SECRET UNITED STATES



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P 270845Z APR 88 ZEX FM SECSTATE WASHDO TO ALL DIPLOMATIC POSTS PRIORITY ALL POLADS COLLECTIVE INFO SECDEF WASHDC PRIORITY BUBB JCS WASHDC PRIORITY 8008 USCINCEUR GE PRIORITY

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SECRET STATE 133342

F. O. 12356: DECL: OADR TAGS: MNUC, MCAP

SUBJECT:

NCND: DANISH SHIP VISIT POLICY

REFS: A) 87 STATE 118483 (DTG 2020277 APR 87) B) STATE 118703 (DTG 150418Z APR 88) - C) CANBERRA 3715 (DTG 200450Z APR 88)

- 1. SECRET ENTIRE-TEXT EXCEPT STATEMENT PARA 7.
- 2. SUMMARY. PURPOSE OF THIS CABLE IS TO APPRISE ALL POSTS OF EVENTS IN DENMARK REGARDING OUR POLICY NEITHER TO CONFIRM NOR DENY (NOND) THE PRESENCE OR ABSENCE OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS ABOARD NAVAL VESSELS. END SUMMARY.
- 3. ON APRIL 14 THE DANISH PARLIAMENT PASSED A RESOLUTION, OVER THE OBJECTION OF PRIME MINISTER SCHLUETER'S MINORITY GOVERNMENT, REQUIRING THE GOVERNMENT TO NOTIFY VISITING WAR SHIPS OF DANISH ANTI-NUCLEAR POLICY. THE RESOLUTION STATES: "AS THE FOLKETING NOTES THAT THROUGHOUT 38 YEARS IT HAS BEEN DANIGH FOLICY NOT TO .. ACCEPT NUCLEAR VEAPONS IN DANISH TERRITORS, INCLUDING IN DANISH PORTS. THE GOVERNMENT IS PHID INED TO NOTIFY

VISITING WAR SHIPS OF THIS." AS A RESULT OF THE PARLIAMENTARY RESOLUTION, THE GOVERNMENT HAS CALLED FOR ELECTIONS TO BE HELD MAY 10. IT WILL CAST THE ELECTION ON THE ISSUE OF DENMARK'S CONTINUED ABILITY TO HONOR ITS ALLIANCE COMMITMENTS AND OBLIGATIONS. THE GOVERNMENT'S

STATE 133342 DECISION TO CALL ELECTIONS WAS ITS OWN, MADE IN THE CONTEXT DE DANISH DOMESTIC POLITICS.

4. THE U.S. HAS LONG MAINTAINED A POLICY TO NEITHER CONFIRM NOR DENY THE PRESENCE OR ABSENCE OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS ABOARD ITS SHIPS. THE POLICY AND BACKGROUND RATIONALE WERE PUBLISHED IN REF (A). IN APPLYING THE NCND POLICY, THE U.S. DOES NOT PROVIDE ASSURANCES.

EXPLICITLY OR IMPLICITLY, THAT IT COMPLIES WITH ANTI-NUCLEAR POLICIES OR PROHIBITIONS OF HOST-COUNTRIES. IMPLEMENTATION OF THE FOLKETING RESOLUTION IN A MANNER . INCONSISTENT WITH THE NOND POLICY WOULD MAKE SHIP VISITS IMPOSSIBLE WITH EXTREMELY SERIOUS CONSEQUENCES FOR U.S. / DANISH AND NATO DEFENSE COOPERATION. GREAT BRITIAN AND FRANCE HAVE A SIMILAR NOND POLICY.

- 5. REACTION BY NATO NATIONS, IN GENERAL, TO THE RECENT EVENTS HAS BEEN THAT OF GRAVE CONCERN OVER THE IMPLICATIONS FOR NATO COOPERATION AND NUCLEAR DETERRENCE.
- 6. IT IS IMPOSSIBLE TO FORESEE THE OUTCOME OF THE ELECTION AT THIS TIME AND WHAT ITS IMPLICATION MIGHT BE FOR THE STATUS AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PARLIMENTARY RESOLUTION. POSTS SHOULD THEREFORE AVOID SPECULATION. PUBLIC STATEMENTS SHOULD BE LIMITED TO GUIDANCE PROVIDED REF (A) AND TO SECRETARY SHULTZ' STATEMENT REF (B) REPEATED BELOW.
- SECRETARY SHULTZ STATEMENT:

THE IMPLICATIONS FOR NATO UNITY AND COOPERATION OF THE RESOLUTION PASSED APRIL 14 BY THE DANISH FOLKETING. THAT RESOLUTION REQUIRES THE GOVERNMENT OF DENMARK TO INFORM VISITING NAVAL VESSELS SPECIFICALLY OF DERMARK'S POLICY OF NOT ACCEPTING NUCLEAR WEAPONS ON DENMARK'S TERRITORY. INCLUDING HARBORS. THE U.S. HAS A LONGSTANDING POLICY NEITHER TO CONFIRM NOR DENY THE PRESENCE OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS ABOARD ITS SHIPS. THIS POLICY IS CENTRAL TO THE U.S. ABILITY TO FULFILL ITS NATO COMMITMENTS. WE ARE NOT GOING TO CHANGE IT.

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE FOLKETING RESOLUTION APPROVED APRIL

14 IN A WAY WHICH IS INCONSISTENT WITH THE U.S. NOND POLICY WOULD UNDERCUT THE MUCLEAR DETERRENCE POLICY ON WHICH NATO'S SECURITY IS BASED. IT WOULD HAVE EXTREMELY SERIOUS CONSEQUENCES FOR U.S. /DANISH DEFENSE COOPERATION. THIS IS NOT ONLY OR PRINCIPALLY A U.S./DANISH ISSUE. IT GOES TO THE VERY HEART OF THE MEANING AND INTERLOCKING NATURE OF OUR MUTUAL COMMITMENTS WITHIN THE NATO ALLIANCE. THEREFORE, THE U.S. WILL WISH TO REVIEW TOGETHER WITH THE GOVERNMENT OF DENMARK AND ITS OTHER NATO ALLIES THE IMPLICATIONS OF THIS DEVELOPMENT FOR THE NATO ALLIANCE AND CONTINUED DEFENSE COOPERATION WITH DENMARK.

FOR CANBERRA: THIS RESPONDS TO REF (C) TO OT STATE