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THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

May 10, 1976

ADMINISTRATIVELY CONFIDENTIAL

MEMORANDUM FOR: BRENT SCOWCROFT
FROM: JIM CONNOR JEC
SUBJECT: Incoming Presidential Mail
for the Week of May 3-7, 1976

The President reviewed Roland Elliott's weekly report of Incoming Presidential Mail. The following notation was directed to you in connection with the attached letters received.

"Please ask General Scowcroft to look into this and give me an explanation."

Please follow-up with appropriate action.

cc: Dick Cheney
Roland Elliott

Attachments

Letter from William J. Mitchell, M. D.
Letter from Mrs. William Hubbard

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

Please ask General
Sewer to look into this
+ give me an explanation

MITCHELL ORTHOPEDIC ASSOCIATES

DELAWARE AVENUE & EASY STREET

MAILING ADDRESS, 63 STOCKTON AVENUE

UNIONTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA 15401

WILLIAM J. MITCHELL, M.D., F.A.C.S.

May 4, 1976


President Gerald Ford
% The White House
Washington, D.C.

Dear President Ford:

I was rather dismayed to see in the newspaper the other day a report that we are planning to give our atomic secrets to Russia. No amount of detente will ever compensate us for giving away those secrets which, while they are supposedly only domestic, can clearly be made for military purposes according to Admiral Rickover. I do not feel that I can support any party in Congress or the White House who is in favor of such an act.

I am also rather puzzled why Henry Kissinger is now advocating that we should unilaterally kick the whites out of Rhodesia and give the blacks control of that land. It seems to me that Congress expressed itself pretty clearly a few months ago when it said no more military aide to one black faction in an African nation in which Russia was supporting the other warring black faction. I think Congress has learned sufficiently from Vietnam and other areas that we should not be involved, and why now is Kissinger trying to reinvolve us in this situation? I hope you will indicate a lack of support for his program; the sooner he begins responding to the Congress and the will of the nation, the better off we will all be.

Sincerely,



William J. Mitchell, M.D.

WJM/cw

State
Encl.

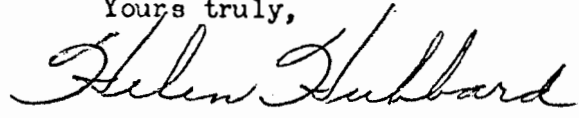
4481 Loos Circle West
Columbus, Ohio 43214
April 28, 1976

President Gerald R. Ford
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir:

This letter is being written to urge you to give a negative response to the proposal that nuclear technology be given to the USSR. The three voters in this household feel very strongly that no support should be given or sold to the Russian government. Historically, any help given to them has been used against the giver.

Yours truly,



Mrs. William Hubbard

hh
Attachment

U.S. ponders giving nuclear sub savvy to USSR

By R. H. BOYCE

Scripps-Howard Staff Writer

WASHINGTON — The Ford Administration is considering whether to provide Russia with nuclear know-how used in U.S. nuclear-powered warships, Scripps-Howard News Service learned Monday.

On March 17, Admiral H. G. Rickover told a closed session of the House subcommittee on public works considering the 1977 Power Development and Energy Research Appropriation bill.

"THE GOVERNMENT, led by the State Department, is presently studying whether or not to allow export of

U.S. light water (nuclear) reactor technology to the Soviet Union.

"There are those who advocated giving away our nuclear technology as a commercial venture to the Russians. I think wholesale export would be a grave mistake because most of the naval information we have developed could greatly benefit their (Russia's) military programs. Given the size of their nuclear submarine program we can hardly afford to give them greater technical advantage."

REP. JAMIE L. Whitten (D-Miss.) told Rickover:

"I think it is about the worst possible thing we can do (to provide)...technology which may be of use to their military program. The most

shortsighted thing it is possible for any nation to do. It is very, very frightening."

Rep. Joe L. Evins (D-Tenn.) said "I have written letters to the State Department (about this) and they have not been answered."

A SIX-MONTH STUDY of the question of exporting nuclear technology to Russia and its East European satellites was completed in February. The study

Today's Chuckle

Sighed one fellow at the end of a harried day: "I heard a bit of good news today — we shall pass this way but once."

was done by officials of the State and Defense departments, the Arms Control and Disarmament Agency, and the Energy Research and Development Agency.

"It was a study of the general question of export policy to Communist-bloc countries," says a State Department official. "It's now up to (Secretary of State Henry A.) Kissinger to make a decision, though he'll probably take it to the National Security Council, which means a presidential decision."

ALTHOUGH Rickover spoke of "light water reactors" the State Department official said the study was

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U.S. ponders giving USSR nuclear sub savvy

• From Page One

"larger in scope...although it includes light water reactors; it looks into the entire policy of nuclear export."

"Light water" means ordinary water is used for cooling in the nuclear power generating process.

THE OFFICIAL said the study was launched because Russia, interested in buying such reactors, had approached American companies. The reactors were developed by the U.S. Navy for use in powering warships. The technology later was made available for civilian use in this country in generating electric power.

"A decision hasn't yet been reached on whether to permit this," said the official. He would not say if the study recommends it or not, but the fact that no decision has been reached would suggest the study does propose that export to Communists be approved.

"WE ARE AWARE of Rickover's view that this is bad," said the official. But there are others who argue that the kinds (of reactors) to be sold would involve only older technology; our most modern technology would not go

You can't sell (the Communists) anything in this (nuclear) area without some risk they'd get some good from it. Rickover thinks anything is too much."

Russia has a larger fleet of nuclear-powered warships than the United States. Why does it want American nuclear technology?

"THEY DO HAVE nuclear reactors but they recognize that our technology is superior. They have had problems with high-quality welding, for exam-

Crossing repairs set

Hayden Run-rd will be closed at the Penn Central railroad crossing just east of Avery-rd Tuesday through Friday so that the crossing can be repaired. Franklin County Engineer Clétus McPherson has announced.

ple, and their engineering skills simply are not as good as ours.

"When these (Communist) bloc countries express interest — well, we had to have policy guidelines. Hence the study. There's also been some interest in selling nuclear technology to Communists by other large nuclear suppliers — France and West Germany. They can't do it without U.S. approval under the COCOM agreement."

COCOM IS SHORT for Coordinating Committee — a group of Western allies created in 1949 which determines by unanimous agreement what strategic goods may be sold to Communist countries.

The United States sold a small nuclear power generating reactor for research purposes to Yugoslavia several years ago.

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

May 7, 1976

RR 7
note interest

MEMORANDUM TO: THE PRESIDENT
THROUGH: STAFF SECRETARY
FROM: ROLAND L. ELLIOTT *RE*
SUBJECT: Incoming Presidential Mail for
the Week of May 3-7, 1976

Incoming Presidential mail for the week totalled approximately 17,400 pieces. Foreign policy issues and the Federal Election Commission Bill were of dominant interest.

The FEC bill was supported by 1,340 writers (many apparently encouraged by a Common Cause campaign). They urged you to sign the bill to ensure a "clean" election and "fair" competition among all candidates. In contrast, 480 persons urged you to veto the bill because they believe it would give organized labor too great an advantage in political fundraising.

Secretary Kissinger's statements of U.S.-African-Rhodesian policy drew 767 critical letters and telegrams this week. Writers speak of the "stability and progress" of Rhodesia and South Africa vis-a-vis the rest of Africa, of U.S. "meddling" in the internal affairs of a sovereign state, and of the "hypocrisy" of the Rhodesian policy in that the U.S. has reflected no similar concern for "self-determination" within Soviet bloc countries. Some also criticize Administration support for repeal of the Byrd Amendment. Ten persons wrote in approval of Mr. Kissinger's statements. Cumulative figures on the issue are:

Pro: 13;
Con: 985.

The Panama Canal Treaty negotiations also continued to draw public attention. 522 persons urged against any concession of U.S. authority over the Canal. These people seemed to be motivated largely by national pride and a belief that the Canal is essential to U.S. security. Seven persons expressed support for renegotiation of the Treaty. Cumulative figures on renegotiation are:

Pro: 15;
Con: 1,538.

Also this week there were 248 messages of support and appreciation and 164 offering political comment. As in past weeks, comment mail was concerned with the issues of "big government" and Federal regulation (busing, crime and the judiciary, EPA, OSHA, etc.), Soviet-American relations, and the U.S. position in the world.

There was little direct comment on recent primaries (40). Those who did write, however, mostly encouraged you "not to worry" about primary losses and not to move "too far right."

cc: Bob Hartmann; Ron Nessen; Bob Orben