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E.O. 12356: N/A TAGS: OPRC, MNUC, DA, US, UK SUBJECT: DEPARTMENT'S ANNOUNCEMENT/GUIDANCE ON DANISH SHIP VISIT ISSUE

1. THE FOLLOWING ANNOUNCEMENT WAS MADE BY THE DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN AT THE JUNE 7 PRESS BRIEFING:

DENMARK: SHIP VISIT ISSUE

WE HAVE NOTED THE JUNE 7 STATEMENT IN PARLIAMENT BY PRIME MINISTER POUL SCHLUETER ON THE QUESTION OF SHIP VISITS TO DENMARK.

WE HAVE ALSO NOTED THE RELATED STATEMENT BY FOREIGN MINISTER ELLEMANN-JENSEN THAT "THE DANISH GOVERNMENT CONSIDERS THAT THIS PROCEDURE RESPECTS THE POLICY OF OUR ALLIES NEITHER TO CONFIRM NOR TO DENY THE PRESENCE OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS ON THEIR NAVAL VESSELS." AFTER REVIEWING THESE TWO STATEMENTS, AND AFTER CONSULTATIONS WITH THE GOVERNMENT OF DENMARK AND WITH KEY ALLIES, WE HAVE CONCLUDED THAT THE DANISH HANDLING OF THE SHIP VISIT ISSUE DOES NOT INFRINGE UPON THE POLICY OF NEITHER CONFIRMING NOR DENYING THE PRESENCE OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS ABOARD U.S. NAVAL VESSELS.

THE FOLLOWING Q'S AND A'S WERE ALSO APPROVED FOR USE BY THE SPOKESMAN AT THE NOON BRIEFING (THE SECOND Q AND A WAS USED).

DENMARK: SHIP VISIT ISSUE

Q: WHAT IS THE NCND POLICY?

A: IT IS THE POLICY OF THE U.S. GOVERNMENT TO NEITHER CONFIRM NOR DENY THE PRESENCE OR ABSENCE OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS AT ANY GENERAL OR SPECIFIC LOCATION, INCLUDING

ABOARD ANY U.S. MILITARY STATION, SHIP, VEHICLE, OR AIRCRAFT. THIS POLICY, WHICH IS COMMON AMONG THE RECTERS BULGERS ALLES SAN AFEISD WORLD-WIDE TO ALL
WISTS BY U.S. SHIPS HAS AS TESTUDAMENTAL PURPOSE
THE MILISARY SECURITY OF NUCLEARS WEAPONS. THIS POLICY
PS CENTRAL TO THE U.S. ABILITY TO FULFILL ITS NATO COMMITMENTS AND IS AN ESSENTIAL COMPONENT OF OUR POLICY OF DETERRENCE.

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O. WHAT IS THE DANISH SOLUTION TO THE SHIP VISIT CRISIS? WHAT DID PRIME MINISTER SCHLUETER SAY ON THIS SUBJECT?

A: HE ANNOUNCED THAT THE DANISH MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS WOULD BE CIRCULATING A NOTE TO ALL DIPLOMATIC MISSIONS IN COPEHNAGEN THAT (1) REITERATES DANISH POLICY ON NUCLEAR WEAPONS, AND (2) REITERATES DANISH PORT CLEARANCE PROCEDURES. THE PRIME MINISTER ALSO SAID THAT WHEN REQUESTS FOR SHIP VISITS ARE MADE FROM EMBASSIES, THE DANISH REPLY WILL INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING SENTENCE: "THE DANISH GOVERNMENT ASSUMES THAT THE VISIT OF THE VESSEL WILL BE IN COMPLIANCE WITH RULES LAID DOWN BY THE DANISH GOVERNMENT. "

Q: IS THE U.S. GOVERNMENT HAPPY WITH THE WAY THIS HAS WORKED OUT?

A: I WOULD ONLY SAY THAT THE SITUATION HAS BEEN WORKED OUT IN A WAY THAT IS SATISFACTORY TO ALL CONCERNED. THE US POLICY ON NOND HAS NOT BEEN CHANGED.

Q: DOES THIS MEAN THAT U.S. SHIPS WILL VISIT DANISH PORTS?

A: YES, IN PRINCIPLE. THE DANISH GOVERNMENT IS NOT CHALLENGING THE POLICY OF NEITHER CONFIRMING NOR

DENYING THE PRESENCE OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS ONBOARD NAVAL VESSELS. U.S. NAVAL VESSELS CAN CONTINUE THEIR VISITS TO DENMARK UNDER LONG-ESTABLISHED PROCEDURES, ARMACOST

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