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Dept. of State, RPS/IPS, Margaret P. Grafeld, Dir.
() Classify as () Extend as () Downgrade to
Date _____ Declassify on _____ Reason _____

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ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 DODE-00 CIAE-00 NSC-05 ACDA-07 ERDA-05
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R 220128Z JAN 77
FM AMEMBASSY TAIPEI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2350

C O N F I D E N T I A L TAIPEI 409

FOR BROWN, EA/ROC
FOR BORIGHT, ACDA
FOR SIEVERING, ERDA
FOR BENGELSDORF, OES/NET

STATE DEPT. DECLASSIFICATION REVIEW

Retain Class'n Change to _____
 Declassify in part and excise as shown
EQ 12958, 25X()()() _____
 Declassify After _____
 With concurrence _____ (not)(obtained)
IPS by Wiley Date 4/27/04

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MNUC, TW
SUBJECT: U.S. NUCLEAR TEAM VISIT TO ROC

REF: (A) TAIPEI 332, (B) TAIPEI 408

1. IN JANUARY 19 AND 20 MEETINGS WITH INER DIRECTOR CHIEN CHI-PENG AND CIST PRESIDENT LT. GENERAL TANG CHUN-PO AND THEIR RESPECTIVE STAFFS, LEVIN MADE NUCLEAR PRESENTATION WHICH CLOSELY FOLLOWED THAT MADE EARLIER IN TAIPEI MEETINGS WITH ROC OFFICIALS (REFTEL A). RECITAL OF INCREASINGLY RESTRICTIVE U.S. ATTITUDE TOWARD CERTAIN NUCLEAR RESEARCH ACTIVITIES, INCLUDING SOME BEING CONDUCTED BY ROC, HAD AN OBVIOUS AND PROFOUND IMPACT ON INER LEADERSHIP WHICH SAT IN DEEP SILENCE FOR SEVERAL MINUTES FOLLOWING CONCLUSION OF PRESENTATION. THIS HIATUS WAS FOLLOWED BY SEVERAL QUESTIONS PROBING THE LIMITS OF OUR REVISED NUCLEAR POLICY, INCLUDING ONE AS TO WHETHER U.S. WOULD HELP OR HINDER INER PROGRAM FOR FABRICATION OF LOW-ENRICHED URANIUM FUEL FOR POWER REACTORS. TEAM RESPONDED THAT WHILE DETAILS OF U.S. NUCLEAR POLICY REMAINED TO BE WORKED OUT, IT WAS LIKELY THAT COUNTRIES WHICH OBSERVED U.S. CONFIDENTIAL

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NON-PROLIFERATION STRICTURES COULD PROBABLY EXPECT CONTINUED U.S. ACQUIESCENCE IN DEVELOPMENT OF LOW-ENRICHED FUEL FABRICATION CAPACITY.

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 Release/Excise () Deny () Declassify
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2. AS INDICATION THAT U.S. MESSAGE HIT HOME, DURING TOUR OF INER FACILITIES DEPUTY DIRECTOR LI YU-HAO POINTED TO THE MIXED OXIDE FUEL FABRICATION BUILDING, NOW UNDER CONSTRUCTION, AND REFERRED TO IT AS THE "FORMER" MIXED OXIDE FACILITY.

3. AT CIST, GENERAL TANG RESPONDED TO PRESENTATION BY DECLARING "WHAT IS SAID IS FULLY UNDERSTOOD." HE REFERRED TO ROC'S REPEATED ASSURANCES THAT IT WOULD NOT MAKE NUCLEAR WEAPONS AND NOTED THAT AS A GOVERNMENT ORGANIZATION, CIST MUST FOLLOW THIS POLICY VERY STRICTLY. CIST LEADERSHIP THEN OUTLINED RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THEIR ORGANIZATION AND INER (PROVIDED SEPTEL).

4. FOLLOWING DISCUSSION OF NUCLEAR ISSUE, CIST HEADS OF ELECTRONICS AND ROCKETRY PROGRAMS COMPLAINED RATHER FORCEFULLY ABOUT RESTRICTIVE "STATE DEPARTMENT" MUNITIONS CONTROL PRACTICES. THEY CHARGED THAT U.S. WAS WITHHOLDING OLD TECHNOLOGY AND WAS DISCRIMINATING AGAINST ROC -- EVEN INDIA WAS GETTING THINGS DENIED THE ROC. LEVIN REPLIED THAT MUNITIONS CONTROL MATTERS WERE A FUNCTION OF OVERALL U.S. POLICY. HE REMINDED AUDIENCE THAT WHATEVER FAULTS THEY MIGHT FIND WITH OUR POLICY, IT HAD BROUGHT PEACE AND STABILITY TO TAIWAN FOR MORE THAN TWENTY YEARS. HE ALSO REFERRED TO GROWING U.S. SENTIMENT AGAINST ARMS AND MILITARY TECHNOLOGY TRANSFERS AND SAID IT WAS LIKELY THAT THE NEW ADMINISTRATION WOULD TAKE A HARD LOOK AT OUR GLOBAL PRACTICES IN THIS AREA. LEVIN CONCLUDED BY NOTING THAT U.S. APPRECIATES THE IMPORTANCE OF AN ADEQUATE ROC DEFENSIVE CAPABILITY TO THE PEACE IN THE TAIWAN AREA AND HAS ACTED ACCORDINGLY.

COMMENT. TEAM HAS COMPLETED OVERVIEW TOUR OF INER AND OF CIST LIBRARY, COMPUTER, AND MACHINE SHOP FACILITIES. IT IS CONFIDENTIAL

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BEGINNING TODAY TO MAKE A DETAILED CHECK OF KEY INER FACILITIES. TO DATE ROC HAS BEEN COOPERATIVE IN RESPONDING TO TEAM REQUESTS.

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