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TO USLO PEKING

S E C R E T EYES ONLY

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EEL HEAM

NOVEMBER 5, 1975

FROM: BRENT SCONCROFT

TO: GEORGE BUSH

- 1. MANY THANKS FOR YOUR KIND WORDS. I AM GREATLY LOOKING FORWARD TO WORKING WITH YOU AND TO PROFITING FROM YOUR TREMENDOUS TALENTS.
- 2. IDEAS ON YOUR CONFIRMATION ARE STILL A BIT LOOSE AND, IN MY OPINION, WILL DEPEND AT LEAST IN PART ON HOW THINGS COME ALONG WITH THE CHINESE. I THINK WE SHOULD NOT DO ANYTHING WHICH WOULD GIVE THEM THE IM-PRESSION THAT THEY IN ANY WAY WILL BE TAKING SECOND PLACE TO YOUR NEW RESPONSIBILITIES. THAT COMMENT IS OF COURSE RELEVANT TO YOUR COMING BACK HERE BETWEEN THE ANNOUNCEMENT AND THE PRESIDENT'S TRIP.
- 3. BILL COLBY HAS AGREED TO STAY ON UNTIL YOUR ARE CONFIRMED. IN ANY EVENT, I SEE NO PROBLEM AT ALL TO YOUR LEAVING CHINA A HEEK AFTER THE PRESIDENT'S DEPARTURE, AS YOU SUGGEST.

4. JUST FOR YOUR INFORMATION, WE HAVE PUT OUR ADVANCE PEOPLE IN SOMETHING OF A BIND WITH THE DELAY OF
THE TRIP ANNOUNCEMENT. AS YOU KNOW, THEY HOPE TO BE ABLE
TO DO THE ALASKA AND HAWAII STOPS THIS COMING WEEKEND.
I WILL NOT LET THEM DEPART, HOWEVER, UNLESS WE HAVE
CONFIRMATION FROM THE CHINESE THAT AN ANNOUNCEMENT CAN
BE MADE ON THE 13TH. HE SIMPLY CANNOT AFFORD ANY MORE ON
AGAIN-OFF AGAIN STORIES ABOUT THE TRIP. SINCE THEY HOPE

ON-FILE NSC RELEASE INSTRUCTIONS APPLY

MCFARLANE, ROOMAN

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*WHSR COMMENT

TO DEPART EARLY SATURDAY MORNING, I WOULD APPRECIATE HEARING FROM YOU AS SOON AS POSSIBLE AFTER YOU GET WORD FROM THE CHINESE ON SATURDAY -- ASSUMING YOU DO.

5. WARM REGARDS.

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