

MEMORANDUM

**URGENT**

~~THE WHITE HOUSE~~  
WASHINGTON

NOV 21 1969

HAK has seen.  
#4770  
Action complete

[Redacted]

INFORMATION/ACTION  
November 19, 1969

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. **KISSINGER**

FROM: Helmut Sonnenfeldt **HS**

SUBJECT: Soviet Ratification of NPT - Tab A

The Soviets have indicated that they plan to ratify the NPT on November 24. They apparently do not envisage a signing ceremony. You will recall that the Secretary of State on several occasions told Dobrynin (and also Gromyko at the UN) that we would like to have a joint signing ceremony with wide media coverage.

Since the Soviets appear not to be interested in such a ceremony, I believe it would be inappropriate and undesirable for us to insist on it. If you agree, this probably should be conveyed to the Secretary of State as soon as possible so that he does not pursue the idea of a ceremony when Dobrynin calls on him today to announce Soviet intention to complete ratification.

[Redacted]

DECLASSIFIED  
Authority: 201958  
By: [Signature] Date: 01/14/07

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EXDIS

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (TEXT)

SUBJECT: SOVIET RATIFICATION OF NPT

1. DEPUTY CHIEF MFA AMERICAN SECTION (ZINCHUK) CALLED IN DCM NOVEMBER 19 TO TELL US "FOR INFORMATION" THAT DOBRYNIN HAD BEEN INSTRUCTED (A) TO INFORM SECRETARY SUPREME SOVIET PRESIDUM PLANS TO RATIFY NON-PROLIFERATION TREATY NOVEMBER 24 AND (B) TO PROPOSE THAT US AND USSR MAKE SIMULTANEOUS PRESS RELEASE SAME DAY AT 1100 WASHINGTON TIME AND 1900 MOSCOW TIME. IN RESPONSE QUERY, ZINCHUK SAID UNDER SOVIET PROCEDURE PRESIDUM ACTION WOULD BE FINAL STEP AND NO SIGNING CEREMONY WOULD BE INVOLVED.

2. ZINCHUK REQUESTED EMBASSY INFORM MFA ONCE WE HAVE LEARNED USG REACTION.

3. DEPT. INFORM HELSINKI. GP-3  
BEAM