

Case Number: 199902647

BY A TAIWAN FIRM TO PURCHASE CERTAIN EQUIPMENT FOR A NUCLEAR REPROCESSING PLANT TO BE BUILT IN SOUTH KOREA. THE EQUIPMENT INCLUDED A CENTREFUGE AND PULSATING PUMPS OF THE SIZE AND NATURE THAT WOULD HAVE BEEN USED IN THE PROPOSED AND DROPPED FRENCH REPROCESSING PLANT FOR SOUTH KOREA. ALSO, AS THE FRENCH UNDERSTAND, THE TAIWAN FIRM CONSULTED A BELGIAN FIRM (EUROCHEMIQUE) AND A GERMAN FIRM REGARDING THE SAME ITEMS. THE FRENCH GOVERNMENT HAS DENIED ITS FIRM LICENSE TO EXPORT SUCH EQUIPMENT TO SOUTH KOREA DIRECTLY OR THROUGH TAIWAN.

3. THE TAIWAN FIRM ALSO CONTACTED THE FRENCH NUCLEAR FUEL FABRICATING FACILITY CIRCA REGARDING CONSTRUCTION OF A CANDU FUEL FABRICATION PLANT FOR SOUTH KOREA. LICENSE FOR THIS WAS ALSO DENIED BY THE FRENCH GOVERNMENT.

4. THE INFORMATION PROVIDED BY DE NAZELLE FOLLOWS CLOSELY THAT CONTAINED IN REFTTEL (B). THE ADDITIONAL INFORMATION IS THAT THE AGENTS FOR SOUTH KOREA WERE FROM TAIWAN. DURING THIS DISCUSSION NO MENTION WAS MADE OF THE "NRX" REACTOR OR TO CONTACTS WITH A BELGIAN FIRM (BELGONUCLEAIRE). EMBOFF MADE NO REFERENCE TO HAVING RECEIVED SIMILAR INFORMATION VIA REFTTEL (B).

5. THE FRENCH ARRANGEMENT WITH ROK TO BUILD A NUCLEAR LABORATORY CONTINUES ON COURSE AND WITHOUT SIGNIFICANT PROBLEM. A BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THIS PROJECT IS IN REFTTEL (C). IN COMMENTING ON THE STATUS OF THIS PROJECT, MFA OFFICIALS STRESSED THAT THE LABORATORY WOULD ONLY PERMIT ANALYSIS OF PWR FUEL ELEMENTS AS THE PWR NEEDLES WERE SHORTER THAN THOSE FOR THE CANDU REACTOR; ST. GOBAIN HAS BEEN INSTRUCTED TO MAKE THE LABORATORY FACILITIES NO LONGER THAN THAT NECESSARY TO HANDLE THE PWR ELEMENTS AND NOT TO PROVIDE EQUIPMENT WHICH WOULD PERMIT CUTTING THE CANDU NEEDLES.

6. EMBOFF AGAIN QUESTIONED MFA OFFICIALS ON THEIR INTENTION TO MAKE PUBLIC INFORMATION ON THE PROPOSED FRENCH-BUILT LABORATORY FOR SOUTH KOREA. AT THIS TIME, MFA HAS NO INTENTION OF MAKING PUBLIC ANY INFORMATION

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ON THIS PROJECT. EMBOFF ENCOURAGED DE NAZELLE TO BE PREPARED TO MAKE THE COMPLETE STORY AVAILABLE IN THE EVENT PARTIAL FACTS BECOME KNOWN AND THE PUBLIC BEGINS

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TO ASSUME THE WORST CONDITIONS EMPLOYING THOSE FEW
FACTS.
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