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STATE 200246

EXPLOSIVES INTO THE ALREADY TENSE SITUATION IN SOUTHERN AFRICA.

IN THIS CONTEXT, WE HAVE SOUGHT AND RECEIVED FIRM ASSURANCES FROM THE SOUTH AFRICAN GOVERNMENT TO THE FOLLOWING EFFECT:

(1) SOUTH AFRICA DOES NOT HAVE OR INTEND TO DEVELOP NUCLEAR EXPLOSIVES FOR ANY PURPOSE, PEACEFUL OR OTHERWISE;

(2) THAT THERE WILL BE NO NUCLEAR EXPLOSIVE TESTING OF ANY KIND IN SOUTH AFRICA.

WHILE WE BELIEVE THESE ASSURANCES ARE IMPORTANT AS A FIRST STEP, LONGER RANGE MEASURES ARE ALSO IMPORTANT. WE WILL INTENSIFY OUR EFFORTS TO PERSUADE THE SOUTH AFRICAN GOVERNMENT TO PLACE ALL ITS NUCLEAR FACILITIES UNDER FULL INTERNATIONAL SAFEGUARDS AND TO DECLARE ITS INTENTION TO SIGN THE NPT.
(END TEXT)

2. DOBRYNIN COMMENTED THAT THE ASSURANCES WERE A FIRST STEP IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION.
CHRISTOPHER

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