

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

~~SECRET/NOFORN~~

March 21, 1969

MEMORANDUM FOR: Honorable William P. Rogers
Secretary of State

FROM: Henry A. Kissinger

SUBJECT: Ratification of the Nonproliferation Treaty

The President has asked that you explore the feasibility of our synchronizing the completion of the ratification/deposit procedures of the Nonproliferation Treaty with the Soviet Union. If simultaneous completion is not feasible, the President would like you to explore the possibility of completing the U. S. ratification process after the Soviets have done so.

The rationale for simultaneous action would be:

- a. The symbolic significance of joint U. S. - Soviet ratification for world opinion and, especially, the hold-outs.
- b. Prevention of possible Soviet reservations to the Treaty after the U. S. has completed its ratification action.

~~SECRET/NOFORN~~

Dispatched 3/21/69 Ref #371