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THE WHITE HOUSE

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January 18, 1983

NATIONAL SECURITY DECISION
DIRECTIVE NUMBER 76

Peaceful Nuclear Cooperation with China (U)

I have reviewed the interagency analysis and agency recommendations on the above subject, as forwarded by the Department of State's memorandum of December 29, 1982, and have decided that the United States will pursue peaceful nuclear cooperation with China on the basis of adequate non-proliferation assurances and other conditions. These will include (1) convincing assurances from the highest levels that China will not assist any country to obtain nuclear weapons, and no evidence concerning activities subsequent to such assurances that would lead to a contrary conclusion; (2) Chinese commitment to adhere to international norms in its nuclear exports practices, including the application of International Atomic Energy Agency safeguards on its nuclear exports to non-nuclear-weapon states; and (3) Chinese agreement to adequate bilateral procedures, to assure that U.S. exports would not be used for any military or other prohibited purposes, and to other provisions required in an agreement for peaceful nuclear cooperation. These three conditions will need to be met for the United States to conclude such an agreement. ~~(S)~~

The Administration will make these conditions clear to the Chinese and in consultations with key members of Congress. In the latter consultations it should also be clarified that the United States will not settle for less than adequate assurances and will carefully assess the validity of any Chinese assurances. ~~(S)~~

The Department of State will be responsible for implementation of this decision, in coordination with the Departments of Defense, Commerce and Energy, the Arms Control and Disarmament Agency, and the NSC staff. (U)

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