



POLICY

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THE UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20301

29 JUL 1981
SECDEF HAS SEEN

#40

July 28, 1981

MEMORANDUM FOR THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
SUBJECT: Caterpillar Pipelayer Export

DECLASSIFIED IN FULL
Authority: EO 13526
Chief, Records & Declass Div, WHS
Date: FEB 12 2018

Ed Meese asked Allen's office to prepare the decision for permitting the export of the Caterpillar Pipelayers to the Soviet Union. If this decision is irreversible, we will have to confine ourselves to damage limiting. Approval of the export in the wake of the President's efforts at Ottawa to dissuade our Allies might raise questions about US sincerity, hurt the President's credibility, and undermine our continuing effort to halt the Siberian Pipeline project.

If the decision to permit the export is no longer irreversible, we might at least require the Soviets to accept clearly spelled-out restrictions on the use of the pipelayers to exclude (1) the pipeline project from Siberia to Western Europe and (2) any "military" projects. An Interagency Group, if so instructed, could quickly work out the precise formulations of these restrictions and the public announcement of permitting the sale could be accompanied or followed up by a statement to the effect that restrictions will be imposed.

In addition, we should place national security controls on the export of all equipment and technology from the US to the Soviet Union for use on the Western Siberian gas pipeline project.

*1/28 gave cc to Ed Meese -
bill says we put
then conditions out*

Fred
Fred C. Ikle

Office of the Secretary of Defense
Chief, RDD, ESD, WHS
Date: 12 Feb 2018 Authority: EO 13526
Declassify: X Deny in Full: _____
Declassify in Part: _____
Reason: _____
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~~Declassify July 28, 1987~~

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ENTIRE TEXT

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