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INMEDIATE ZYUW RUFHFRA5008 2931708 0 191701Z OCT 88 FM AMEMBASSY PARIS SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1994 SECDEF WASHDC IMMEDIATE TO USDOC WASHDC IMMEDIATE AMEMBASSY BEIJING IMMEDIATE 3507 INFO COCOM CAPITALS COLLECTIVE

SECRET PARIS 35006

STATE FOR DEPUTY SECRETARY WHITEHEAD AND UNDER SECRETARY DERWINSKI DEFENSE FOR DEPUTY SECRETARY TAFT COMMERCE FOR SECRETARY VERITY BEIJING FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY MCALLISTER

STATE PASS NSC FOR TY COB ALSO PASS TO USTR FOR AME. SMITH

E.O. 12350

E.O. 12350. DECL.OADR TAGS: ETTC, KSTC, KSCA, COCON, ETRD, FR, CH SUBJECT: FRENCH CONCERN WITH U.S. APPROACH ON CHINESE SPACE LAUNCHERS

REF: PARIS 31298

1. -SECRET - ENTIRE TEXT.

DURING THE OCTOBER 17 EXPORT CONTROL BILATERALS, THE ECONOMIC DIRECTOR AT THE FRENCH FOREIGN MINISTRY. JEAN-BERNARD OUVRIEU, SAID THAT THE FRENCH GOVERNMENT WAS NOT PLEASED THAT THE USG HAD MADE A "UNILATERAL" ANNOUNCEMENT REGARDING TALKS WITH THE PRC ON SPACE LAUNCHERS BEFORE BRINGING THE MATTER TO COCOM FOR DISCUSSION. OUVRIEU SAID THAT THE GOF WANTS ANY PROPOSED LAUNCH OF A WESTERN SATELLITE BY THE CHINESE TO BE CONSIDERED BY COCOM, ON A CASE-BY-CASE BASIS. AND JUDGED ON ITS OWN MERITS.

3. AMBASSADOR WENDT EXPLAINED THAT IT IS DIFFICULT TO BRING AN ISSUE TO COCOM UNLESS THERE IS SOMETHING CONCRETE TO DISCUSS. IN ANY EVENT, THE USG HAD HAD TO ACT ON HUGHES' APPLICATION TO EXPORT A COMMUNICATIONS SATELLITE. HE SAID THAT THE USG HAS NEVER CONSIDERED ISSUING A LICENSE WITHOUT COCOM APPROVAL. GIVEN THIS, HE SAID THAT THE U.S. APPROACH ON CHINESE SPACE LAUNCHERS SHOULD NOT BE VIEWED AS UNILATERAL.

4. AS REGARDS THE TRADE ASPECTS, OUVRIEU SAID THAT THEY MUST BE CONSIDERED INDEPENDENTLY OF COCOM WHICH SHOULD FOCUS EXCLUSIVELY ON SECURITY ASPECTS. PATRICK LEFAS, A SENIOR TRADE WINISTRY OFFICIAL, ADDED THAT, IN ADDITION TO THE TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER ISSUES CONSIDERED BY COCOM, THE GOF IS SERIOUSLY CONCERNED BY THE TRADE POLICY AND INDUSTRIAL ASPECTS OF USING CHINESE LAUNCHERS FOR WESTERN SATELLITES THE GOF'S CONCERN, HE SAID, STEMS FROM THE FACT THAT ARIANE IS IN DIRECT COMPETITION WITH THE CHINESE LAUNCHERS. LEFAS SAID THAT THE FRENCH GOVERNMENT SUPPORTS THE RECENT DEMARCHE MADE BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE EUROPEAN SPACE AGENCY(ESA) TO PRESIDENT REAGAN AND AMBASSADOR YEUTTER ON THIS ISSUE, AND BELIEVES THE USG SHOULD HAVE CONSULTED WITH ESA-MEMBER COUNTRIES BEFORE APPROACHING THE CHINESE.

EMBASSY COMMENT: THE ONLY APPROACH WE ARE AWARE OF BETWEEN ESA AND THE U.S. ON THIS ISSUE IS A LETTER FROM ESA'S DIRECTOR OF ADMINISTRATION GEORGE VAN REETH TO BRUCE WILSON OF USTR (REFTEL). (LEFAS MAD PREVIOUSLY EMPHASIZED TO EMBASSY OFFICIAL HIS HOPE THAT THERE WOULD BE A PROMPT REPLY.) IF OTHER APPROACHES HAVE BEEN MADE, IT WOULD BE USEFUL TO GET A READOUT FROM WASHINGTON. END COMMENT

ACTION SECDEF(8)

(M,C) QUAL CONTROL(1) SECDEF-N(1) USDP(1) USDP:ISA(1) USDP:PDISA(1) USDP:PDISP(1) USDP:EAP(3) USDP:DASDEUR(2) USDP:DSAA(4) USDP:NA(1) USDP:FNRA(1) USDP:LRP(1) USDP:LIC(1) USDP:EUR POL(1) USDP:REG POL(1) USDP:NATOPOL(1) NMIC(1) DIO(1) PB-28(1) DB-28(2) DV-86(1) DIO(2) INFO DB-2B(1) DB-3B(2) DX-6C(1) DIA(1)

> MCN=88293/06161 TOR=88293/1708Z

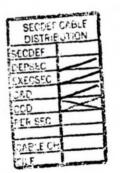
Chief, Records and Declass Div, WHS Date: 310CT2024

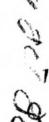
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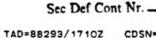
Authority: EO 13526

Office of the Secretary of Defense Chief, RDD, ESD, WHS Date: 310CT2024 Authority: EO 13526 + 5 U.S.C. 552 Declassify: X Declassify in Part: Deny in Full: Reason:

, MDR: 22-M-0964







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