

EXISTING CONDITIONS ON THE SITE

EXHIBIT NO. 3

The old Bureau of Standards property on Connecticut Avenue N.W. was for many years under the control of the Department of Commerce and was occupied by several activities of the Bureau and the Harry Diamond Laboratories of the Department of Defense. The Bureau of Standards activities are in the process of moving to its new quarters at Gaithersburg, Maryland. The Harry Diamond Laboratories are located on the western portion of the site north of Van Ness Street N.W. and are currently reevaluating their future needs.

The Department of Commerce has agreed to transfer the area south of Van Ness to the Public Buildings Service so that, in cooperation with the Department of State, the site can be developed for the International Center. The remainder of the site north of Van Ness Street would be retained for continued Federal use.

Except for the frontage on Connecticut Avenue and along a portion of Tilden Street, the site of the International Center is built up and improved. There are almost 30 existing buildings on the site, with related driveways, surface parking and loading areas. None of the buildings exceeds four stories in height. According to the General Services Administration, the buildings are from 15 to 45 years old and range from fair to poor condition. Construction materials consist of brick, frame, frame and stucco, concrete, steel (gunset) and sheet metal. Some of the existing buildings are temporary and others are of special use developed for the specialized needs of the Bureau of Standards.

Only seven of the buildings south of Van Ness are suitable for interim use—as proposed by the Washington Technical Institute. The remaining buildings would be demolished in conjunction with the redevelopment of the site for the International Center.

