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File 28*~~SECRET~~NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20505SENSITIVE*Matlock*

October 16, 1986

MEMORANDUM FOR NICHOLAS PLATT
Executive Secretary
Department of StateSUBJECT: Possible Soviet Retaliation for the Expulsion of
Members of the Soviet Mission to the United Nations (S)

As the Department is aware, the Soviets have indicated publicly and privately that they intend some form of retaliation for our expulsion of 25 intelligence officers from their mission to the United Nations. Pursuant to the President's directive, the Soviets have been informed privately but authoritatively that, if there is retaliation against any U.S. installations in the Soviet Union, the United States will require that the comparable Soviet installation in the United States be reduced to exact parity with the size of the American office, after which we will levy a proportionate counter-retaliation. (S)

Now that all 25 of the Soviet intelligence officers expelled by us have departed the United States, it is possible that the Soviet authorities will retaliate as they have threatened to do, despite our warnings. Therefore, it would be appreciated if the Department would develop contingency plans for executing the President's decision, in the event the Soviets proceed to embark upon some form of retaliation. (S)

Such contingency plans should include the following:

(1) The numbers of U.S. and Soviet personnel permanently assigned to the following "counterpart" activities:

- U.S. Embassy in Moscow and Soviet Embassy in Washington
- U.S. Consulate General in Leningrad and Soviet Consulate General in San Francisco;
- U.S. commercial offices in USSR and Soviet commercial offices in the United States without diplomatic immunity;
- U.S. correspondents in the Soviet Union and Soviet correspondents in the United States. (S)

(2) The appropriate reduction in the Soviet personnel ceiling for each of the categories, should retaliation occur against the counterpart U.S. activity. (S)

(3) Other possible Soviet moves in retaliation, and suggested responses to them. (S)

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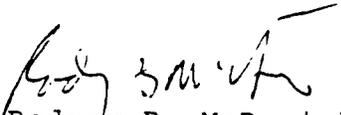
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These contingency plans should be coordinated with the FBI and the CIA and any other agency which could be directly involved to a significant extent. (S)

A report would be appreciated by close of business Friday, October 17. (U)


Rodney B. McDaniel
Executive Secretary