OUTGOING TELEGRAM

Department of State

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81

ACTION: CIRCULAR

IMMEDIATE 674

All U.S. Diplomatic Posts
All POLADS

Joint State/DOD/USIA Message

SUBJECT: Guidance re Chicom Nuclear Atmospheric Test

Presidential statement re Chicom nuclear detonation
and October 16 news story on Secretary's TV interview being
carried on USIA Wireless File. Posts should draw on these
for public position and rationale and where appropriate
make available local authorities.

For general QTE backgrounder UNQTE purposes posts
should use pertinent sections Circular Telegram 554 of
September 29, 1964 (Sent by Cable FE Posts, POLADS, Paris,
London, Moscow, Kabul, Tehran. All other diplomatic posts
by pouch). Positive tone U.S. efforts cited in penultimate
paragraph Presidential statement should be included in all
discussions.

Chinese Communists followed up their announcement of

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the explosion of an atomic device by peace offensive UNQTE by calling for QTE a summit conference of all world nations to discuss the/QTE complete prohibition and thorough destruction of nuclear weapons/UNQTE In your discussion with local officials you may wish stress following points in most positive tone:

1. ChiComs have carried out nuclear test in the face of world opinion expressed both in the 107 signatures on the partial Test Ban Treaty and in the numerous resolutions adopted in UN. Also the Non-Aligned Conference in Cairo called on those who had not done so to adhere to the Partial Test Ban Treaty.

2. Peiping repeated the proposal for a world summit conference at this time to distract world attention from the fact that it was testing despite world opinion.

3. The ChiCom proposal is not new. It is a variant of one made on July 31, 1963. At that time, the purpose was identical: to distract attention from Peiping's unwillingness to participate along with the overwhelming majority of the world's people in efforts to restrict nuclear testing, and ban the type of testing that involves increased danger of genetic damage.

4. The
4. The ChiComs have given world little reason to think these proposals are serious. Even after they made 1963 proposal, they said QTE disarmament can be realized only after imperialism, capitalism, and all systems of exploitation have been eliminated. UNQTE They have called for the destruction of nuclear weapons but have been most careful to hedge their proposals to ensure that, under any conditions, they would preserve their conventional military force as a permanent threat to their Asian neighbors.

5. In Warsaw, we asked the ChiComs whether they were seriously interested in disarmament, and what their views were on some of the practical problems raised, such as inspection. We asked their view of the US/USSR Joint Statement of Agreed Principles of September 20, 1961 -- which called for effective international control. We received no response from the Chinese Communists.

6. There is a considerable time period between first test and development of useable nuclear capability. During that time, ChiComs can be expected to continue conduct tests in face of world criticism and at same time to use atmospheric pollution from these tests as blackmail to pressure other nations to accept their positions.

If
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If asked, you should re-assure inquirers that ChiCom nuclear detonation has long been anticipated and taken into account in USG planning, and that our basic positions concerning treaty arrangements, ChiRep and other issues related to Communist China are not subject to alteration because of the occurrence.

In that connection, any inquiry as to US position re Communist China's possible participation in ENDC disarmament conference at Geneva should be treated along following lines:

Problem existed before initial detonation and, until evidence to contrary received, remains that Communist Chinese leadership has taken strongly hostile attitude toward disarmament questions. This was particularly evident in tendentious interpretation which they gave to partial test ban treaty. Moreover, their opposition to disarmament appears to have doctrinal basis. They have stated disarmament possible only after capitalism destroyed and revolutionary struggle for liberation UNQTE completed.

Given their view of specific disarmament measures and in absence of any indication of change, it seems evident that Chicom participation in Geneva at this state would seriously hamper progress toward agreement on either general and complete disarmament or partial measures.
measures that might in the meantime limit or reduce the arms race.

As we have repeatedly made clear, all militarily significant states (including Communist China) would have to become parties to general disarmament agreement before implementation of such agreement could proceed very far down the road toward major disarmament.

Group 3.

RUSK