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February 5, 1969

National Security Decision Memorandum 6

TO: The Vice President
 The Secretary of State
 The Secretary of Defense
 The Director, Arms Control and Disarmament Agency
 The Chairman, Atomic Energy Commission

SUBJECT: Presidential Decision to Ratify Non-Proliferation Treaty

The President has decided to go forward with U. S. ratification of the Non-Proliferation Treaty. Until this decision is reported in a Presidential message to Congress, the Government's public position should be that the Non-Proliferation Treaty is still under consideration by the President and the National Security Council.

The President directed that, associated with the decision to proceed with U. S. ratification of the Non-Proliferation Treaty, there should be no efforts by the U. S. Government to pressure other nations, in particular the Federal Republic of Germany, to follow suit. The Government in its public posture should reflect a tone of optimism that other countries will sign or ratify, while clearly dissociating itself from any plan to bring pressure on these countries to sign or ratify.

The President directed that the Government in its public posture should make clear that the Non-Proliferation Treaty does not create any new U. S. commitments abroad and that it does not broaden or modify any existing U. S. commitments abroad. The President desires that the nature of U. S. commitments abroad be decided when the need arises, based on the circumstances at the time.

cc: The Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff
 The Director of Central Intelligence

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