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ORIGIN ERDA-07

Dept. of State, RPS/IPS, Margaret P. Grafeld, Dir.
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DRAFTED BY ERDA:GFHELFRICH:EDD
APPROVED BY EA/ROC:BLEVIN
OES:DCOOPER
ACDA:JMENZEL

-----180125Z 122104 /66

R 171447Z JUN 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

S E C R E T STATE 140904

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MNJC, TW

SUBJECT: FOLLOW-UP TO U.S. TECHNICAL TEAM VISIT

REF: TAIPEI 3158

1. AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE U.S. NUCLEAR TEAM VISIT ON 27 MAY, DR. VICTOR CHENG INDICATED THAT IN VIEW OF THE HIA-TUS IN INER ACTIVITIES, IT WOULD BE HELPFUL IN DEALING WITH OTHER ROC GOVERNMENT AGENCIES IF HE COULD RECEIVE SOME INDI-CATION OF THE TEAM'S REACTION TO THE ACTIVITIES DISCUSSED DURING THE VISIT. WHILE THE USG DOES NOT WISH TO BECOME INVOLVED IN FORMAL REVIEW AND APPROVAL PROCEDURES ON ROC NUCLEAR ACTIVITIES, IT DOES SEEM APPROPRIATE, IN VIEW OF THE DRASTIC REORIENTATION REQUIRED OF INER'S ACTIVITIES, TO PROVIDE OUR PRELIMINARY VIEWS ON THE TYPES OF CONTINUING ACTIVITIES PROPOSED BY INER. THEREFORE, EMBASSY IS REQUES-TED TO DELIVER FOLLOWING LETTER FROM HELFRICH TO CHENG:

2. DEAR DR. CHENG:

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I WOULD LIKE TO EXPRESS MY DEEP APPRECIATION TO YOU AND YOUR COLLEAGUES FOR THE COURTEOUS AND COOPERATIVE WAY IN WHICH YOU RECEIVED THE RECENT VISIT OF OUR NUCLEAR TEAM.

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THE DISCUSSIONS WHICH OCCURRED DURING THE VISIT CLARIFIED MANY ISSUES AND SHOULD MATERIALLY CONTRIBUTE TO THE REORIENTATION OF THE NUCLEAR ACTIVITIES AT INER IN A MANNER CONSISTENT WITH THE NON-PROLIFERATION OBJECTIVES OF BOTH OUR COUNTRIES.

IN RESPONSE TO YOUR INQUIRY ABOUT OUR REACTION TO INDIVIDUAL ACTIVITIES OF THE DRAFT RESEARCH PROGRAM DISCUSSED DURING THIS VISIT, I WOULD LIKE TO CONFIRM THAT, BASED UPON THIS PRELIMINARY INFORMATION, IT WOULD APPEAR THAT THE PROGRAMS ARE GENERALLY CONSISTENT WITH THE NOTE OF APRIL 12, 1977, WITH THE FOLLOWING QUALIFICATIONS: THE WORK RELATING TO SEPARATION OF AMERICIUM FROM PLUTONIUM WILL TERMINATE UPON COMPLETION OF PROCESSING OF PLUTONIUM ALREADY DISSOLVED AND ALL PLUTONIUM WILL BE CONVERTED TO OXIDE FOR RETURN TO THE U.S.; THE WORK RELATING TO SEPARATION OF U-233 WILL BE TERMINATED; ACTIVITIES RELATING TO ADVANCED REACTOR DESIGN WILL BE LIMITED TO STUDIES PENDING FURTHER REVIEW; AND NO ACTIVITIES BASED ON TRR OPERATION WILL BE INITIATED PENDING THE ACCEPTABLE RESOLUTION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE THREE AREAS OF CONCERN.

WE LOOK FORWARD TO RECEIPT OF THE REVISED PROGRAM PLAN WHICH INER IS PREPARING BASED ON THE DISCUSSIONS DURING THE TEAM'S VISIT. WE ARE ALSO LOOKING FORWARD TO THE VISIT OF DR. CHIEN AND DR. LIU DURING MID-JUNE AS ANOTHER STEP IN OUR CONTINUING FRUITFUL DIALOGUE. SINCERELY, GERARD F. HELFRICH.

3. DURING INER DIRECTOR CHIEN'S VISIT TO WASHINGTON
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(SEPTTEL), IT WAS MENTIONED THAT ABOVE LETTER WAS BEING FORWARDED TO DR. CHENG. VANCE

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