

Department of State

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 R

DRAFTED BY EA/K:DAO'DONOHUE:CHG APPROVED BY D - MR INGERSOLL DES - MR KRATZER (INFORMED) EUR - MR LOWENSTEIN (DRAFT) PH - MR VEST EA-NR MILLER S/S - MR. SHANKLE

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------0 061830Z DEC 75 ZFF4 FH SECSTATE WASHDC TO USDEL SECRETARY IMMEDIATE INFO AMEMBASSY SEOUL IMMEDIATE AMEMBASSY OTTAWA IMMEDIATE PARIS AMEMBASSY TOKYO USHISSION IAEA VIENNA

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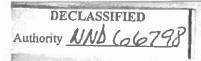
E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: MNUC, PARM, KS, FR, CA

SUBJECT: ROK NUCLEAR REPROCESSING PLANT NEGOTIATION REF: STATE 285640

- 1. AS INDICATED PARA 4 REFTEL, ACTING SECRETARY ON DECEMBER 5 CALLED IN CANADIAN AMBASSADOR WARREN. VEST, KRATZER, LOWENSTEIN ALSO PRESENT.
- 2. ACTING SECRETARY NOTED BOTH USG AND GOC HAVE COMMON CONCERN OVER ROK DESIRE FOR NUCLEAR REPROCESSING PLANT. ACTING SECRETARY INDICATED THAT WE HAVE PRESSED PAGE 02 STATE 288550 TOSEC 230296

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ROKG TO CANCEL NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE FRENCH FOR REPROC-ESSING FACILITY. STRESSING CONFIDENTIALITY OF INFORMA-TION, HE TOLD WARREN WE HAVE INFORMATION THAT ROKG IS ENGAGED IN COVERT PROGRAM TO DEVELOP A NUCLEAR WEAPONS CAPABILITY AND THAT REPROCESSING PLANT IS PART OF THAT EFFORT.

3. ACTING SECRETARY SAID THAT ROKG HAS REFUSED TO CANCEL NEGOTIATIONS FOR REPROCESSING FACILITY AND HAS OFFERED TO ALLOW US RIGHT TO INSPECT THE FACILITY IF WE DESIRE. WE HAVE NOT ACCEPTED ROK OFFER AND, DESPITE ROK ADHERENCE TO NPT, REMAIN OPPOSED TO REPROCESSING PLANT

IN KOREA SINCE ROKG CAN, AT SOME FUTURE TIME, RENOUNCE CONTROLS UNILATERALLY.

- 4. ACTING SECRETARY TOLD AMBASSADOR WARREN THAT SECRETARY HAS DIRECTED US TO INSTRUCT OUR AMBASSADOR IN KOREA TO APPROACH PRIME MINISTER, AND IF THAT FAILS, PRESIDENT PARK. ACTING SECRETARY NOTED THAT WE ARE DEADLY SERIOUS AND THAT OUR AMBASSADOR HAS BEEN INSTRUCTED TO INDICATE TO ROKG THAT WE WILL WITHDRAW OUR EXIM CREDITS FOR KORI II PLANT AS WELL AS REFUSE TO ALLOW REPROCESSING OF US PROVIDED FUEL IN ANY SUCH FACILITY. WE ARE ALSO WARNING KOREA THAT ROKG DECISION TO GO AHEAD WITH PURCHASE OF REPROCESSING PLANT FACILITY WILL AFFECT OUR FUTURE NUCLEAR COOPERATION.
- 5. INGERSOLL EXPRESSED HOPE THAT GOC WILL ALSO EXPRESS ITS SERIOUS CONCERN TO ROKG OVER ROK DESIRE TO POSSESS NUCLEAR REPROCESSING FACILITY. OUR AMBASSADOR IN SEOUL WOULD BE READY TO MEET WITH CANADIAN AMBASSADOR ON FURTHER COORDINATED APPROACHES AND WE HOPE GOC WILL SO INSTRUCT HIM.
- 6. AMBASSADOR WARREN INDICATED THAT HE WOULD BE HAPPY TO CONVEY OUR VIEWS TO OTTAWA. HE SAID THAT CANADIAN NEGOTIATIONS ON CANDU NUCLEAR PLANT ARE IN DELICATE STAGE WITH SIGNATURE SCHEDULED FOR SOMETIME BETWEEN DECEMBER 7TH AND 9TH. HOWEVER, AMBASSADOR WARREN PERSONALLY INDICATED HE FULLY APPRECIATED SENSITIVITY

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OF KOREAN SITUATION AND OUR CONCERN WITH REGARD TO NUCLEAR REPROCESSING FACILITY.

- 7. AMBASSADOR WARREN QUERIED ACTING SECRETARY ON FRENCH ATTITUDE. ACTING SECRETARY INDICATED THAT THE FRENCH WERE READY TO CANCEL CONTRACT IF SO REQUESTED BY KOREANS FURTHER, FRENCH HAD TOLD US THAT THEY WOULD NOT HASTEH NEGOTIATIONS WITH KOREANS ON REPROCESSING PLANT. FOR OUR PART, WE RECOGNIZE THAT FRENCH ARE IN DELICATE POSITION AND APPRECIATE THAT THEY HAVE COOPERATED TO EXTENT DESCRIBED ABOVE.
- 8. IN CONCLUSION, ACTING SECRETARY STRESSED CONFIDENTIAL ITY OF OUR DISCUSSIONS AND NOTED THAT WE HAVE NOTTOLD KOREANS DIRECTLY THAT OUR OPPOSITION BASED ON KNOWLEDGE OF THEIR COVERT NUCLEAR WEAPONS CAPABILITY INTENTIONS.

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