SUBJECT: German Inquiry Regarding Safeguards on Export of Parts to ROC Reprocessing Plant

PARTICIPANTS: Dr. E. Abel, Scientific Counselor
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Dr. Abel, Deputy Scientific Attache to the German Embassy, called late on November 20 to inquire regarding the application of Agency safeguards to US-supplied nuclear equipment and fuel on Taiwan. He spoke specifically of the latest orders for U.S. power reactors.

I explained the U.S. posture on safeguards in the ROC, noting the fact that a valid US-ROC-Agency Trilateral was in force. Although we recognized that a potential threat to the Agency ties with the ROC did exist, we expected business in the safeguards field to continue as usual. In fact, a routine inspection by the IAEA had taken place on Taiwan in October 1972.

Dr. Abel then referred to the question of possible supplies of parts and equipment to the existing nuclear power plants stating that he assumed these would be covered by the existing trilaterals. He then mentioned that his government was considering a contract by a German firm for the delivery of parts to an ROC reprocessing plant (not a complete plant), as well as a contract for design and construction of such a plant. It was his government's view that the present safeguards covering the materials handled in the reprocessing plant would be adequate, because these materials would be covered by the existing US-ROC-Agency Trilateral or the Canada-ROC Bilateral.

His government had also reviewed its Zangger Committee commitments and believes that the export of parts would be covered within the spirit of these arrangements.
I said that I would have to consult with my colleagues on this subject before I could give a firm considered reply on this matter, and that I would be back in touch with him.

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