

DECLASSIFIED

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NSC/Soubers to Smith 09/06/2002

By lt Date 01/31/07

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20506

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

May 14, 1969

National Security Study Memorandum 56

TO: The Secretary of State  
The Secretary of Defense  
The Director of Central Intelligence  
The Director, Office of Science and Technology  
The Chairman, Atomic Energy Commission  
The Chairman, Council of Economic Advisers  
The Director, Arms Control and Disarmament Agency

SUBJECT: Uranium Enrichment Facilities

In connection with the Government's wider study of the feasibility of alternative ownership arrangements for U.S. enriched uranium production facilities, the President has directed that the Political Military Group undertake a study to investigate the national security implications of possible forms of public and private ownership in the following terms:

-- their effect on the continued availability of highly enriched uranium for U.S. national security purposes, and the maintenance of adequate weapons materials inventories,

-- their effect on the availability of enriched uranium to consuming countries who buy from the U.S., and


-- their effect on the dissemination of weapons materials producing technology and special nuclear materials to potential users, and thereby on the risks of nuclear weapons proliferation.

If appropriate, the Political Military Group should suggest guidelines or criteria which minimize the national security risks of each form of ownership.

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Representatives of the Atomic Energy Commission, Arms Control and Disarmament Agency and Office of Science and Technology will participate in the study.

The group's report should be submitted to the Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs by May 19, 1969.

  
Henry A. Kissinger

cc: Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff