

CONFIDENTIAL PTQ8051

RELEASED IN PART B1,  
1.4(B,D)

PAGE 01 BAKU 00379 01 OF 02 270409Z  
ACTION NODS-00

INFO LOG-00 CCOE-00 SAS-00 /000W  
-----2B251C 270409Z /38

O 261722Z JAN 00  
FM AMEMBASSY BAKU  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2899  
AMEMBASSY YEREVAN

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 BAKU 000379

NODIS BIRCH

DECAPTIONED

FROM AMB. ESCUDERO FOR S/NIS STEVE SESTANOVICH  
STATE PASS DEPSEC TALBOTT  
STATE PLEASE REPEAT TO ANKARA FOR AMBASSADOR PARRIS  
YEREVAN FOR AMBASSADOR LEMMON

Classification Extended ~ Class: CONFIDENTIAL ~  
Reason:  1.4(B), 1.4(D), B1 ~ Declassify on:  
01/25/2025

E.O. 12958: DECL 1.6 (X) 6  
TAGS: PGOV, PREL, AJ  
SUBJECT: READ-OUT ON MOSCOW N-K TALKS: "WE CAME OUT WITH  
NOTHING"

(U) CLASSIFIED BY AMBASSADOR ESCUDERO. REASON: PARA 1.6  
(X) 6.

REF: BAKU 00317

1. (C) SUMMARY: IN A JAN. 24 SIDE-BAR MEETING  
DURING THE CIS CONFERENCE IN MOSCOW, NEITHER  
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PRESIDENT ALIYEV NOR PRESIDENT KOCHARIAN CHANGED N-K  
NEGOTIATING POSITIONS.



PUTIN TOLD THE TWO PRESIDENTS THAT RUSSIA  
WOULD SUPPORT ANY AGREEMENT REACHED BY THE TWO  
PARTIES IN THE CONFLICT. UNLESS THIS WAS KOCHARIAN'S  
FINAL POSTURING BEFORE REALISTIC DISCUSSION IN DAVOS,  
THE OUTLOOK IS BLEAK, EITHER FOR ALIYEV TO ACHIEVE  
HIS GOALS, OR FOR THE TURKS TO GIVE THE ARMENIANS THE  
"GENOCIDE" ISSUE. END SUMMARY.

2. (C) IN A QUICK READ-OUT BY RAUF HUSEINOV,  
PRESIDENT ALIYEV'S DEPUTY CHIEF OF FOREIGN RELATIONS  
DEPARTMENT OF THE PRESIDENT'S APPARAT, HUSEINOV GAVE  
THE FOLLOWING ACCOUNT BASED ON HIS BRIEF CONVERSATION

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Martin McLean, Senior Reviewer

1.4(B)  
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WITH PRESIDENT ALIYEV.

3. (C) THE TWO PRESIDENTS MET AT A JAN. 24 SIDE-BAR OF THE CIS MEETING IN MOSCOW.

[REDACTED]

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ALIYEV REMINDED HIM OF THEIR EARLIER AGREEMENT, AND QUESTIONED WHY KOCHARIAN WAS BACKING AWAY FROM THE ORIGINAL AGREEMENT AND RAISING CONFIDENTIAL

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ADDITIONAL ISSUES AT THIS TIME.

4. (C) KOCHARIAN PRESSED THE SAME DEMANDS WHEN PUTIN JOINED THE MEETING. ALIYEV SAID HE (ALIYEV) THEN REHEARSED FOR PUTIN THE HISTORY OF THE NEGOTIATIONS: THE APRIL MEETING IN WASHINGTON; THE PROPOSED APRIL MEETING IN LUXEMBURG WHICH HAD TO BE POSTPONED BECAUSE OF ALIYEV'S HEALTH, THE MEETING IN GENEVA.

[REDACTED]

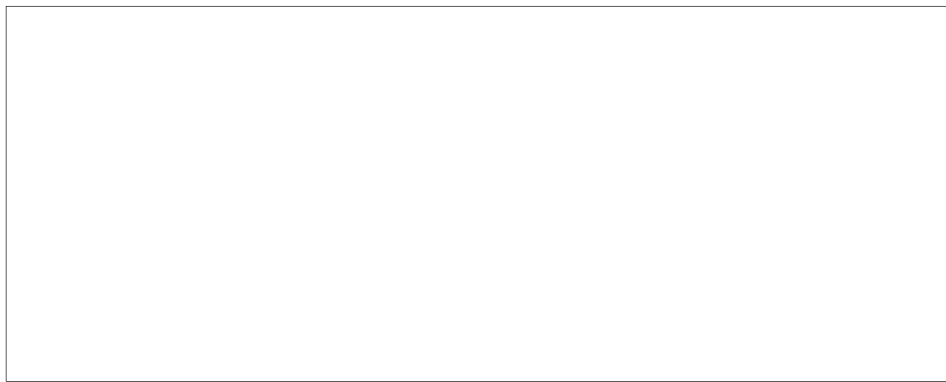
1.4(B)  
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5. PUTIN, ACCORDING TO ALIYEV, JUST LISTENED, SEEMED TO BE LEARNING, AND OFFERED NO PRESSURE TO EITHER SIDE. PUTIN CONFIDENTIAL

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SAID THAT RUSSIA WOULD SUPPORT WHATEVER AGREEMENT THE TWO PRESIDENTS DECIDED UPON. PUTIN MAINTAINED A STRICT NEUTRALITY, ACCORDING TO ALIYEV.

[REDACTED]

1.4(B)  
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ACTION NODS-00

INFO LOG-00 CCOE-00 SAS-00 /000W  
-----2B2525 270409Z /38

O 261722Z JAN 00  
FM AMEMBASSY BAKU  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2900  
AMEMBASSY YEREVAN

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 02 BAKU 000379

NODIS BIRCH

FROM AMB. ESCUDERO FOR S/NIS STEVE SESTANOVICH  
STATE PASS DEPSEC TALBOTT  
STATE PLEASE REPEAT TO ANKARA FOR AMBASSADOR PARRIS  
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1.4(B)  
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HE TALKED TO KOCHARIAN  
ABOUT THE BENEFITS OF INCREASED TRADE WITH TURKEY AND  
OTHER ECONOMIC BENEFITS THAT WOULD FLOW FROM A  
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REOPENING OF THE BORDER.



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[REDACTED]

1.4(B)  
B1

7. (C) LATER DURING THE CIS MEETING, THE PRESIDENTS OF GEORGIA, ARMENIA AND AZERBAIJAN MET WITH PUTIN TO DISCUSS A REGIONAL SECURITY PACT.

[REDACTED]

1.4(B)  
B1

ALIYEV SAID THAT HE WOULD PASS ALL THE DETAILS OF THAT MEETING TO SESTANOVICH AND CAVANAUGH WHEN THEY SEE EACH OTHER AT DAVOS.

8. (C) AMBASSADOR ESCUDERO MUSED THAT IF AN AGREEMENT DOES NOT COME FROM THE DAVOS MEETINGS OF THE TWO PRESIDENTS, A SIGNIFICANT PAUSE IN THE NEGOTIATIONS MIGHT BE NECESSARY.

[REDACTED]

1.4(B)  
B1

9. (C) TURNING TO DAVOS, HUSEINOV SAID THAT THERE IS A KOCHARIAN-ALIYEV MEETING PLANNED ON THE 28TH AT 2:00. HUSEINOV ASKED WHETHER MEETINGS WITH EITHER PRESIDENT CLINTON OR SECRETARY ALBRIGHT HAD BEEN CONFIRMED. AMBASSADOR ESCUDERO REPLIED THAT THE MEETINGS HAD BEEN REQUESTED, BUT THEY ARE STILL UNCERTAIN. HUSEINOV SAID THAT PRESIDENT ALIYEV SUGGESTED IT MIGHT BE HELPFUL IF THE SECRETARY WERE ABLE TO MEET PRIVATELY WITH EACH PRESIDENT BEFORE THE TWO PRESIDENTS RESUMED DIRECT NEGOTIATIONS. HUSEINOV ALSO NOTED THAT PRESIDENT ALIYEV MIGHT STAY ON AN ADDITIONAL DAY, BECAUSE IT IS LIKELY HE WILL HAVE AN APPOINTMENT WITH WORLD BANK PRESIDENT WOLFHENSON ON THE 31ST.

10. (C) COMMENT: THE OUTLOOK FOR PROGRESS IS BLEAK, UNLESS THERE IS A SIGNIFICANT CHANGE IN DAVOS.

[REDACTED]

1.4(D)  
B1

IT MAY BE THAT THE MOSCOW MEETING WAS KOCHARIAN'S LAST PUSH

TO SEE WHETHER ANY PARTY WOULD BUDGE ON THESE THORNY  
ISSUES. WHEN HE SEES THERE WILL BE NO MOVEMENT, HE  
MAY PUT SOMETHING ELSE ON THE TABLE AT DAVOS. IT MAY  
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BE, TOO, THAT ALIYEV HAS SOMETHING UP HIS SLEEVE THAT  
HE HAS NOT DISCUSSED WITH ANYONE, BUT THOSE TWO "MAY-  
BES" SEEM REMOTE POSSIBILITIES, JUST WISHFUL THINKING.  
THE HARD REALITIES ARE THESE: THE POLITICAL EQUATION  
IN ARMENIA WAS SERIOUSLY ALTERED AFTER OCT. 27;  
PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS IN AZERBAIJAN ARE ONLY 9 OR 10  
MONTHS AWAY AND OPPOSITION PARTIES ARE ALREADY  
LAUNCHING SERIOUS PREPARATIONS FOR THEIR CAMPAIGNS.  
THE SITUATION IN THE PEACE TALKS CANNOT REMAIN STATIC  
FOR LONG. TALKS IN DAVOS ARE KEY. END COMMENT  
ESCUDERO

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