

Message Text

SECRET

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ORIGIN SS-25

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY SEOUL IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY OTTAWA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

USMISSION IAEA VIENNA

S E C R E T STATE 135879

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: TGEN, TECH, KS, MNUC

SUBJECT: KOREAN REPROCESSIVE

REF: A. SEOUL 4086, B. STATE 133123

1. AS EMBASSY WILL NOTE FROM STATE 133123 AND FOLLOWING SEPTTEL WE WISH TO HANDLE OUR REPROCESSING DISCUSSIONS WITH ROKG IN TWO DISTINCT STEPS FIRST NAILING DOWN THE RIGHTS IN OUR AGREEMENTS BEFORE ENGAGING IN A BROAD SUBSTANTIVE DISCUSSION. WE ALSO WISH TO TALK TO FRENCH AND CANADIANS BEFORE EXPOSING ROKG TO SUBSTANCE OF OUR CONCERNS RE

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KOREAN INTENTIONS. ACCORDINGLY IN VIEW OF PROPOSED TIMING

OF OUR APPROACH TO GOF, AND SHORT TIME FRAME AVAILABLE WE WOULD NOT BE ABLE TO HOLD BROAD RANGING DISCUSSIONS WITH MINISTER CH'OE AT THIS TIME. EARLY DISCUSSION WITH CH'OE ALSO COULD DEFEAT OUR PROPOSED PLAN TO HOLD DISCUSSIONS IN TWO PHASES SINCE CH'OE MAY BE RELUCTANT TO ONLY DISCUSS THE AGREEMENT AND MAY PRESS TO COVER OTHER POINTS AS WELL. CONSEQUENTLY WE WOULD PREFER TO DEFER TALKS WITH HIM, HOWEVER, IF CH'OE DESIRES TO COME TO WASHINGTON AND TAKES INITIATIVE IN THIS REGARD, WE WOULD ATTEMPT TO ARRANGE APPROPRIATE CALLS, ALTHOUGH SEVERAL PRINCIPALS MAY NOT BE AVAILABLE TO MEET PERSON OF HIS RANK. WE WOULD NEED TO LIMIT OUR DISCUSSIONS TO INTERPRETATION OF AGREEMENT FOR COOPERATION DESCRIBED REF B.

2. SHOULD ROKG ARGUE WITH EMBASSY THAT WE ARE TRYING TO EXPLOIT THE KORI LICENSE TO RAISE A SUBSTANTIVE POINT, EMBASSY SHOULD EMPHASIZE THAT WE WOULD HAVE BEEN COMPELLED TO CORROBORATE OUR UNDERSTANDING OF TEXT OF AGREEMENT IN ANY EVENT BECAUSE OF THE BROADER IMPLICATIONS KOREA'S REPROCESSING PLANS HOLD FOR OUR COOPERATION. KISSINGER

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