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INFO LOG-00 AMAD-01 CPR-02 C-01 HA-09 L-03 MCO-01  
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-----B66DF1 121433Z /43

O 121345Z DEC 91  
FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4214

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 MOSCOW 035578

DEPT FOR D, S/P, C, P, AND EUR/SOV

E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR  
TAGS: OPDC, PREL, PINR, US, UR  
SUBJECT: LETTER FROM GEORGIAN PRESIDENT TO SECRETARY  
BAKER

REFS: (A) MOSCOW 33877; (B) STATE 382175

- 1. CONFIDENTIAL - ENTIRE TEXT.
- 2. FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF LETTER FROM PRESIDENT GAMSAKHURDIA TO SECRETARY BAKER RESPONDING TO U.S. DEMARCHE ON POLITICAL SITUATION AND OSSETIA (REF A). ORIGINAL LETTER, WRITTEN IN ENGLISH, IS BEING POUCHED TO EUR/SOV UNDER REGISTRY NO. 1751547.

3. BEGIN TEXT:

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YOUR EXCELLENCY,

IT IS FOR THE SECOND TIME THAT THE UNITED STATES EMBASSY IN MOSCOW ANSWERS THE REPUBLIC OF GEORGIA'S PRESIDENT MR. Z. GAMSAKHURDIA'S ADDRESS TO YOU. WE EXPLAIN THIS BY YOUR UTTER ENGAGEMENT IN SEARCHING THE WAYS OF PEACE IN VARIOUS REGIONS OF THE WORLD, AND SPECIFICALLY, IN THE NEAR EAST. BUT WE STRONGLY BELIEVE THAT AS A RESULT OF IRREVERSIBLE HISTORICAL

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
REVIEW AUTHORITY: ROBERT O HOMME  
DATE/CASE ID: 17 MAR 2010 200902056

PROCESSES, YOUR AND THE INTERNATIONAL ATTENTION WILL SHIFT TO THE CAUCASUS REGION, GEOGRAPHICALLY NEIGHBORING THE NEAR EAST, WHERE DUE TO THE LONG-LASTING IMPERIAL POLICY WE HAVE NO LESS TENSE AND EXPLOSIVE SITUATION. THE COUNTRIES OF THE CAUCASUS REGION HAVE ALREADY DECLARED RESTORATION OF THEIR STATE INDEPENDENCE, AND IT IS PARADOXICAL THAT THE IMPERIAL CENTER TRIES TO ACT AS A NEUTRAL ARBITER BETWEEN THEM. THIS IS THE CENTER WHOSE DISINTEGRATION THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT SO STRONGLY RESISTS. WE DEEPLY BELIEVE THAT NO GOVERNMENT OR POLITICAL LEADER CAN REVERSE THIS HISTORICAL PROCESS.

IN YOUR LETTER IT IS NOTED THAT THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT IS PLEASED BY THE FACT THAT THE POLITICAL SITUATION IN GEORGIA HAS CALMED DOWN AND THE THREAT OF USING THE FORCE HAS BEEN GREATLY REDUCED. LET ME ASSURE YOU THAT THIS WAS LARGELY BECAUSE OF THE ABILITY OF THE GEORGIAN GOVERNMENT AND THE PRESIDENT, MR. Z. GAMSAKHKURDIA, TO CONDUCT NEGOTIATIONS ON THE

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BASIS OF COMPROMISE AND DIALOGUE WITH THE ARMED  
OPPOSITION THAT HAS MARCHED AGAINST THE LEGITIMATE  
AND DEMOCRATICALLY ELECTED GOVERNMENT, ALTHOUGH  
AUTHORITIES IN ANY DEMOCRATIC COUNTRY CONFRONT SUCH  
ELEMENTS WITH ARMED FORCES.

WE WOULD LIKE TO INFORM YOU THAT THE GEORGIAN  
AUTHORITIES USE THE SAME PEACEFUL APPROACH TO SOLVE  
PROBLEMS IN THE SO-CALLED SOUTH OSSETIAN REGION WHICH  
USUALLY APPEARS IN THE LIST OF ACCUSATIONS PRESENTED  
TO GEORGIA. THE CONFLICT, ACCORDING TO THE OSSETIANS  
THEMSELVES, IS POLITICAL NOT ETHNIC ONE. IT IS  
SYMPTOMATIC THAT OSSETIANS DO NOT PROTEST AGAINST  
GEORGIAN DISCRIMINATION BUT STRIVE TO UNITE  
INDIGENOUS GEORGIAN TERRITORY TO THE NEW SOVIET UNION  
OR RUSSIAN FEDERATION USING THEIR OWN AND THE SOVIET  
ARMED FORCES FOR THIS PURPOSE. THIS CONTRADICTS THE  
PRINCIPLE OF UNACCEPTABILITY OF FORCEFUL ALTERATIONS  
OF THE PRESENT BORDERS, STATED IN YOUR LETTER.

THE LETTER MENTIONS OSSETIANS KILLED BY GEORGIANS,  
YET IT SAYS NOTHING ABOUT THE GEORGIANS WHO WERE  
KILLED, SAVAGELY TORTURED OR MAIMED BY THE OSSETIANS;

NOTHING IS SAID ABOUT 20 THOUSAND PEOPLE WHO, THANKS TO THE OSSETIAN EXTREMISTS, BECAME REFUGEES IN THEIR OWN COUNTRY; NOTHING IS SAID ABOUT THE GEORGIAN VILLAGES NIKOZI, EREDVI, ETC., BOMBED BY THE SOVIET ARMY AND ABOUT THE AFGHAN TACTICS THE SOVIET INTERNAL TROOPS USE AGAINST THE PEACEFUL GEORGIAN POPULATION. IN THESE CIRCUMSTANCES, THE GEORGIAN POPULATION OF THE SO-CALLED SOUTH OSSETIA (IN REALITY SAMACHABLO)  
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HAS TO DEFEND THEIR LAND AND INTERESTS. ALTHOUGH WE AGAIN REPEAT THAT WE SUPPORT A PEACEFUL SOLUTION OF THE CRISIS.

AS FOR YOUR PREOCCUPATION WITH THE OPPOSITION LEADERS, WE WOULD LIKE TO NOTE THAT LIKE OTHER DEMOCRATIC NATIONS, WE IN GEORGIA HAVE LEGAL PARLIAMENTARY OPPOSITION. IT HAS EVERY POSSIBILITY TO EXPRESS ITS OWN VIEWS THAT DIFFER FROM THE OFFICIAL ONES NOT ONLY IN THE PARLIAMENT BUT IN THE MASS MEDIA AS WELL. ON THE OTHER HAND, THE PERSONS MENTIONED

IN THE LETTER REPRESENT ARMED CRIMINAL GROUPS, THAT DO NOT RECOGNIZE THE REPUBLIC'S CONSTITUTION AND THE GOVERNMENT, REFUSE TO REGISTER AS POLITICAL PARTIES ACCORDNG TO THE LAW ON POLITICAL PARTIES. IT SHOULD NOT BE DISPUTABLE THAT OUR POSITION IS ANALOGOUS TO THAT OF ANY GOVERNMENT OF A DEMOCRATIC COUNTRY. MRS. G. CHANTURIA AND G.

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ACTION EUR-01

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 TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4215

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 02 MOSCOW 035578

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E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR  
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KHAINDRAVA WERE DETAINED NOT FOR THEIR POLITICAL  
 VIEWS BUT FOR ORGANIZING MASS DISTURBANCES AND  
 CAUSING ARMED EXCESSES, CONSIDERED EVERYWHERE AS  
 CRIMINAL ACTS (SEVERAL PEOPLE DIED AS A RESULT OF THE  
 ATTACKS ON STATE INSTITUTIONS ORGANIZED BY THESE  
 PERSONS).

WE SHOULD LIKE TO INFORM YOU THAT EVENTS IN THE  
 SOVIET UNION UNFOLD ACCORDING TO A MORE OR LESS  
 SIMILAR SCENARIO. IN REALITY THIS MEANS ACTIVATION  
 OF THOSE ETHNIC AND POLITICAL TIME BOMBS THAT THE  
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 EMPIRE HAD PLACED IN THE REPUBLICS. UNFORTUNATELY,  
 WE HAVE TO MENTION AGAIN THAT GEORGIA WAS THE FIRST  
 SOVIET REPUBLIC TO HOLD THE FIRST DEMOCRATIC,  
 MULTI-PARTY ELECTIONS AND FORM DEMOCRATIC STATE  
 INSTITUTIONS. IT IS CLEAR, FROM THE ABOVE MENTIONED,  
 THAT CONNECTION OF YOUR DEMANDS WITH THE OBJECTIVE  
 REALITY OF GEORGIA IS NOT ADEQUATE.

IT IS UNFORTUNATE THAT YOUR ATTEMPTS TO INFLUENCE  
 GEORGIA ECONOMICALLY ARE IDENTICAL TO THOSE OF THE  
 CENTER AND THE SO-CALLED DEMOCRATIC RUSSIA, WHICH CAN  
 NOT RELINQUISH THE IMPERIAL AMBITIONS.



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AND FINALLY, WE BELIEVE THAT THE SHORTEST WAY TO SOLVE ALL THE MENTIONED PROBLEMS IS TO RECOGNIZE GEORGIA AS THE SUBJECT OF INTERNATIONAL LAW, WHICH MEANS INEVITABLE REALIZATION OF THE PRINCIPLES OF THE HELSINKI FINAL ACT, THE UNIVERSAL DECLARATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND THE PARIS CHARTER IN GEORGIA. THE SAME CAN BE SAID ABOUT THE PROBLEMS OF SECURITY, NAMELY, THE QUESTIONS OF NUCLEAR NON-PROLIFERATION AND REDUCTION OF THE CONVENTIONAL ARMS. AS YOU WELL KNOW FROM THE FIRST LETTER, GEORGIA CAN ONLY FORMALLY JOIN THESE TREATIES AND THUS ITS RESPONSIBILITY TOWARDS THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY IS ALSO FORMAL, ALTHOUGH OUR ASPIRATIONS TO DECLARE THE CAUCASUS REGION NUCLEAR FREE ZONE SHOULD NOT RAISE DOUBTS. THE U.S. RECOGNITION OF THE GEORGIAN INDEPENDENCE, OF COURSE, WOULD SOLVE ALL THESE PROBLEMS. THE UNITED STATES, ON ITS PART, WOULD HAVE CONSIDERABLY GREATER OPPORTUNITY TO INFLUENCE THE CAUCASUS REGION IN

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HUMANITARIAN ASPECTS AS WELL AS SECURITY WISE. LET ME ALSO ASSURE YOU THAT IT WILL BE A GUARANTEE FOR STRENGTHENING THE INTERNAL STABILITY, THE NEWLY FORMED DEMOCRATIC INSTITUTIONS AND GEORGIA'S RESPONSIBILITY TO THE REST OF THE WORLD. WE THINK IT IS ACCEPTABLE TO SEND TO GEORGIA AMERICAN OBSERVERS WHO WILL STAY FOR A SUFFICIENTLY LONG TIME TO ASSESS THE REAL SITUATION IN THE ABOVE MENTIONED SPHERES. LET ME ASSURE YOU THAT THIS WILL ENABLE YOU NOT TO HAVE DISTORTED INFORMATION ABOUT OUR COUNTRY WHICH THE IMPERIAL MEDIA AND THE POLITICAL OPPONENTS OF THE PRESENT GEORGIAN LEADERSHIP SUPPLY YOU WITH.

YOUR EXCELLENCY, I AM AGAIN USING THIS OPPORTUNITY AND INVITE YOU, OR ANY REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ADMINISTRATION OR THE CONGRESS TO DISCUSS ANY PROBLEMS AND PLAN THE WAYS OF DEVELOPING THE MUTUAL COOPERATION. (END TEXT) COLLINS

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