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Department of State
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ACTION: Amembassy, MOSCOW

INFO: AEC

LIMDIS (CORRECTED COPY OF STATE 16553, Jan. 30, 1971. END
OF PARAGRAPH ONE)

SUBJ: Soviet Statement on Underground Nuclear Explosions

REF: State 002322

1. Soviet DCM Vorontsov called on Deputy Assistant Secretary Richard Davies January 29 at Vorontsov's request. Referring to Dobrynin-Hillenbrand conversation of January 6 (reftel), Vorontsov made following oral statement: QUOTE In addition to the statement made by the Embassy on January 6, 1971, the Soviet side brings it to the attention of the United States Government that Soviet competent authorities have collected outside the United States fresh radioactive products from the American nuclear explosion which was carried out on December 18, 1970. In this connection the attention of the United States Government is called to the necessity of taking due precautionary measures in order to observe the treaty banning nuclear weapons tests in the atmosphere, in outer space and under water,

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DRAFTING DATE

2/1/71

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APPROVED BY:

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which prohibits a member-state from carrying out a nuclear explosion "if such explosion causes radioactive debris to be present outside the territorial limits of the state." As for the statement by the Department of State concerning nuclear explosions carried out in the USSR on ~~XXXX~~ October 14 and December 17, 1970, in carrying out those explosions effective precautionary measures were taken as a result of which no release of radioactive debris took place. UNQUOTE.

2. Davies replied that U.S. authorities would examine Soviet statement. With regard to U.S. tests, Davies said full report was not yet completed but USG would respond in due time.

3. FYI. In accordance with past practice we do not ~~xxxx~~ ~~xxxx~~ repeat not plan publicize nature of this exchange.

ROGERS

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