22 June 1974

MEMORANDUM FOR: Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs

SUBJECT: Prospects for an Indian Nuclear Force

Attached is an interagency intelligence memorandum just completed on this subject. You will no doubt already have seen the 18 June CIA report, which arrived shortly before the memorandum was finished. It confirms a number of our judgments -- in particular the idea that India is considering military applications of its nuclear capability and possible sources of delivery systems but has not yet firmly committed itself to a weapons program. In this regard, I call your particular attention to two of our findings:

(a) US and Soviet positions could have a considerable influence on India's decision with respect to whether or not to produce nuclear weapons.

(b) An Indian request to the USSR to supply a long-range bomber, and Soviet agreement to do so, is a possibility that should be taken into account.

W. E. Colby

Attachments
1-As Stated
2-Copy of

EXECUTIVE REGISTRY FILE I-15