

Memorandum of Conversation

Dist. approved by JPW
5/8/69

File Dobrynin

DATE: May 8, 1969
12:10 p.m.

SUBJECT: NPT and SALT

69 MAY 8 PM 5:23

PARTICIPANTS: Soviet Ambassador Anatoly F. Dobrynin

The Secretary
Mr. Joseph J. Sisco, Assistant Secretary for Near Eastern
and South Asian Affairs
Mr. Malcolm Toon, Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary for
European Affairs

COPIES TO: S U J C EUR ACDA WH Amembassy, Moscow

The Secretary asked Ambassador Dobrynin to stop in for a brief chat after his meeting with Mr. Sisco. The Secretary told the Ambassador that before his departure on the Far East trip he wished to discuss with him his current thinking with regard to NPT and SALT.

NPT

The Secretary asked when the Soviets would be prepared to respond to our proposal for joint action in ratification of the Treaty. Dobrynin said that he had been informed by Moscow this morning that Ambassador Beam had been given some information by Deputy Foreign Minister Kuznetsov with regard to Soviet ratification plans. Ambassador Dobrynin's understanding on the basis of the cable he received was that the Soviets now intended to begin the ratification process. Mr. Toon added that according to Ambassador Beam's reporting telegram, Kuznetsov had also said that his Government had not yet decided when the final act of ratification should take place.

The Secretary said that the President was interested in holding joint ceremonies both here and in Moscow which might be covered on world-wide television through a Telstar hookup. It was not the Secretary's intention to press the Soviets to fix a date now for such joint ceremonies, but he did feel if we could reach agreement in principle, leaving the date open, it would be helpful to us in our planning. It was the President's view that joint action by our

EUR: Toon:llp 5/8/69

(Drafting Office and Office)

FORM DS-1254
2-65

~~SECRET~~

DECLASSIFIED
Authority: 5010958
By: [Signature] Date: 01/14/07

~~SECRET - NOFORN~~

2.

two countries would give momentum to the NPT and might encourage reluctant non-nuclear countries to sign. Ambassador Dobrynin said he would report the Secretary's remarks to Moscow.

[Omitted here is discussion on SALT]

~~SECRET - NOFORN~~

DECLASSIFIED
Authority E.O. 12958
By [Signature] NARA Date 01/11/07