National Security Decision Memorandum 250

TO: The Secretary of Defense  
The Deputy Secretary of State  
The Director, Central Intelligence Agency  
The Chairman, Atomic Energy Commission  
The Director, Arms Control and Disarmament Agency  
The Director, Federal Energy Office  
The Assistant to the President for International Economic Policy

SUBJECT: U.S. Policy Toward Purchase of Soviet Uranium Enrichment Services

The President has reviewed the study on U.S. Policy Toward Purchase of Uranium Enrichment Services from the Soviet Union, as forwarded by the Chairman of the NSC Under Secretaries Committee on December 4, 1973.

The President has approved the recommendations that the U.S. should take a neutral posture toward Soviet sale of enrichment services and should consult with certain allies to ascertain the necessity and feasibility of establishing some limit to these purchases to avoid significant dependence on Soviet supply. The timing and nature of the consultations should be carefully selected so as not to conflict with other critical energy discussions. The consultations may be incorporated, as appropriate, in the framework of the international Working Group on Uranium Enrichment of the Energy Coordinating Group.

The President has also approved the recommendations that:

- The domestic company which has so requested to be allowed to purchase Soviet enrichment services to fuel U.S.-built nuclear plants abroad, and that future similar requests should be reviewed on a case-by-case basis.
The question of domestic purchase of foreign enrichment services should be held in abeyance pending further analysis and developments.

In addition, the President has directed that U.S. policy options, including our position in COCOM, on the disposition of tails from Soviet enrichment should be examined and a report forwarded for his consideration by May 1, 1974.

Henry A. Kissinger

cc: Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff