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FOR AMBASSADOR EYES ONLY

NO DISTRIBUTION OUTSIDE DEPARTMENT

- 1. You will note that paragraph 5 of your instructions on draft communique directs you to inform Sato and Miki that we reserve the right to discuss the question of nuclear weapons facilities in our consultations on the Bonins.
- 2. For your own background, this instruction arises from position of the JCS that issue must be raised in some form, against contingency of need for storage of ASW weapons in the event of prospective enemy submarine threat and unavailability of nuclear storage in Ryukyus and Marianas.
  To meet this JCS position, we have agreed that manner of handling will be discussed within USG as consultations get under way. Just how we put the matter has not repeat not been worked out, but one possibility to which we have given thought

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would be some form of GOJ assurance that it would give sympathetic consideration of any such request if need arose. Theoretical alternative might be request for waiver of prior consultation provisions of Treaty, but we have made clear that we believe GOJ would react negatively on this. We have given no assurance as to what outcome can be achieved.

- 3. In view of this situation here, we believe top GOJ must be on notice. You may use your judgment whether to urge Sato and Miki to keep this entirely to themselves, having in mind dangers of leak if any wider circle brought in, uncertainty as to just how we may in fact discuss the matter, and clear possibility that any GOJ assurance might in the end be itself a very closely held and high-level matter.
- 4. Unless you feel otherwise, we could await your arrival to discuss consultation procedures and any feasible plan. Main present need is to work out communique and avoid any implication that nuclear facilities totally excluded on our side.

MODES REVIEW

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CONTINUATION SHEET