US Bartholomew's Trip To China

Algerian Nuclear Reactor

Background

The attached non-paper has been prepared which lays out the information we are seeking to better understand the nature of Sino-Algerian nuclear cooperation. (S)

Talking Points

-- The United States has consulted closely for many years with supplier countries engaging in nuclear cooperation in the Middle East.

-- These efforts have included sharing information about the nature of any such cooperation, including technical details.

-- We would welcome any such information the PRC could provide about its cooperation with Algeria, in particular the reactor project at Ain Oussera.

-- We believe such discussions would serve our mutual interests in ensuring that nuclear exports to the Middle East do not promote further instability.

-- We have identified our areas of interest in a non-paper which I would like to leave with you.
The attached draft talking points have been prepared for Under Secretary Bartholomew's use in Beijing June 16-18. By COB Tuesday, June 11, provide Steve Aoki, Room 7210, Ext. 7-0062, with any comments, particularly on significant omissions.

(Ex to advance copy)

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