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TO GENERAL SCOWCROFT

UNCLAS DELIVER AT OPENING OF BUSINESS WHSE363

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UPI#061

(SALT AGREEMENTS)

WASHINGTON (UPI) -- ADM. ELMO ZUMWALT, FORMER CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS, SAID TUESDAY THE UNITED STATES SHOULD HAVE TRIED TO MAINTAIN MILITARY EQUALITY WITH THE SOVIET UNION RATHER THAN SIGNING THE 1972 SALT AGREEMENT.

"THE COUNTRY IS WORSE OFF THAN HAD HE CONTINUED TO WORK TOWARDS PARITY," ZUMWALT TOLD THE HOUSE INTELLIGENCE COMMITTEE.

ZUMWALT ALSO ALLEGED THE RUSSIANS HAVE BEEN GUILTY OF "MASSIVE VIOLATIONS" OF THE SALT I AGREEMENT AND SECRETARY OF STATE HENRY KISSINGER HAD WITHHELD VITAL INFORMATION FROM THE JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF, THE DEFENSE SECRETARIES AND CONGRESS.

"IN MY JUDGMENT THERE HAD BEEN SIGNIFICANT VIOLATIONS OF THE SALT I AGREEMENT BY THE SOVIETS IN THEIR INTERFERENCE OF OUR NATIONAL MEANS OF DETECTION WHICH HAD PRODUCED A SERIOUS REDUCTION IN OUR ABILITY TO CHECK AGAINST SOVIET CHEATING," ZUMWALT SAID IN AN OPENING STATEMENT.

"THIS INTERFERENCE MAKES IT EASIER FOR THE SOVIETS TO CLAIM THEY ARE NOT CHEATING, HARDER FOR THE U.S. TO PROVE THEY ARE, AND IS IN AND OF ITSELF THE MOST POSITIVE INDICATOR AMONG MANY POSITIVE INDICATORS THAT THE SOVIETS ARE VIOLATING THE SALT I AGREEMENT."

ZUMWALT EXPANDED HIS CHARGE TO "MASSIVE VIOLATIONS" UNDER QUESTIONING.

*****WHSE COMMENT*****

HYLAND, MCPARLANE, RODMAN, SEC FLE

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HE SAID THERE WAS AT LEAST ONE SECRET AGREEMENT THAT KISSINGER DID NOT TELL ANYONE ABOUT AND WHICH DID NOT SURFACE UNTIL ELEVEN MONTHS LATER. IT INVOLVED A JUNE 1973 DEFINITION OF A MODERN BALLISTIC MISSILE "DESIGNED TO PATCH UP SOME OF THE HASTY NEGOTIATED AND INEPTLY WORDED LANGUAGE IN THE INTERIM AGREEMENT," ZUMWALT SAID.

"ON CHECKING WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE AND THE STATE DEPARTMENT NO ONE KNEW OF THE EXISTENCE OF THE AGREEMENT. FINALLY, THE NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL'S FILE PRODUCED THE SECRET AGREEMENT SIGNED 11 MONTHS EARLIER ... A SECRET COVENANT SO SECRETLY ARRIVED AT THAT NOT EVEN THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE KNEW ABOUT IT OR THE CONGRESS."

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