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U.S. Interactions with the PRC Concerning  
the PRC's Nuclear Relationship with Pakistan

During the early 1980's, the U.S. became increasingly concerned about China's nuclear relationship with Pakistan. Secretary Shultz raised the question of China's non-proliferation policy in Beijing in February, 1982 and invited the Chinese Government to send a team to the U.S. to discuss non-proliferation policy and nuclear cooperation issues in detail. Five rounds of negotiations on the text of a proposed U.S.-PRC Agreement for Cooperation Concerning the Peaceful Uses of Nuclear Energy were held between July 1983 and April 1984. Throughout these discussions, there was a continuing dialogue on the subject of non-proliferation policy. The U.S. side made clear to the Chinese in every round of negotiations that shared non-proliferation principles were an essential ingredient for bringing into force an agreement for cooperation as well as for the continuation of cooperation thereafter.

In January 1984 while the negotiations were in progress, then Chinese Premier Zhao Ziyang made an important clarification of the PRC's non-proliferation policy at the White House during his State visit to the U.S. Senior Chinese government officials traveling with the Premier confirmed to U.S. officials that the statement meant that China will not assist others in any way to develop or acquire any nuclear explosive device and applied to the future as well as the present.

Based on Premier Zhao's January 1984 non-proliferation policy statement and [redacted]

[redacted] the U.S.-PRC nuclear cooperation agreement was initialed during President Reagan's April 1984 trip to China. Following initialing, concerns arose as to whether the U.S. and the PRC shared the same views on what is meant by "assistance" to a nuclear weapons program. As a consequence, the Administration further delayed processing of the agreement until it could be confirmed that the U.S. and China shared a mutual understanding of precisely what is meant by "assistance" to a non-nuclear weapon state in the development or acquisition of a nuclear explosive capability.

In June 1985, the U.S. and PRC met in Beijing to discuss their respective non-proliferation policies. In these discussions the PRC provided the U.S. with detailed

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explanations of the policies being applied by the PRC with respect to nuclear exports and assistance. The PRC side pointed out that some of these policies had not yet been made public. To assure that the U.S. correctly understood the PRC's non-proliferation policy presentation, the U.S. side drafted a summary of the PRC's oral presentation (as conveyed by the interpreter in English) which the PRC acknowledged as an accurate summary of their statements of PRC policies (the complete text of this document which is titled "U.S.-China Nuclear Discussions, Beijing, June 26-27, 1985, U. S. Summary of Discussions" was provided to the Congress in connection with Congressional consideration of the U.S.-PRC nuclear cooperation agreement).

On the basis of the clarifications provided by the PRC during those discussions in Beijing, the U.S.-PRC agreement for cooperation was signed on July 23, 1985. The agreement was brought into force by the U.S. and PRC on December 30, 1985 following Congressional review and the enactment of P.L.-99-183, the Congressional Joint Resolution of Approval of the Agreement (even though the agreement is in force, no U.S. exports to China under the agreement are permitted until the requirements of P.L. 99-183 are satisfied).

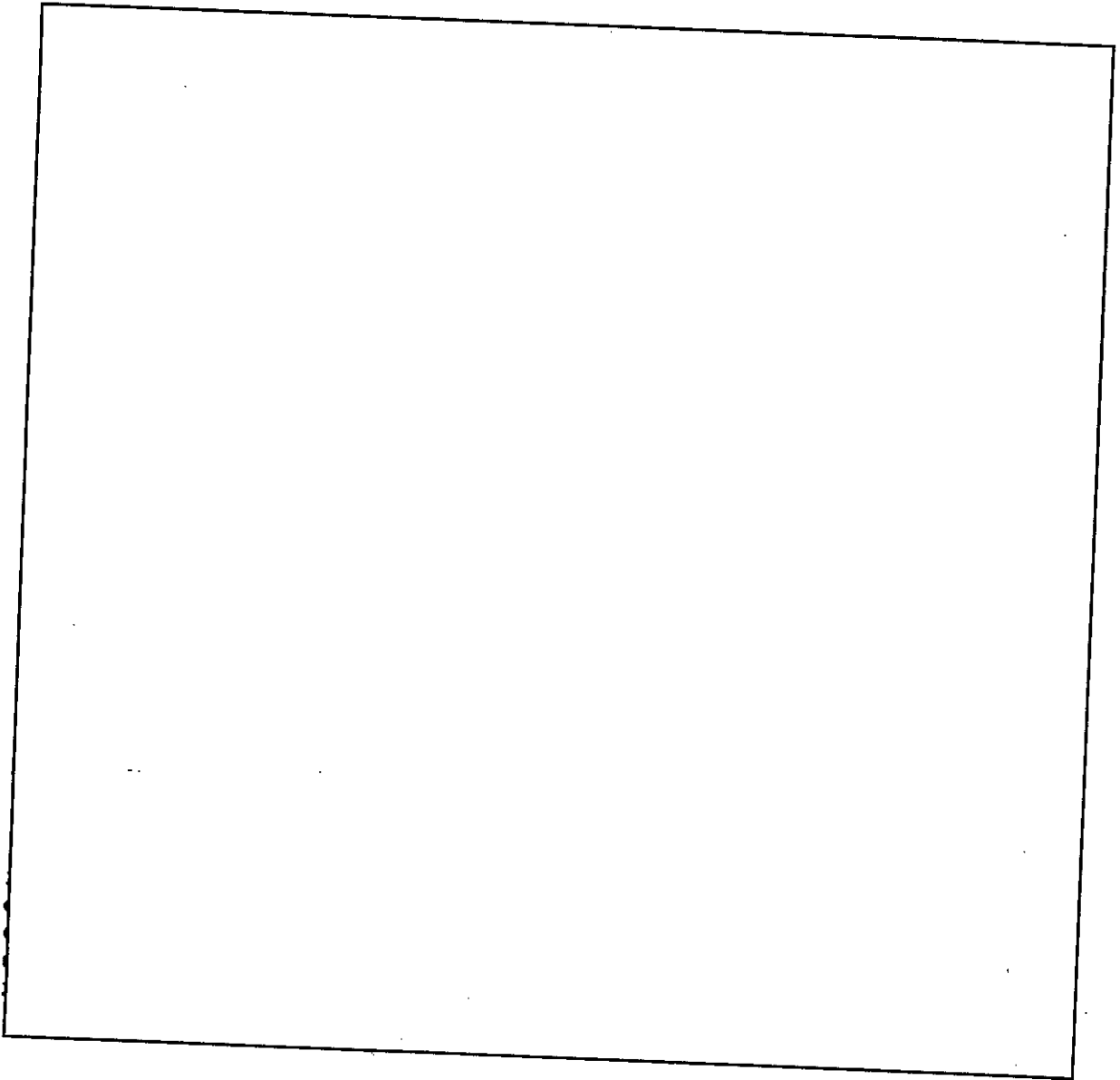
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