVCHUK. THE STATEMENT AND ANNEX:

-- PROVIDED FOR THE TRANSFER OF ALL NUCLEAR WEAPONS ON THE TERRITORY OF UKRAINE TO RUSSIA FOR DISMANTLEMENT;

-- SPECIFY PROMPT COMPENSATION BY RUSSIA TO UKRAINE FOR THE HIGHLY-ENRICHED URANIUM IN THE TRANSFERRED WEAPONS;

OUTGOING

TELEGRAM

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PAGE Ø2 OF Ø2 STATE 113222 Ø121342 -- PROVIDED FOR SECURITY ASSURANCES BY THE U.S., RUSSIA AND UNITED KINGDOM TO UKRAINE ON UKRAINE'S ACCESSION TO THE NON-PROLIFERATION TREATY AS A NON-NUCLEAR WEAPON STATE; AND

-- REAFFIRM THE U.S. COMMITMENT TO ASSIST THE SAFE AND Secure dismantlement of nuclear forces through the cooperative threat reduction (NUNN-LUGAR) program.

THE PROVISIONS OF THE TRILATERAL STATEMENT AND ANNEX ARE BEING IMPLEMENTED. WHEN THEY WERE SIGNED, THERE WERE SOME 1900 STRATEGIC NUCLEAR WARHEADS IN UKRAINE, MOST OF WHICH WERE ON SS-19 AND SS-24 ICBMS TARGETED AT THE U.S. AS OF JUNE 1, THERE ARE NONE. (IN ADDITION, IN 1991-92, SOME 2500 TACTICAL NUCLEAR WEAPONS WERE TRANSFERED FROM UKRAINE TO RUSSIA.) THERE WERE FAR MORE NUCLEAR WARHEADS ON THE TERRITORY OF UKRAINE THAN IN ANY COUNTRY OTHER THAN THE UNITED STATES OR RUSSIA.

RUSSIA IS DISMANTLING THE REMOVED NUCLEAR WARHEADS AND HAS PROVIDED UKRAINE COMPENSATION FOR THE STRATEGIC NUCLEAR WARHEADS IN THE FORM OF FUEL RODS FOR CIVILIAN NUCLEAR POWER PLANTS IN UKRAINE. THESE FUEL RODS ARE BEING DELIVERED ACCORDING TO A SCHEDULE AGREED TO BY RUSSIA AND UKRAINE.

ON DECEMBER 5, 1994, UKRAINE ACCEDED TO THE NON-PROLIFERATION TREATY AS A NON-NUCLEAR WEAPON STATE. ON THAT SAME DATE, THE U.S., RUSSIA AND UNITED KINGDOM PROVIDED SECURITY ASSURANCES TO UKRAINE, AND THE START I TREATY ALSO ENTERED INTO FORCE.

THE TRILATERAL STATEMENT NOTED THE U.S. COMMITMENT OF A MINIMUM OF 175 MILLION USD IN COOPERATIVE THREAT REDUCTION (NUNN-LUGAR) AID TO UKRAINE TO ASSIST DENUCLEARIZATION. AS OF THE END OF APRIL 1996, THE U.S. HAD NOTIFIED CTR OBLIGATIONS FOR UKRAINE TOTALING ALMOST 400 MILLION USD, PRIMARILY FOR THE ELIMINATION OF STRATEGIC NUCLEAR ARMS AND NUCLEAR INFRASTRUCTURE.

END TEXT OF FACT SHEET. YY TARNOFF SHCØ489

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