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Dept of State, RPS/IPS, Margaret P. Grafeld, Dir.
 Release () Excise () Deny () Declassify
Date 9/30/07 Exemption _____

DRAFTED BY PM/NPP:GOPLINGER/DS
APPROVED BY PM/NPP:GOPLINGER
EA/ROC-MR. BROWN
OES/NET-MR. COOPER
EUR/CAN-MR. CLEMENT
INR/STA:MR.LOCKE
T - MR. MCGAFFIGAN
S/S-O:AWOTTO

~~STATE DEPT. DECLASSIFICATION REVIEW~~
 Retain Class'n Change to _____
 Declassify in part and excise as shown
EO 12958, 25X() () () _____
 Declassify After _____
 With concurrence _____ (not)(obtained)
IPS by _____ Date _____

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R 071917Z JUL 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY TAIPEI
INFO AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY VIENNA

S E C R E T STATE 157714

EXDIS / OTTAWA FOR SCIENCE ATTACHE - USIAEA

E.O. 11652: XGDS-3

TAGS: MNUC, TW, CA

SUBJECT: TRR SPENT FUEL DISPOSAL IN CANADA

1. DURING TALKS AT CANADIAN MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS ON MAY 17, DEPARTMENT OFFICERS BRIEFED CANADIAN OFFICIALS IN GENERAL TERMS ON RESULTS OF JANUARY 1977 VISIT OF US NUCLEAR TEAM TO TAIWAN, AND ON SUBSEQUENT US DISCUSSIONS WITH GROC ON NUCLEAR MATTERS. DEPARTMENT OFFICERS ASKED GOC TO CONSIDER ASSISTING US IN RESOLVING QUESTION OF DISPOSITION OF TRR SPENT FUEL BY STORING IT IN CANADA, AND OF PROVIDING US WITH FUEL SHIPPING CASKS FOR TRANSPORTATION FROM TAIWAN TO A CANADIAN PORT. CANADA WOULD BE ASKED TO ASSUME EXPENSES INCURRED FROM ARRIVAL OF SPENT FUEL AT CANADIAN PORT. CANADIAN OFFICIALS

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PORTATION FROM TAIWAN TO A CANADIAN PORT. CANADA WOULD BE ASKED TO ASSUME EXPENSES INCURRED FROM ARRIVAL OF SPENT FUEL AT CANADIAN PORT. CANADIAN OFFICIALS

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EXPRESSED STRONG INTEREST IN PROPOSAL SINCE IT WOULD HELP ENSURE REPATRIATION OF CANADIAN FUEL AND REDUCE CANADIAN EXPOSURE SHOULD IT TECHNOLOGY BE MISUSED. EXTAFF OFFICIALS UNDERTOOK TO MAKE POSITIVE RECOMMENDATION, BUT INDICATED THAT MINISTERIAL, AND POSSIBLY CABINET, DECISION WOULD BE REQUIRED.

2. IN FURTHER MEETING WITH EXTAFF ON JUNE 21, CANADIANS SAID THAT MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS JAMIESON HAD STRONGLY SUPPORTED AFFIRMATIVE CANADIAN RESPONSE, BUT QUESTION WAS STILL PENDING BEFORE SOME OF HIS CABINET COLLEAGUES. GOC OFFICIALS HAD NO REASON TO BELIEVE EXTAFF RECOMMENDATION WOULD BE OPPOSED, BUT EXPECTED OFFICIAL GOC RESPONSE MIGHT BE DELAYED FOR SEVERAL MORE WEEKS.

3. AECL REPRESENTATIVE SAID THAT ONCE POLITICAL DECISION MADE, AECL WOULD MAKE BEST EFFORTS TO RESOLVE TECHNICAL AND LOGISTIC PROBLEMS. HE THOUGHT THERE MIGHT BE SOME DIFFICULTY IN OBTAINING NECESSARY SHIPPING CASKS, BUT UNDERTOOK TO WORK WITH USERDA TO FIND WORKABLE SOLUTION TO THIS QUESTION. VANCE

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