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**MEMORANDUM
OF CALL**

TO:

☐ YOU WERE CALLED BY— ☐ YOU WERE VISITED BY—

OF (Organization)

☐ PLEASE CALL → PHONE NO. CODE/EXT. _____
☐ WILL CALL AGAIN ☐ IS WAITING TO SEE YOU
☐ RETURNED YOUR CALL ☐ WISHES AN APPOINTMENT

MESSAGE

Bob Mathias

*Signing Ceremony
May 7-
Marilyn
Lynn May
6437*

6513
RECEIVED BY

DATE

TIME

over

MEMORANDUM
OF CALL

TO:

(703) 532-8653

3235 Valley Lane

Falls Church - Va.

22044

57276

TIME

DATE

RECEIVED BY

MAY 7, 1976

Office of the White House Press Secretary

THE WHITE HOUSE

FACT SHEET

Federal Assistance for the 1980
Winter Olympic Games

The President announced today that he is requesting legislation to provide for special financial assistance for the 1980 Winter Olympic Games, to be held in Lake Placid, New York.

The proposed legislation will:

- Give the Secretary of Commerce the responsibility for coordinating the Federal assistance for the construction of the permanent sports facilities required for the Games (estimated cost of \$28 million). The Secretary would use existing program authorities and budgets to the maximum extent possible, and could request additional appropriations, if needed, to finance the construction;
- Stipulate that the Federal Government not assume any special responsibility for financing other facilities or services which may be needed for these Games. These costs would be the responsibility of the State and local governments.

The sports facilities expected to be built with Federal financial support include:

- A new field house with two ice sheets and a seating capacity of 9,000;
- A 90-meter ski jump which would be the only one of its kind in the country;
- A 400-meter outdoor speed skating oval; and
- A luge run.

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OFFICE OF THE WHITE HOUSE PRESS SECRETARY

THE WHITE HOUSE

REMARKS OF THE PRESIDENT
UPON HIS SIGNING
OF THE REQUEST FOR FUNDING
FOR FACILITIES FOR THE 1980 OLYMPICS

THE ROSE GARDEN

11:40 P.M. EDT

First, I wish to extend my very warm welcome to all of you who are here today, the representatives of the Lake Placid Organizing Committee, Philip Krumm, President of the United States Olympic Commistee, Gerald Zornow, Chairman of the President's Commission on Olympic Sports and other Commissioners of that body, distinguished Congressmen are also here, Gene Cowan, ABC host, spectacular coverage of the Olympics who brought the thrill of victory and the agony of defeat right into the living room for myself and millions and millions of other Americans who were watching those spectacular Olympic games, and finally and most particularly, to the seven athletes who won medals on our behalf in the 1976 Winter Olympic games in Innsbruck:

Today we are here to pay tribute to your recent accomplishments and to consider the future of American amateur athletics in the Olympic efforts of this country. I doubt whether anybody here, except the athletes themselves, fully understands the tremendous sacrifices that you and your fellow teammates have made over the years and at Innsbruck in order to successfully compete in the Olympic games.

I would like to thank each and every one of them on behalf of all Americans for the honor which their achievements have brought to our country and for advancing the cause of international fellowship.

Obviously, it makes all of us extremely proud of what you have done. I believe that the time is right for greater understanding and support of amateur athletic competition in this country. For this reason, I appointed a Presidential Commission on Olympic Sports last year to examine the nature of American athletic competition. Their report, due later this year, will assess the organization and the financing of amateur sports in this country and how it affects American participation in international competition, such as the Olympic games.

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An important factor in the success of American Olympic teams is the availability of first class facilities for training as well as competition.

Many of the most thrilling events of the 1978 Olympics like the bobsled races and ski jumping events were held at facilities which required tremendous expenditures to construct. Europe, as we all know, has several speed skating rinks and a number of 90 meter ski jumps. The United States, I am sorry to say, has only one speed skating rink and no 90 meter ski jumps. As a result, American athletes in these events must spend long months abroad to prepare for competition or they must, on the other hand, limit their training.

America is very proud of her Olympic athletes and proud to have them take part in the great Olympic competition. I am proposing, therefore, legislation that will provide special financial assistance for the 1980 Winter Olympic games to be held at Lake Placid, New York. The funds will be used to build permanent sports facilities, including, among others, a speed skating rink, a 90 meter ski jump and a luge run. These facilities will not only be used for the 1980 Olympics, but will also be available for United States athletes to train on thereafter.

I know that many of the Senators and the Congressmen here today, like Bob McEwen of New York State, have worked hard to improve amateur athletics and to bring the 1980 winter games to the United States. Hopefully, the proposals that I am making and submitting to the Congress will permit the full realization of these goals.

Thank you very much.

END (AT 11:45 P.M. EDT)

MAY 7, 1976

Office of the White House Press Secretary

THE WHITE HOUSE

TO THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES:

I am returning, without my approval, S. 2662, a bill that would seriously obstruct the exercise of the President's constitutional responsibilities for the conduct of foreign affairs. In addition to raising fundamental constitutional problems, this bill includes a number of unwise restrictions that would seriously inhibit my ability to implement a coherent and consistent foreign policy:

- ° By imposing an arbitrary arms sale ceiling, it limits our ability to respond to the legitimate defense needs of our friends and obstructs U.S. industry from competing fairly with foreign suppliers.
- ° By requiring compliance by recipient countries with visa practices or human rights standards set by our Congress as a condition for continued U.S. assistance, the bill ignores the many other complex factors which should govern our relationships with those countries; and it impairs our ability to deal by more appropriate means with objectionable practices of other nations.
- ° By removing my restrictions on trade with North and South Vietnam, S. 2662 undercuts any incentive the North Vietnamese may have to provide an accounting for our MIAs.
- ° By mandating a termination of grant military assistance and military assistance advisory groups after fiscal year 1977 unless specifically authorized by Congress, the bill vitiates two important tools which enable us to respond to the needs of many countries and maintain vital controls over military sales programs.

The bill also contains several provisions which violate the constitutional separation of executive and legislative powers. By a concurrent resolution passed by a majority of both Houses, programs authorized by the Congress can be later reviewed, further restricted, or even terminated. Such frustration of the ability of the Executive to make operational decisions violates the President's constitutional authority to conduct our relations with other nations.

While I encourage increased Congressional involvement in the formulation of foreign policy, the pattern of unprecedented restrictions contained in this bill requires that I reject such Congressional encroachment on the Executive Branch's constitutional authority to implement that policy.

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Constitutional Objections

With regard to the Constitutional issues posed by S.2662, this bill contains an array of objectionable requirements whereby virtually all significant arms transfer decisions would be subjected on a case-by-case basis to a period of delay for Congressional review and possible disapproval by concurrent resolution of the Congress. These provisions are incompatible with the express provision in the Constitution that a resolution having the force and effect of law must be presented to the President and, if disapproved, repassed by a two-thirds majority in the Senate and the House of Representatives. They extend to the Congress the power to prohibit specific transactions authorized by law without changing the law -- and without following the constitutional process such a change would require. Moreover, they would involve the Congress directly in the performance of Executive functions in disregard of the fundamental principle of separation of powers. Congress can, by duly adopted legislation, authorize or prohibit such actions as the execution of contracts or the issuance of export licenses, but Congress cannot itself participate in the Executive functions of deciding whether to enter into a lawful contract or issue a lawful license, either directly or through the disapproval procedures contemplated in this bill.

The erosion of the basic distinction between legislative and Executive functions which would result from the enactment of S. 2662, displays itself in an increasing volume of similar legislation which this Congress has passed or is considering. Such legislation would pose a serious threat to our system of government, and would forge impermissible shackles on the President's ability to carry out the laws and conduct the foreign relations of the United States. The President cannot function effectively in domestic matters, and speak for the nation authoritatively in foreign affairs, if his decisions under authority previously conferred can be reversed by a bare majority of the Congress. Also, the attempt of Congress to become a virtual co-administrator in operational decisions would seriously distract it from its proper legislative role. Inefficiency, delay, and uncertainty in the management of our nation's foreign affairs would eventually follow.

Apart from these basic constitutional deficiencies which appear in six sections of the bill, S. 2662 is faulty legislation, containing numerous unwise restrictions.

Annual Ceiling on Arms Sales

A further objectionable feature of S. 2662 is an annual ceiling of \$9.0 billion on the total of government sales and commercial exports of military equipment and services. In our search to negotiate mutual restraints in the proliferation of conventional weapons, this self-imposed ceiling would be an impediment to our efforts to obtain the cooperation of other arms-supplying nations. Such an arbitrary ceiling would also require individual transactions to be evaluated, not on their own merits, but on the basis of their relationship to the volume of other, unrelated transactions. This provision would establish an arbitrary, overall limitation as a substitute for case-by-case analyses and decisions based on foreign policy priorities and the legitimate security needs of our allies and friends.

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Discrimination and Human Rights

This bill also contains well-intended but misguided provisions to require the termination of military cooperation with countries which engage in practices that discriminate against United States citizens or practices constituting a consistent pattern of gross human rights violations. This Administration is fully committed to a policy of not only actively opposing but also seeking the elimination of discrimination by foreign governments against United States citizens on the basis of their race, religion, national origin or sex, just as the Administration is fully supportive of internationally recognized human rights as a standard for all nations to respect. The use of the proposed sanctions against sovereign nations is, however, an awkward and ineffective device for the promotion of those policies. These provisions of the bill represent further attempts to ignore important and complex policy considerations by requiring simple legalistic tests to measure the conduct of sovereign foreign governments. If Congress finds such conduct deficient, specific actions by the United States to terminate or limit our cooperation with the government concerned would be mandated. By making any single factor the effective determinant of relationships which must take into account other considerations, such provisions would add a new element of uncertainty to our security assistance programs and would cast doubt upon the reliability of the United States in its dealings with other countries. Moreover, such restrictions would most likely be counterproductive as a means for eliminating discriminatory practices and promoting human rights. The likely result would be a selective disassociation of the United States from governments unpopular with the Congress, thereby diminishing our ability to advance the cause of human rights through diplomatic means.

Trade with Vietnam

The bill would suspend for 180 days the President's authority to control certain trade with North and South Vietnam, thereby removing a vital bargaining instrument for the settlement of a number of differences between the United States and these countries. I have the deepest sympathy for the intent of this provision, which is to obtain an accounting for Americans missing in action in Vietnam. However, the enactment of this legislation would not provide any real assurances that the Vietnamese would now fulfill their long-standing obligation to provide such an accounting. Indeed, the establishment of a direct linkage between trade and accounting for those missing in action might well only perpetuate Vietnamese demands for greater and greater concessions.

This Administration is prepared to be responsive to Vietnamese action on the question of Americans missing in action. Nevertheless, the delicate process of negotiations with the Vietnamese cannot be replaced by a legislative mandate that would open up trade for a specified number of days and then terminate that trade as a way to achieve our diplomatic objectives. This mandate represents an unacceptable attempt by Congress to manage the diplomatic relations of the United States.

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Termination of Grant Military Assistance and
Advisory Groups

The legislation would terminate grant military assistance and military assistance advisory groups after fiscal year 1977 except where specifically authorized by Congress, thus creating a presumption against such programs and missions. Such a step would have a severe impact on our relations with other nations whose security and well-being are important to our own national interests. In the case of grant assistance, it would limit our flexibility to assist countries whose national security is important to us but which are not themselves able to bear the full cost of their own defense. In the case of advisory groups, termination of missions by legislative fiat would impair close and long-standing military relationships with important allies. Moreover, such termination is inconsistent with increasing Congressional demands for the kind of information about and control over arms sales which these groups now provide. Such provisions would insert Congress deeply into the details of specific country programs, a role which Congress has neither the information nor the organizational structure to play.

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I particularly regret that, notwithstanding the spirit of genuine cooperation between the Legislative and Executive Branches that has characterized the deliberations on this legislation, we have been unable to overcome the major policy differences that exist.

In disapproving this bill, I act as any President would, and must, to retain the ability to function as the foreign policy leader and spokesman of the Nation. In world affairs today, America can have only one foreign policy. Moreover, that foreign policy must be certain, clear and consistent. Foreign governments must know that they can treat with the President on foreign policy matters, and that when he speaks within his authority, they can rely upon his words.

Accordingly, I must veto the bill.

GERALD R. FORD

THE WHITE HOUSE,

May 7, 1976.

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