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DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
WASHINGTON

October 3, 1979

MEMORANDUM FOR: THE PRESIDENT

FROM: Warren Christopher, Acting

1. SALT. FRG Defense Minister Apel called on Sam Nunn this morning to tell him that the FRG strongly supports SALT II ratification and that the Senate's rejection of SALT II would have disastrous consequences in Western Europe, especially with respect to TNF modernization and arms control. Belgian Foreign Minister Simonet will also be meeting with Members of Congress next week, and we expect him to deliver an equally strong message on SALT II ratification.

2. The Brigade. Cy will be appearing on the Today show tomorrow, and the CBS morning news on Friday to follow up on your Monday night speech.

3. Zimbabwe/Rhodesia. Tony Lake has raised with the British the Mozambican request that the US and the UK intervene to stop Salisbury's raids into Mozambique. The British, who also had been approached, pointed out that the Rhodesian military has supported the UK's constitutional proposals and that asking Salisbury to exercise restraint would thus be awkward. They further said they are devoting all their efforts to the conference and implied reluctance to use the few bargaining chips they have for other purposes. However, they did not rule out a private approach, and Tony assured them that we are ready to assist them in whatever action they decide to take.

**SECRET**

RDS-2/3 10/3/99 (Christopher, Warren)

SECRET

- 2 -

4. Libya. Cy's talk today with Libyan Foreign Minister Turayki focused on US-Libyan relations. The discussion was frank. Cy cited Libyan support for terrorist movements and hostility to the effort to achieve a Middle East settlement as the primary causes of US-Libyan differences. Turayki mentioned our blocking of aircraft sales, but only tangentially; the main thrust of his presentation was a Libyan desire for improved bilateral relations. Oil did not come up.

5. Northern Ireland. We asked British Ambassador Henderson not to submit to us a request for 3,000 additional revolvers for the Royal Ulster Constabulary pending completion of our review of policy on sales to the RUC. Henderson said there is increasing irritation in Britain over our reluctance to sell arms while we are reviewing the policy. You will recall that when Kingman Brewster spoke to Tip O'Neill following Mountbatten's murder, he found no change in O'Neill's adamant opposition to any sales.

6. Argentina. The Government yesterday awarded contracts for construction of its Atucha II nuclear reactor and for a heavy water plant to West German and Swiss firms, respectively. Even though a Canadian bid was substantially cheaper, the Argentines apparently preferred not to agree to Canada's insistence on full-scope safeguards on all Argentine nuclear activities. The Swiss tell us they will require safeguards on transferred and derived material, but not full-scope safeguards. Bonn had indicated a willingness to consult with other suppliers on safeguards conditions, but is reluctant to require such safeguards for sale of a reactor only. Without them, Argentina will have the technology to develop an independent nuclear fuel cycle without a commitment to safeguard future nuclear facilities built with indigenous technology. We are consulting further with the FRG and Switzerland to ensure the best possible safeguards conditions.

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