

THE SECRETARY OF STATE
WASHINGTON

November 11, 1969

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MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

Subject: Reaffirmation of NATO at the
Time of FRG Signing of Non-
Proliferation Treaty

Recommendation:

That you authorize me to release the enclosed statement in connection with the signing of the nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty by the Federal Republic of Germany.

Approve _____ Disapprove _____

Discussion:

In their consideration of the Non-Proliferation Treaty, the Germans have seen a possible risk to their security from the fact that the Treaty, as drafted, could outlast the North Atlantic Treaty. They fear that this might some day deprive them of the United States nuclear guarantee at a time when they would be unable to develop an effective deterrent against nuclear attack.

During recent discussions between representatives of the United States and the Federal Republic of Germany on the Treaty, the Germans stated that a prerequisite for their adherence to the NPT is the continued existence of NATO or a system providing similar security guarantees.

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Group 3

Downgraded at 12-year intervals,
Not automatically declassified

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They said that a statement by the United States reaffirming its commitment to European security would be of great assistance in meeting this requirement. They said they desired such a statement by November 7 for use in the Bundestag debates on the NPT beginning November 10.

We have prepared the enclosed statement which we believe will meet the needs of the Germans. The statement in no way adds to our existing international commitments.

I believe the release of a statement of this kind will do much to reassure the FRG of our determination to meet our present commitments and to assist the German Government in its parliamentary debate on the Treaty.



William P. Rogers

Enclosure:

Statement in connection with FRG
signing the NPT.

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