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THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary  
(Geneva, Switzerland)

For Immediate Release

November 18, 1985

INTERVIEW OF  
SECRETARY OF STATE GEORGE P. SHULTZ  
BY  
"CBS MORNING NEWS"

Hotel Intercontinental  
Geneva, Switzerland

10:20 a.m. (L)

Q Mr. Secretary, there has been some feeling that there is a growing sense of optimism, possibly in both the Soviet camp and the United States camp. Is there reason to suspect that there's something going on?

SECRETARY SHULTZ: There's no reason to change whatever feeling you've had on the basis of something that's happened in the last two or three days, because, basically, they're in Moscow on their way here. We've been here. Nothing's changed.

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Q What?

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Q Secretary of Defense Weinberger has urged the President not to further comply with the SALT II agreements. You have strongly urged that the President should comply with the SALT II agreements, saying that's very much --

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Q The Church envoy to the hostage captors -- his name's Terry Waite -- he is in Beirut, of course, and has been talking to the kidnapers. He has been in touch with the administration through diplomatic channels. Can you tell us through what channels and what he said?

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SECRETARY SHULTZ: Well, there are lots of Jews who would like to have their families reunified, and there are lots of non-Jews, too.

Q Yes.

SECRETARY SHULTZ: It's a broad problem.

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Nevertheless, this notion that somehow expansion of trade and treatment of people have a relationship, has gained a lot of currency, however repulsive it may be. Actually, it goes way back into the czars' time when this kind of thing was talked about.

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Q Mr. Secretary, thank you for talking with us.

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