

INCOMING TELEGRAM *Department of State*

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H FOLLOWING IS COMPLETE TEXT OF PRESS STATEMENT BY MINEXTAFF HASLUCK:  
IO RELEASED 18 OCTOBER ON CHICOM DETONATION:

P COMMENTING ON THE DETONATION OF A NUCLEAR DEVICE BY  
USIA COMMUNIST CHINA, THE MINISTER FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS, MR. HASLUCK,  
NSC SAID THAT IT WAS A DEPRESSING, ALTHOUGH NOT UNEXPECTED,  
INR DEVELOPMENT. MR. HASLUCK SAID THAT CHINAS INTENTIONS TO GO  
CIA AHEAD WITH PRODUCING A NUCLEAR EXPLOSION HAD BEEN MADE APPARENT  
NSA WHEN SHE REFUSED TO SIGN THE NUCLEAR TEST BAN TREATY LAST YEAR.  
DOD MR. HASLUCK SAID THAT THE CHINESE COMMUNISTS HAD CHOSEN  
NIC TO DIVERT A GREAT PROPORTION OF THEIR NATIONAL SCIENTIFIC AND OTHER  
DAC RESOURCES AWAY FROM ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT INTO THE STERILE FIELD OF  
SCI NUCLEAR ARMAMENTS. THE MINISTER OBSERVED THAT OTHER ASIAN NATIONS  
AEC WERE CAPABLE OF BUILDING NUCLEAR WEAPONS IF THEY CHOSE, BUT HAD  
WHB PREFERRED TO PROMOTE THE ECONOMIC WELLBEING OF THEIR PEOPLE.

RMK MR. HASLUCK SAID THAT THIS DEVELOPMENT MIGHT CAUSE SOME  
DISQUIET, ESPECIALLY AMONG COUNTRIES WHICH HAVE ALREADY HAD CAUSE  
TO COMPLAIN OF COMMUNIST CHINAS INTERNATIONAL CONDUCT. BUT WHAT  
HAD BEEN DETONATED WAS ALMOST CERTAINLY A PRIMITIVE NUCLEAR DEVICE  
ONLY, NOT AN OPERATIONAL WEAPON. A LONG PERIOD OF DEVELOPMENT OF A  
BOMB AND OF ITS MEANS OF DELIVERY WOULD BE REQUIRED BEFORE COMMUNIST  
CHINA WOULD BE IN ANY SIGNIFICANT SENSE A NUCLEAR POWER. PEKING  
WOULD NO DOUBT ATTEMPT TO EXPLOIT THIS NEW APPEARANCE OF STRENGTH,  
BUT WESTERN MILITARY CAPABILITY WAS AND WOULD CONTINUE TO BE GREATLY  
IN EXCESS OF THAT OF COMMUNIST CHINA. THERE WERE NO GROUNDS FOR  
SUPPOSING THAT COMMUNIST CHINA HAD ACHIEVED ANY SIGNIFICANT CHANGE  
IN ITS RELATIVE POWER POSITION. DEFENSE COMMITMENTS GIVEN TO  
COMMUNIST CHINAS NEIGHBOURS WOULD NOT BE ALTERED BY ANYTHING  
COMMUNIST CHINA HAD ACHIEVED OR WAS LIKELY TO ACHIEVE IN THE NUCLEAR  
FIELD.

MR. HASLUCK SAID ANY NEW NUCLEAR EXPERIMENTATION OF A  
MILITARY CHARACTER TENDED TO INCREASE THE DIFFICULTY OF RESTRAINING  
YET MORE COUNTRIES FROM BUILDING NUCLEAR WEAPONS. AUSTRALIA HAD  
BEEN ONE OF THE FIRST COUNTRIES TO SIGN THE NUCLEAR TEST BAN TREATY  
AND IN SPITE OF DISAPPOINTMENTS WOULD CONTINUE TO WORK FOR ITS  
ACCEPTANCE BY ALL COUNTRIES, INCLUDING COMMUNIST CHINA.

LYDMAN  
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