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PRESS RELEASE

NOTE TO CORRESPONDENTS

PRESS RELEASE USUN #13-(95)
JANUARY 26, 1995

STATEMENT BY
AMBASSADOR THOMAS GRAHAM, JR.
HEAD OF THE UNITED STATES DELEGATION TO THE
FOURTH PREPARATORY COMMITTEE MEETING
FOR THE 1995 CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES
TO THE TREATY ON THE
NON-PROLIFERATION OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS

THE UNITED STATES COMMITMENT TO INDEFINITE EXTENSION WITHOUT
CONDITIONS OF THE NPT IS UNWAVERING

The position of the United States Government on the extension of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) is clear. As President Clinton declared on Tuesday, the United States is leading the charge for the indefinite extension of the NPT. A decision by the parties that extends the NPT indefinitely and without conditions is the strongest and best outcome for the Review and Extension Conference and the United States commitment to this best outcome will not waver.

We are looking to all of our friends in the international community to join this effort to make the NPT permanent. This is a national security and foreign policy objective of the very highest priority for the United States and we expect many nations to stand with us at the 1995 NPT Conference. With the help of close allies, we have rallied the largest plurality of States Parties to the NPT behind a permanent NPT and we are actively pursuing the widest possible support for indefinite extension.

The commitment of the United States Government to do what is necessary to secure the indefinite extension of the NPT without conditions is firm. The President has given us clear guidance. A durable and dependable NPT is central to the security of the United States and to the world.

There will never be a better time to make this Treaty a permanent part of the international security system. It is our responsibility to remove any doubt about the future of this critical arms control agreement; we owe our children more than a second best solution.