March 13, 1972

National Security Study Memorandum 150

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

SUBJECT: U.S. Policy on Transfer of Highly Enriched Uranium

The President has directed that a review be conducted of United States policy concerning the transfer to other countries of highly enriched uranium for the fueling of power reactors.

The review should include examination of current and prospective demands for highly enriched uranium and of the major issues, including national security considerations, involved in the transfer of such material. The review should set forth the policy alternatives for the United States, with their advantages and disadvantages. The study should review the applicability and adequacy of current guidelines for the transfer of highly enriched uranium and what new guidelines might be considered, including those which would prohibit transfer or be more restrictive than current guidelines either generally or as to specific countries.

This review will not affect the transfer requested by EURATOM, on behalf of a German firm, for highly enriched uranium for the high temperature reactor prototype power plant.

The study should be accomplished by an Ad Hoc Group comprising representatives of the addressees and the NSC Staff, and chaired by the representative of the Secretary of State.

The study should be submitted by May 15, 1972, for consideration by the Senior Review Group. Both the fact and nature of this review should be closely held.

Henry A. Kissinger