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PAGE 01 STATE 045684
ORIGIN ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-15 SIG-01 MMO-01 PA-01 HA-05
PM-05 NSC-05 SP-02 DODE-00 AID-05 TRSE-00 IO-13
USIA-06 /074 R

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ARA: TATODMAN
S/S - DANDERSON

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P 222005Z FEB 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO ALL AMERICAN REPUBLIC DIPLOMATIC POSTS PRIORITY

FR RN
Dept response

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SOPN

SUBJECT: TODMAN SPEECH AT CENTER FOR INTER-AMERICAN
RELATIONS

1. IN SOME AREAS PRESS IS DISTORTING SPEECH AS CHANGE IN
CRITICISM OF PRESIDENT CARTER'S HUMAN RIGHTS POLICY.
DISTORTION HAS OCCURRED WHERE LISTING OF TYPES OF ACTION
WE SHOULD AVOID HAS BEEN MISINTERPRETED AS CRITICISM OF
THE CONDUCT OF THE POLICY.

2. ~~THERE HAS BEEN NO REPEAT NO CHANGE IN HUMAN RIGHTS~~
~~POLICY.~~ ON FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 17, PRESIDENT CARTER SIGNED
PRESIDENTIAL DIRECTIVE NO. 30 (TEXT BEING TRANSMITTED
SEPTEL) AFFIRMING THE POLICY.

3. AS FOLLOWING KEY PASSAGES OF ~~TODMAN SPEECH MAKE CLEAR,~~
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PAGE 02 STATE 045684

THERE IS NO BASIS FOR CONSTRUING SPEECH AS CRITICISM OF
THE HUMAN RIGHTS POLICY.

4. BEGIN QUOTE: PROMOTING HUMAN RIGHTS IS FUNDAMENTAL
TENET AND A CORNERSTONE OF THIS ADMINISTRATION'S FOREIGN
POLICY. IT IS CENTRAL TO OUR RELATIONS WITH ALL NATIONS.
I KNOW THAT THIS DEEP PERSONAL CONVICTION OF MY OWN, IS
PROFOUNDLY HELD BY THE PRESIDENT AND THE SECRETARY OF
STATE. MOREOVER, BECAUSE THIS COMMITMENT REFLECTS
UNIVERSALLY RECOGNIZED VALUES, IT BINDS US RATHER THAN
SEPARATES US FROM THE OTHER PEOPLES OF THIS PLANET. IT
CALLS ON THE CONSCIENCE OF ALL GOVERNMENTS TO LIVE UP TO
THEIR SACRED OBLIGATIONS. IT GIVES ALL PEOPLE HOPE FOR
A BETTER FUTURE KNOWING THAT WE STAND BEHIND THEIR
ASPIRATIONS TO SHARE IN THE FULLNESS OF LIFE.

THAT IS WHY WE HAVE MADE CLEAR TO ALL COUNTRIES THAT THE
NATURE OF OUR RELATIONS WITH THEM WILL DEPEND ON THEIR
PRACTICES IN THE HUMAN RIGHTS AREA. IN DOING SO WE ARE
NOT INTERFERING IN THEIR INTERNAL AFFAIRS, BUT DETERMIN-
ING OUR OWN BEHAVIOR IN RESPONSE TO WHAT WE SEE.
END QUOTE.

5. ~~WHERE PRESS, OFFICIAL OR PRIVATE OPINION HAS PICKED~~
~~UP LINE THAT THERE IS CHANGE IN HUMAN RIGHTS POLICY OR~~

~~Department of State, A/GIS/IPS/SRP
Change to _____
() Release () Excise () Deny () Declassify
Exemptions b () () E.O. 13526 25x () ()
Declassify after _____
With concurrence of: _____
obtained _____ not obt. _____
IPS by *42* Date *11-30-66*~~

Declassified Case: 17W- 57067 Date: 06-05-2013

~~CRITICISM OF SUCH POLICY YOU SHOULD MOVE FORCEFULLY TO
COUNTER IT.~~

6. SPEECH IN USIS FILE. Q'S AND A'S SUMMARY BEING
TRANSMITTED SEPARATE CABLE. VANCE

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