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Brazil-FRG Nuclear Accord -- Symington Objections

Following their meeting at the Department of State on June 16 the Foreign Minister of the FRG, Hans-Dietrich Genscher, and Secretary Kissinger answered some press questions, among which were these on the Brazilian-FRG nuclear accord:

Q. Did you feel the need (in your meeting) to mention the planned delivery of nuclear equipment to Brazil?

Kissinger: We talked this problem over. We have had in the course of the last few months many opportunities to bring our points of view to the attention of the federal government; and the Foreign Minister once again stated to me the position of the federal government. We had an exchange of opinions.

Q. (Addressing Kissinger) Are you satisfied with what Mr. Genscher said (on this subject) and are you (Addressing Genscher) satisfied that the reservations entertained by the Americans -- which moreover have grown very loud and clear in recent days -- have been cleared up; has the problem been laid to rest or will we be concerned with it some more?

Genscher: The problem has most definitely not been laid to rest. The problem was in the discussion -- but I think our exchange of opinion has served to broaden our knowledge of each other's position and in this both sides can reach the necessary clear view of the situation.

Kissinger: The problem is: How can we prevent the future proliferation of nuclear weapons? And on this goal we are in full agreement.

Genscher: Nobody can doubt the commitment of the federal government to a non-proliferation policy and this will also be reflected in our agreement with Brazil.

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IF ASKED: about Symington's charges that we did not voice our objections to the deal strongly enough, refer to the Secretary's and Genscher's remarks.