

March 21, 1967

**US Department of State Airgram CA-6579 to US
Embassy Moscow, 'Kosygin's Remarks on
Non-Proliferation in London'**

Citation:

"US Department of State Airgram CA-6579 to US Embassy Moscow, 'Kosygin's Remarks on Non-Proliferation in London'", March 21, 1967, Wilson Center Digital Archive, NARA, RG 59, Subject-Numeric Files 1967-1969, DEF 18-6. Contributed to NPIHP by Bill Burr. <https://digitalarchive.umd.edu/document/177797>

Summary:

In this Airgram, the U.S. embassy in Bonn sent a translation of Soviet Prime Minister Alexei Kosygin's tough statement on the NPT at a press conference in London. Kosygin stated (of West Germany) "whether she wants this or not, such a document should be signed, because we will not allow the Federal Republic of Germany to possess nuclear weapons."

Credits:

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Original Language:

English

Contents:

Original Scan

ORIGIN/ACTION
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DEPARTMENT OF STATE

AIRGRAM

DEF 18-6
~~DEF 18-4~~
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CA-6579, *RAW*

HANDLING INDICATOR

NO.

TO : Amembassy MOSCOW

INFO : BONN, PARIS, LONDON, GENEVA

MAR 2 1 26 PM '67

FROM : Department of State

DATE:

SUBJECT : Kosygin's Remarks on Non-Proliferation in London

REF : Moscow's A-1248, February 21, 1967

There are now three versions of what Kosygin said in his London press conference on February 9 about FRG accession to a non-proliferation treaty; the Pravda version reported in A-1248, the FBIS version based on the interpreter's English translation, and the Department's translation from a VOA tape recording of the press conference. The VOA tape indicates that Kosygin, speaking in Russian, actually said: "As to the Federal Republic of Germany, I must say that whether she wants this or not, such a document should be signed...". This differs from the Pravda version as well as from the FBIS report which reads: "As for the question related to the German Federal Republic, I wish to say that whether it wants to or not it will have to sign that treaty...".

For the Embassy's information there follows the complete text of Kosygin's reply to the question on non-proliferation translated from the VOA tape recording:

"You see, I must tell you that we are for non-proliferation of nuclear weapons; and we state decisively that the time has come when it should be forbidden to proliferate nuclear weapons; in taking this position we do so not

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2.

because we fear that still another competitor in nuclear weapons will appear. We think that mankind does not need nuclear weapons, if it wants to live on Earth and survive. The discussions of this new document at the present time indicate apparently that in the very near future all will come to the unanimous decision to prohibit nuclear weapons. As to the Federal Republic of Germany, I must say that whether she wants this or not, such a document should be signed, because we will not allow the Federal Republic of Germany to possess nuclear weapons. We will do everything necessary to ensure that she not possess them, and will take measures designed to prevent the possibility of her possessing nuclear weapons; we say this with all determination."

END

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Enclosures:

1. OPR/LS Memo of 2/21/67 re Kosygin's Press Conference
2. Language Services translation of Kosygin's Press Conference

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