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THE SECRETARY OF STATE  
WASHINGTON

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MEMORANDUM FOR: THE PRESIDENT  
FROM: George P. Shultz *GP*  
SUBJECT: Letters to Gorbachev

We need to take advantage of the momentum generated by your meeting with Gorbachev to move ahead in a number of fields of interest to us. The most significant:

-- In the Geneva talks, we want to prod the Soviets toward a more constructive dialogue on the offense/defense relationship;

-- On regional issues, we should pursue Gorbachev's suggestion of greater seriousness on an Afghanistan settlement and use our review of aid to UNITA to engage the Soviets in a more serious discussion of Southern Africa;

-- On human rights, you indicated you wanted to follow up on your exchange with Gorbachev in Geneva to emphasize the possibilities which would open up in areas of interest to the Soviets if we saw progress.

I have attached for your approval two draft letters to Gorbachev on these issues. The first deals with the Geneva talks and regional questions, and proposes that Shevardnadze and I take up these and other issues at a meeting here in January. The second addresses human rights, and could be delivered by Mac Baldrige during his visit to Moscow next week. Using Mac as a channel would reinforce our message on the inherent links between human rights and other areas of the relationship. As the first letter refers in passing to Mac's mission, it should be sent this week.

Attachments: As indicated

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