

February 24, 1975
**Memorandum of conversation, 'French Participation
in the Nuclear Suppliers Conference'**

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Summary:

This memo outlines the process that the French said they would take in order to reach a decision regarding their participation in the nuclear suppliers' group conference. These steps include France presenting a paper on their position, the U.S. responding, and then more bilateral talks before a final decision is reached.

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EXDTS File

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

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Memorandum of Conversation

DATE: February 24, 1975

Place: Mr. Ingersoll's office 3:30 pm

SUBJECT: French Participation in the Nuclear Suppliers Conference

PARTICIPANTS: THE UNITED STATES

Robert S. Ingersoll, Deputy Secretary
Fred C. Ikle, Director, ACDA
Louis V. Nosenzo, Director, PM/NPO
Robert W. Duemling, Executive Assistant

FRANCE

Ambassador Jacques Kosciusko-Morizet
Gabriel de Bellescize, Counselor of Embassy

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Date: 1 Feb 1975

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The French Ambassador, under instructions, said that they wished to send M. de Nazelle and Goldschmidt to meet in Washington with Mr. Vest on Friday, February 28 to further present French views on the US proposal. At that time, they would transmit a paper which would:

-- outline French desires to avoid competition in safeguards and implement strong controls over nuclear exports through common export policies;

-- define the limits on French participation;

At that time they would like to get our preliminary reactions to their views and receive a status report on US talks with other participants.

The Ambassador said that in terms of a final French decision, his government had the following timetable in mind:

- 1) Discussions on February 28 to present the French paper

PM/NPO:LVHos/120/ds

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- 2) US transmittal of reactions to French paper
- 3) Bilateral talks "at the political level" between the US and France
- 4) After the above France will then take a final position on the suppliers meeting

He stressed that the French government felt there is a need to accomplish these actions rapidly so that the matter can be settled quickly and not be delayed through the process of the talks.

Mr. Ingersoll said that we would be prepared to have the meeting on Friday and that the Ambassador could cable Paris to that effect. Mr. Ingersoll then thanked the Ambassador for his visit.

A question arose in the debriefing of meeting as to what precise level the French had in mind for the follow-on political bilateral talks. Mr. de Bellescize was contacted later at the embassy and said that the Ambassador had transmitted the contents of the instructing cable essentially verbatim. The cable simply talked of a meeting at the political level. De Bellescize said that he would raise the question of level in their reporting cable to Paris.

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Suggested Distribution List

D - Mr. Ingersoll
C - Mr. Sonnenfeldt
PM - Mr. Vest
OES - Dr. Ray
EUR - Mr. Hartman
ACDA - Mr. Ikle
ERDA - Mr. Seamans
NSC - Dr. Elliott