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Cable title: **UKRAINE: GOU SAYS NO EVIDENCE OF KOLCHUGA SALES TO**

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TAGS: PARM PREL ETTC PINR IR UP

SUBJECT: UKRAINE: GOU SAYS NO EVIDENCE OF KOLCHUGA SALES TO IRAN

REF: KIEV 3710

Classified By: Deputy Political Counselor George Kent reasons 1.4(b,d)

1. (C) We followed up September 28 with MFA Arms Control and Military Technical Cooperation Department Director General Volodymyr Belashov regarding the Jane's Defense Weekly report that Ukraine had recently delivered or was imminently preparing to deliver an unknown number of Kolchuga systems to Iran (reftel). Both the Ukrainian Security Service (SBU) and the State Service for Export Controls had responded September 25 to MFA's written inquiries to report that they had uncovered no evidence of such sales. The interagency Presidential Committee on Military Technical Cooperation and Export Controls had met September 27 and discussed the issue. They had decided that the Ukrainian government would not stoke the controversy by denying the claim; on an if-asked basis, however, Ukrainian government officials would deny that any such sale had taken place. Belashov assured us that a review of Ukrainian government records had established that there had been no dealings with Iran requiring an export-control license for the last five years.

2. (C) After Belashov left the meeting, Igor Kyzym from Belashov's staff said he had not heard of any sales during the two years that he had worked in the MFA Arms Control and Military Technical Cooperation Department; he had reviewed his records dating back to 1998 and found no new contracts with Iran. Kyzym said, given current concerns about Iran, Ukraine's export control system had been extended to cover exports of even non-sensitive and non-military or non-dual use products to Iran.

3. (U) Visit Embassy Kiev's classified website:

[www.state.sgov.gov/p/eur/kiev](http://www.state.sgov.gov/p/eur/kiev).

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