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TOP SECRET

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Memorandum of Conversation

NODIS

DATE: November 18, 1976

SUBJECT: ROC Nuclear Intentions

PARTICIPANTS: James C. H. Shen, Chinese Ambassador
Leonard Unger, U.S. Ambassador to Taipei

COPIES TO: EA
EA/ROC
Amembassy Taipei

In the course of a conversation in Ambassador Shen's office, I referred to the very profound concern I had detected in my recent conversations in Washington about the dangers of nuclear proliferation. I said, moreover, that I had been disturbed at some indications received here that the GROC was perhaps not living up completely to the assurances that we had received about nuclear reprocessing. I said that my information was not all that firm but that I was concerned even at the possibility that the GROC was continuing with plans for reprocessing.

Ambassador Shen expressed considerable surprise and interest in knowing more about what I had learned, but I demurred on the grounds that my information was at this point very general. He said that he felt the GROC, having given the assurances that it has, would be stupid to seek now to try to set up reprocessing facilities. I heartily agreed with him. He also mentioned that he has recently talked in Washington with Victor Cheng who had assured him that the GROC had no intention of taking any action which did not conform to the assurances recently given to the USG.

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