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Authority NND 969 050

By JE NARA Date 4-22



*AE 1 Chinat*

*(21)* Department of State

**TELEGRAM**

SECRET 923

*ROC nuclear intentions*

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E.O. 11452: GDS  
TAGS: TW, TECH, PINR, MCAF  
SUBJECT: ROC NUCLEAR INTENTIONS

REF: STATE 051747

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NOFORN

1. DURING CALL ON DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY SNEIDER MARCH 20, VICTOR CHENG, SECRETARY-GENERAL ROC ATOMIC ENERGY COUNCIL, WELCOMED SUGGESTION THAT US STUDY GROUP VISIT TAIWAN TO CONSIDER COURSE OF US/ROC NUCLEAR COOPERATION OVER NEXT FIVE YEARS. DEPARTMENT AND INTERESTED AGENCIES ARE NOW WEIGHING POSSIBILITY OF STUDY MISSION.

2. IN ADDITION TO OBTENSIBLE PURPOSE CITED ABOVE, TEAM WOULD HAVE FURTHER OBJECTIVE OF ACQUIRING INFORMATION ABOUT IDENTITY AND PROGRESS OF ROC COTERIE WHICH ADVOCATES DEVELOPMENT OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS CAPABILITY. TEAM WOULD BE CAREFULLY BRIEFED IN ADVANCE TO PROTECT SOURCES OF US INFORMATION. IT WOULD SEEK TO TALK TO

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SELECTED PERSONS KNOWLEDGEABLE ABOUT ROC ACTIVITIES IN THIS AREA AND TO VISIT ALL SITES OF INTEREST TO US. IF TEAM WERE DENIED ACCESS TO PARTICULAR FACILITIES, WE MIGHT WANT TO PURSUE ISSUE WITH ROC IN DIRECT MANNER.

3. TEAM WOULD BE COMPOSED OF TWO OR THREE NUCLEAR EXPERTS ABLE TO ASK PENETRATING QUESTIONS AND EXPLORE ROC INTENTIONS IN NUCLEAR RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT.

4. EMBASSY COMMENTS WOULD BE APPRECIATED.

ROGERS

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