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E.O. 12065: RDS-1, 07/25/88 (CLARK, WILLIAM) OR-M
TAGS: ENRG, TECH, MNUC, SCSA, JA
SUBJECT: NEXT STEPS ON TOKAI MURA

REF: (A) STATE 192200 (NODIS) (B) TOKYO 13605 (NODIS)

1. (S) ENTIRE TEXT.

2. ON JULY 24, KANEKO OFFERED ADDITIONAL COMMENTS TO THOSE MADE AT JULY 23 MEETING WITH EMBASSY OFFICERS ON JULY 27-28 TOKAI MURA TALKS IN WASHINGTON (REFTEL (A)). THOUGH GOJ APPRECIATES U.S. SENSITIVITIES IN LIGHT OF RECENT EVENTS IN IRAQ AND OPINION IN WASHINGTON, IT IS DISAPPOINTED IN THE PROPOSED RETENTION OF RESTRICTIONS ON BOTH THE AMOUNT OF SPENT NUCLEAR FUEL TO BE REPROCESSED AT TOKAI MURA AND THE PERIOD OF OPERATION AT THE FACILITY. IT ALSO SEES THE PROPOSED ELEMENTS AS ESSENTIALLY RETAINING THE "NO MAJOR MOVES" RESTRICTIONS ON THE CONSTRUCTION OF A SECOND REPROCESSING PLANT. IF COMMUNIQUE IS PRESENTED TO JAPANESE PUBLIC IN FORM PROPOSED BY U.S., JAPANESE PUBLIC WILL PERCEIVE IT AS THE PROLONGATION OF THE UNPOPULAR 1977 COMMUNIQUE. KANEKO STRESSED THAT IN LIGHT OF THE GREAT OPTIMISM

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REVIEW AUTHORITY: Charles Lahiguera, Senior Reviewer

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ENGENDERED BY ADMINISTRATION ANNOUNCEMENTS ON TOKAI MURA AND NON-PROLIFERATION POLICY, THE DISAPPOINTMENT FELT BY JAPANESE INDUSTRY AND PUBLIC OPINION WOULD BE PRONOUNCED.

3. KANEKO STATED THAT THE JAPANESE POSITION ON THE ISSUE WILL BE BASED ON THEIR PROPOSALS MADE EARLIER THIS YEAR. THESE PROPOSALS ARE CONTAINED IN TWO PAPERS PASSED TO THE DEPARTMENT THROUGH THE EMBASSY OF JAPAN IN LATE MARCH. THE PAPERS ARE ENTITLED

"PRELIMINARY DRAFT OF A NEW JOINT DETERMINATION FOR REPROCESSING OF SPECIAL NUCLEAR MATERIALS OF U.S. ORIGIN" AND "ELEMENTS TO BE CONTAINED IN A NEW JOINT COMMUNIQUE." DRAWING UPON THIS POSITION, THE JAPANESE PARTICIPANTS WILL WORK TOWARD THE ABOLITION OF TIME AND QUANTITY RESTRICTIONS ON THE OPERATION OF THE TOKAI MURA FACILITY, AND THE LIFTING OF ALL "NO MAJOR MOVES" RESTRICTIONS ON THE CONSTRUCTION OF A SECOND REPROCESSING FACILITY. KANEKO EXPRESSED HIS APPRECIATION FOR DEPARTMENT'S FURNISHING OF ADVANCE NOTICE OF U.S. PROPOSALS FOR TOKAI MURA DISCUSSIONS. HE WILL PRESENT THE GOJ'S DETAILED RESPONSE TO THESE PROPOSALS AFTER HIS ARRIVAL IN WASHINGTON.

4. EMBASSY NOTES KYODO NEWS SERVICE STATEMENTS WHICH REPORT U.S. ACCEPTANCE, IN PRINCIPLE, OF JAPANESE REQUEST FOR SIMPLIFICATION OF RESTRICTIONS ON THE REPROCESSING OF SPENT NUCLEAR FUEL IN JAPAN. THE REQUEST WAS REPORTED TO HAVE BEEN MADE BY MINISTER OF INTERNATIONAL TRADE AND INDUSTRY ROKUSUKE TANAKA IN HIS MEETINGS WITH VICE PRESIDENT BUSH, SPECIAL TRADE REPRESENTATIVE WILLIAM BROCK, ENERGY
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SECRETARY JAMES EDWARDS AND OTHER U.S. LEADERS. AS NOTED IN REFTEL (A), YATABE QUERIED EMBASSY OFFICERS AS TO ACCURACY OF THESE REPORTS. IN LIGHT OF POTENTIAL JURISDICTIONAL FRICTION BETWEEN MITI AND MOFA, DEPARTMENT MAY WISH TO CLARIFY PRESS REPORTS ON TANAKA MEETINGS TO MEMBERS OF JAPANESE DELEGATION. EMBASSY WOULD ALSO APPRECIATE BEING ADVISED AS TO THE CONTENT OF DISCUSSIONS ON TOKAI MURA ISSUE BETWEEN MINISTER TANAKA AND VARIOUS U.S. OFFICIALS.

MANSFIELD

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