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Authority WMD 969000

By JF NARA Date 6/27/08

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*161473*

# OUTGOING TELEGRAM Department of State

INDICATE:  COLLECT  
 CHARGE TO

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**10 MAY 68 00 13z**

Origin

**ACTION:** USUN NEW YORK  
ALL ARA DIPLOMATIC POSTS

**PRIORITY**  
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Info:

**INFO:** USMission NATO  
USMission GENEVA  
Amembassy BONN  
Amembassy MOSCOW

**STATE**

**DISTO/NATUS**

**SUBJECT:** NPT: Mexican Amendments

**REF:** USUN 50240

1. We are most concerned at possible consequences Mexican initiative in suggesting specific amendments to NPT (teftel being repeated). We share <sup>USUN's</sup> ~~our~~ apprehension that indication of our willingness consider acceptance of any amendments at this stage, even <sup>if</sup> ~~though~~ innocuous, could open floodgates. We can only speculate on what game Mexicans seeking to play. It is clear to us that if prestige is the reason, other countries in other regional groupings GA will not permit themselves to be outdone. Apart from prestige considerations, a number of other countries do feel strongly that

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Clearances:  
 ACDA/IR-Kranich *AK*  
 G/PM-Shaw *GM*  
 ACDA - Mr. Bunn *BN*  
 ARA - Mr. Oliver *OL*  
 EUR - Mr. Springsteen (informed substance) *SS*  
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treaty could be improved from their standpoint if it included amendments which ~~xxx~~ they have previously urged but which are not now in treaty. Such countries, e.g., Italy, Romania, Nigeria, are not likely to feel that only Mexico, some of whose suggestions have already been incorporated at the ENDC, should be allowed to propose amendments. Our strong effort, therefore, must now be directed promptly to make clear to Latin Americans and other delegations that ~~indeed~~ we believe this treaty is best obtainable and that if we begin its amendment, there is no foreseeing ultimate consequence which perhaps could be destruction of treaty or, at very least, prolonged delay in its realization.

2. FOR USUN -- First step we feel would be for you to reinforce what you have already said to Soviets. It is imperative that US and USSR should hold common front against suggested amendments. You ~~should~~ <sup>might</sup> say to Kuznetsov and Malik that if ~~indeed~~ any comments of Soviet Mission officers could have been misconstrued by others as ~~showing~~ Soviet willingness consider amendments, they should now make an active effort disabuse them of this impression. You might point out to Soviets that once amendment process has started we are in no position to control some of our friends as they are in no position to control certain

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of theirs such as Romania and Yugoslavia. Finally, you should note we recognize that in end we may have to accept a few amendments as price for GA endorsement. However, this is not necessarily the case and in any event this is a decision which can only be made and a step which can only be taken in ~~final~~ final stage GA consideration.

3. Second step is to continue your effort, in discussions with other delegations, to emphasize that US considers it most unwise to embark on efforts to amend NPT, drawing on para 1 above and stressing in particular:

(a) During long course of negotiations <sup>of</sup> ~~/~~ NPT every effort was made to take into account all suggestions made. End result of this extraordinary<sup>ily</sup> complex negotiating process is treaty which is annexed to draft resolution.

(b) Mexicans in particular were active in ~~the~~ negotiating process. Mexicans in Geneva proposed several amendments, a number of which ~~were~~ were incorporated in ~~final~~ final draft.

(c) We do not contest proposition that NPT draft can be perfected. But, as in case of other important multilateral treaties, compromise is necessary and efforts at perfection can only jeopardize present achievements. We therefore continue to feel most strongly

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that efforts at amendment unwise.

(d) Preliminary examination of Mexican amendments reveals to us that a host of serious and complex substantive problems would be raised if Mexican proposals were now to be explored. In fact, some of problems raised have already been subject of detailed discussion at ENDC and it is far from certain whether after further re-examination of these problems there would be any significant ~~by new~~ improvements in provisions of NPT. Sole result ~~would~~ probably be ~~lengthy~~ <sup>lengthy</sup> delay in achieving NPT and jeopardizing ~~of~~ its prospects for ~~success~~. Moreover, Mexican amendments do not meet Brazilian objections. ~~6~~ FYI We are preparing Septel setting forth initial analysis of problems Mexican amendments would raise. When this received by addressees its contents may be drawn upon to illustrate unnecessary difficulties which would be created by considering Mexican amendments. However, posts should be careful not to create implication that US is prepared reopen negotiation on these issues. In view urgency we attach to representations on this matter, addressees should not await Septel before <sup>instructions</sup> carrying out/~~instructions outlined for~~ in this message. Septel may, at discretion of posts, be utilized in subsequent conversations.. END FYI.

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4. FOR ARA POSTS: We note that LA group is seeking instructions from their foreign offices regarding suggested Mexican amendments. You should, on urgent basis and at senior level, review situation in GA, and US position and reasoning as described paras 1 and 3 above. You should note that developments in GA have thus far been favorable for NPT: resolution endorsing NPT has been introduced with 26 co-sponsors and most speakers thus far have supported treaty and early GA action. moreover has US, ~~further~~, ~~and~~ been encouraged by most recent discussions with Brazil. You should further point out that not only USG, but also Congress and public opinion generally in US, will find it difficult to understand should Latin American governments take initiative which could lead to frustration of a treaty which US considers of paramount importance to world security, which reinforces Treaty of Tlatelolco and Latin ~~American~~ American security, and particularly after US signature of Protocol II of Treaty of Tlatelolco and willingness of US in draft NPT to undertake broad commitment to assist non-nuclear powers in development of peaceful uses nuclear energy. You should go on to ~~stress~~ stress with your host governments importance United States attaches to this treaty, and to cooperation of each host government in gaining approval of GA for this treaty text so that it may be opened promptly for signature.

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5. FOR MEXICO CITY: In any discussions with ~~Flores~~, you should draw on foregoing as you consider appropriate.

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