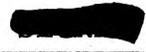


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AE 625

OUTGOING TELEGRAM Department of State

INDICATE: COLLECT
 CHARGE TO



Classification

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FOR OC/T USE ONLY

Origin
Info:

ACTION: AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
INFO AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
STATE:
REF: STATE 9903 -
SUBJ: US Reply to Soviet Protest on SCHOONER

AE 625

1. Acting Country Director for USSR called in Soviet Embassy Counselor Vorontsov Feb. 26 and handed him US reply to Soviet aide-memoire of January 21, 1969, concerning US nuclear explosion of December 8, 1968 (SCHOONER). Vorontsov made no substantive comment but said he would transmit US aide-memoire to his government. Full text follows.

2. BEGIN TEXT...Reference is made to the Soviet aide-memoire of January 21, 1969, concerning the United States nuclear explosion of December 8, 1968, at the Nevada Test Site of the United States Atomic Energy Commission.

As the Soviet Government is aware, this experiment was part of the Atomic Energy Commission's program to develop information on the possible use of nuclear explosions for peaceful excavations and other engineering purposes. The intention to conduct the experiment was publicly announced in advance,

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EUR/CAN - Mr. Scott
J/PM - Mr. Kendrick (subs)



Classification

Authority NND 94000
By EPNARA Date 2/9/07


Classification

and the significant results achieved were announced after the test. Extensive precautions were taken to ensure that it was carried out in a manner consistent with the Limited Test Ban Treaty. The test was not conducted until very precise meteorological conditions were present that were selected to assure dilution, dispersion and decay within the United States of the released small quantities of radioactivity/at the test site.

The United States refers to and reaffirms its earlier statement in an aide-memoire to the Soviet Government dated May 14, 1965, that "the United States Government will continue to take the greatest care in the conduct of nuclear detonations including its program for peaceful uses of nuclear explosions. The United States Government affirms its commitment to the preservation of the Treaty (Limited Test Ban Treaty) with unimpaired authority."...END TEXT

3. FOR OTTAWA: Since we informed Canadian Embassy here in confidence of substance of Soviet aide-memoire and Bohlen-Chernyakov conversation of January 21, we plan likewise to inform them of nature of our reply.

GP-3

END

Rechar...