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Origin

ACTION: US Mission GENEVA

Info

INFO: Amembassy LONDON
US Mission NATO

LIMDIS

SUBJECT: UK Views on Swedish Amendments

Ref: London's 6477

DEF 18-4

Smart (Brit Emb) raised points reported in reftel with Gleysteen (ACDA) on Feb. 17, also adding that Fonoff thought we ought to inform NAC about our position on Swedish Amendments and tripartite talks on security assurances next week.

Gleysteen said we also recognized need for early NAC discussion of Feb. 8 Swedish amendments. Depending on outcome of tripartite talks on security assurances, tentatively set for Feb. 19, next regular NAC meeting might be appropriate time to bring allies up to date on that subject. There also would be Western Four and other allied ~~EUR~~ consultations in Geneva next week.

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Point was made that we want to be in position to incorporate Feb. 8 Swedish amendments with minor change in NPT text before March 1. Hopefully this would represent final NPT text. Gleysteen said we certainly did not plan do this before allied consultations are held. We anticipate allies will be pleased with changes. Considerable non-aligned support for Jan. 18 text plus Feb. 8 Swedish amendments already expressed (Sweden, Mexico, and inferentially Ethiopia). Given our knowledge of general positions of other non-aligned dels, one might already claim "general support" is developing at ENDC. However, it is likely there will be further expressions of support from UAR, Nigeria, and Burma.

Gleysteen said our preliminary view of UK improvement of Swedish language for ART VI is that while it might be better stylistically than Swedish language, there appeared to be no substantive difference. Since our main objective in accepting Feb. 8 Swedish amendments was to line up non-aligned support for NPT, we would prefer making as few changes in them as possible.

As to Feb. 13 Swedish amendments, our delegation has been instructed to accept non-substantive amendment to para 6 of preamble

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if the Soviets agree, but unlikely Soviets will agree to amendments to ART V. Moreover, here again our objective is to gain support of non-nuclear countries. We doubt even Mrs. Myrdal would agree only partial acceptance of her amendment which suited UK and so far no other non-aligned to our knowledge ~~XXXX~~ support what British have in mind.

Smart said he thought these points were well taken and he would so report to London.

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