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Authority NWO 969035

(Copy sent 2/18/70)

By IE NARA Date 7-13

SECRET



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9/27/71 - per E Peck.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20301

Rec'd 1-20-70
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20 JAN 1970 file

H1

Honorable U. Alexis Johnson
Under Secretary of State for
Political Affairs
Washington, D.C. 20520

Dear Alex:

As a result of your letter of 9 January 1970 concerning the up-coming Warsaw talks, we have reviewed the current operating rules for our forces in the vicinity of Communist China to insure that they were adequate to preclude the possibility of an incident. We completely agree that every precaution must be taken to avoid permitting a pretext for the other side to break off the talks.

In our judgment strict adherence to present rules will keep our forces well away from "incident prone" areas; however, for insurance, we have passed your thoughts to Admiral McCain so that he is aware of the potential problem and can take any special precautions he deems necessary.

Sincerely,

1-20-70

PACKARD, The Hon Dave

Pol Chicom - JS

(Upcoming mtg w/Chinese in Warsaw)

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