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Kissinger

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20506

SECRET/GDS

October 10, 1974

National Security Decision Memorandum 275

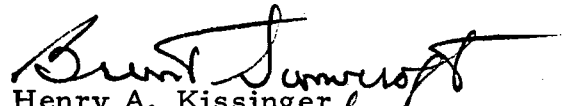
TO: The Secretary of Defense  
The Deputy Secretary of State  
The Administrator, Federal Energy Administration  
The Director of Central Intelligence  
The Chairman, Atomic Energy Commission

SUBJECT: COCOM Position on the Return of Depleted  
Uranium (Tails) from the USSR

The President has reviewed the report of the Under Secretaries Committee on Tails Disposition and has noted agency views. The President has decided that we should seek to maintain our position in COCOM requiring the return of tails. If significant opposition develops in COCOM, however, we should reexamine our position with a view to finding an acceptable compromise. The President authorizes a compromise requiring the return only of tails above 0.2 percent uranium-235 content. If a satisfactory compromise cannot be achieved, the options for a revised U.S. position should be submitted to the President for his decision.

In view of the importance of securing the cooperation of other nuclear suppliers in implementing our non-proliferation strategy, we should maintain a cooperative atmosphere vis-a-vis nuclear matters within COCOM.

The Department of State should inform the Joint Committee on Atomic Energy and other interested Congressional committees in advance of the approach being taken in COCOM and any changes that may prove necessary.

  
Henry A. Kissinger *for*

cc: Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff  
Executive Director, Council on International  
Economic Policy

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