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Department of State

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By NARA Pate 6 18 06

TELEGRAM

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LIMDIS

IN MY PRIVATE LUNCH WITH VICE FOREIGN MINISTER USHIBA YESTERDAY HE TOLD ME THAT SOVIETS ARE BRINGING HEAVY PRESSURE ON GOU TO SIGN NPT. GROMYKO HAD PRESSED MATTER IN HIS MEETING WITH MIKI IN NEW YORK, SAYING IT WOULD BE A MATTER OF SERIOUS SECURITY CONCERN TO THE SOVIETS IF JAPAN DEVELOPED NUCLEAR WEAPONS AND SOVIET AMBASSYADOR TOKYO, IN ADDITION TO CALLING ON FONOFF, HAD ALSO CALLED ON PRIME MINISTER WITH SAME MESS. AGE. SOVIETS HAVE OF COURSE BEEN TOLD JAPAN HAS NO INTENTION OF DEVELOPING NUCLEAR WEAPONS, AND IS STILL CONSIDERING TIM. ING OF SIGNING NPT.

2. USHIBA TOLD ME THAT THERE WAS NO CHANCE THAT JAPAN COULD SIGN PRIOR TO US SENATE APPROVAL OF RATIFICATION.

GP-3. JOHNSON

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