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WITHDRAWAL SHEET

Ronald Reagan Library

Collection: MATLOCK, JACK F.: Files
OA/Box: 20
File Folder: USSR –Agriculture

Archivist: loj/loj
FOIA ID: F00-009, Skinner
Date: 7/29/04

DOCUMENT NO. & TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
1. memo	L. Paul Bremer to William P. Clark, re US-USSR Agriculture Agreement, 2p <i>R 6/21/06 NLSF00-009/1 #21</i>	7/14/82	B1
2. list	Of agriculture agreement exchange activities submitted to the NSC , 2p <i>R " " #22</i>	3/29/82	B1

RESTRICTIONS

- B-1 National security classified information [(b)(1) of the FOIA].
 B-2 Release could disclose internal personnel rules and practices of an agency [(b)(2) of the FOIA].
 B-3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(b)(3) of the FOIA].
 B-4 Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential commercial or financial information [(b)(4) of the FOIA].
 B-6 Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(b)(6) of the FOIA].
 B-7 Release would disclose information compiled for law enforcement purposes [(b)(7) of the FOIA].
 B-7a Release could reasonably be expected to interfere with enforcement proceedings [(b)(7)(A) of the FOIA].
 B-7b Release would deprive an individual of the right to a fair trial or impartial adjudication [(b)(7)(B) of the FOIA].
 B-7c Release could reasonably be expected to cause unwarranted invasion or privacy [(b)(7)(C) of the FOIA].
 B-7d Release could reasonably be expected to disclose the identity of a confidential source [(b)(7)(D) of the FOIA].
 B-7e Release would disclose techniques or procedures for law enforcement investigations or prosecutions or would disclose guidelines which could reasonably be expected to risk circumvention of the law [(b)(7)(E) of the FOIA].
 B-7f Release could reasonably be expected to endanger the life or physical safety of any individual [(b)(7)(F) of the FOIA].
 B-8 Release would disclose information concerning the regulation of financial institutions [(b)(8) of the FOIA].
 B-9 Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA].

C. Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in donor's deed of gift.

MEMORANDUM

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

CONFIDENTIAL

July 16, 1982

ACTION

MEMORANDUM FOR WILLIAM P. CLARK

FROM: RICHARD PIPES *RP*

SUBJECT: U.S.-USSR Agriculture Agreement: USDA Request

The USDA requests authorization (through State, Tab II) to send a working-level team to the USSR to inspect Soviet grain-growing areas and discuss other joint efforts. This undertaking serves well our interests and does not present any problems that might affect public perceptions of U.S. sanctions policies. (S)

Attached at Tab I is a memorandum to the Department of State indicating your concurrence with the request.

RECOMMENDATION

That you sign the memorandum to Mr. Bremer at Tab I.

Approve _____ Disapprove _____

Attachments:

Tab I Memorandum to Bremer

Tab II Incoming memorandum from Bremer, July 14, 1982.

CONFIDENTIAL

Review July 16, 1988.

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White House GPO, Aug 28, 1987
By 205 NARA, Date 2/12/01



DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Washington, D.C. 20520

July 14, 1982
02 JUL 14 P11:10~~CONFIDENTIAL~~STATE
SITUATION ROOMMEMORANDUM FOR MR. WILLIAM P. CLARK
THE WHITE HOUSE

SUBJECT: US-USSR Agriculture Agreement: USDA Request
To Send A Working-Level Team To Moscow To
Discuss The Resumption Of Activities

In the attached memorandum, USDA requests permission to send a working-level team to Moscow to discuss resuming activities under the US-USSR Agriculture Agreement. This agreement has been moribund since the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan. Recently, however, the Soviets backed off their insistence on holding a high-level meeting as a prelude to resuming cooperation and invited a working-level USDA team to Moscow. State and NSC approved the limited program proposed by USDA (details attached), but instructed USDA to set up the initial round of activities with the Soviets through correspondence. The Soviets, however, continue to hold out for a working-level meeting in Moscow as a prerequisite for resuming activities. USDA has now asked for permission to send a working-level team to Moscow in the very near future, in order to get a U.S. team of experts to the USSR this summer to inspect and assess Soviet crop conditions.

BACKGROUND

While sending a working-level team to Moscow is consistent with our Afghanistan and Poland criteria, in instructing USDA to attempt to make arrangements through correspondence, we wanted to avoid jumping too hastily at the drop of a Soviet invitation. Moreover, at that time, the Soviets were repeatedly denying travel requests by our Agriculture Attache and staff to observe crops. Recently,

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NLS F00-0091, #21

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GDS 7/13/88

CU NARA, DATE 6/21/06

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however, the Soviets relented on the Agriculture Attache travel issue. Once he and his staff were on the road, USDA asked us to reconsider our earlier objections and permit them to send a small team to Moscow.

STATE'S VIEW

We are inclined to let USDA send a team to Moscow now. The Soviets have backed off their previous insistence on a high-level meeting. Ambassador Hartman concurs in our view that the presence of a low-level USDA team in Moscow would be more appropriate now that our agriculture staff has been able to travel once again. Getting USDA specialists on the ground in the Soviet Union to observe crops on a regular basis -- a key agreement activity which has not taken place in over two years -- is very much in our interest.

RECOMMENDATION

State recommends that USDA be permitted to send a working-level three person team to Moscow in the near future to discuss the resumption of a limited program of exchange activities with the Soviets under the US/USSR Agriculture Agreement. Specific activities which may be proposed at this meeting would be subject to the usual case-by-case review and approval process, consistent with our Afghanistan and Poland criteria.


L. Paul Bremer, III
Executive Secretary

Attachments:

1. June 30, 1982 Memo from USDA
2. Approved List of Agriculture Agreement Exchange Activities Submitted to the NSC March 29, 1982

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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(Proposed Agriculture Exchange Activities submitted to the NSC March 29, 1982)

Official Science and Technology Exchanges

ACTIVITY

ACTION

Agriculture Agreement

The Soviet Agriculture Counselor recently informed USDA officials that the USSR is interested in resuming activities under the agricultural agreement. After our suspension of activities in response to the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan, the Soviets insisted that a full-scale Joint Commission Meeting (JCM) be held before they would agree to resume certain activities which were within our sanctions guidelines. Their approach to USDA at this time and their indication of willingness to resume activities without a JCM is an abrupt change of position. In an effort to determine Soviet motives, we propose to set up a limited number of activities which are of benefit to us, through Embassy representatives in both countries, or through correspondence. This would be in accordance with the post-Poland approach and would avoid our jumping with undue haste to the Soviet invitation.

Activities proposed by USDA would be:

A. Crop Observation

1. Spring Wheat Production

Three U.S. specialists to visit representative spring wheat production areas for three weeks in July in the U.S.S.R. during critical growth stages to study growing conditions, evaluate the effects of weather, cultural methods, other factors on projected production of spring wheat.

APPROVED

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NLS FOD-009/1 #22

CAS, NARA, DATE 6/21/06

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2. Winter Wheat Production:

Three-week visit by three U.S. specialists to the U.S.S.R. in June to study winter wheat production with objectives similar to spring wheat team. APPROVED

B. Forage Grass Germ Plasm Exploration

A U.S. team of two scientists for 45 days to collect germ plasm of wild grass and legume forage species native to areas of the Soviet Union in order to expand U.S. collections. Soviet varieties have contributed much to the development of improved plant varieties in the U.S. Likewise, U.S. germ plasm can expand Soviet collections and resource base for study. In the past this has been to USDA one of the highest priority scientific projects under the Agricultural Agreement. APPROVED

C. Veterinary Science

Two U.S. experts to visit the Soviet Union for 30 days to study reproductive diseases and other diseases foreign to the United States. Information on the continuing Soviet experience in immunizing and controlling outbreaks of diseases such as foot-and-mouth in livestock will be extremely valuable to U.S. scientists in improving methods to insulate the U.S. livestock industry against the disease or eradicate it immediately if outbreaks occur: livestock losses would exceed \$10 billion if foot-and-mouth disease became widespread in the United States, with a corresponding 25% loss in meat and milk production. The importance of cooperation with the U.S.S.R. which has considerable experiences with such diseases is obvious. APPROVED

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

MEMORANDUM

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

October 26, 1984

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~INFORMATION

MEMORANDUM FOR ROBERT C. MCFARLANE

FROM:

JACK MATLOCK *JW*

SUBJECT:

Visit of Soviet Minister of Agriculture Mesyats

State has informed us that Soviet Minister of Agriculture Mesyats has accepted Secretary Block's invitation to visit the United States, and that a message is going out suggesting several dates in mid-November and early December for the visit. Secretary Block's invitation includes a visit to the Block family farm.

A few days ago, a Soviet Deputy Minister of Agriculture told our Agricultural Attache in Moscow unofficially that Mesyats hoped to be able to make the trip in December.

cc: Roger Robinson

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Declassify: OADR

DECLASSIFIED

White House Guidelines, August 22, 1997

By WOS NARA, Date 2/2/01

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

MEMORANDUM FOR L. PAUL BREMER, III
Executive Secretary
Department of State

SUBJECT: U.S.-USSR Agriculture Agreement: USDA Request
to Send a Working-Level Team to Moscow to Discuss
the Resumption of Activities

I have reviewed the recommendation of the Department of State to authorize a Department of Agriculture working-level team to travel to the Soviet Union for the purpose of holding a meeting in Moscow and to inspect Soviet grain-growing areas, and concur with it. (C)

William P. Clark

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
Review July 16, 1988.

DECLASSIFIED
White House Guidelines, August 28, 1997
By LOS NARA, Date 2/12/01



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Office of
International
Cooperation
and Development

Washington, D.C.
20250

JUN 3 0 1982

TO: John C. Scanlan
Deputy Assistant Secretary
Bureau of European Affairs
Department of State

FROM: Joan S. Wallace
Administrator

SUBJECT: U.S.-U.S.S.R. Agricultural Agreement: Renewal of Activities

We request State Department/National Security Council approval for travel of a working-level team from USDA to Moscow to discuss a limited program of cooperative activity under the U.S.-U.S.S.R. Agreement on Agriculture. We would appreciate the clearance by July 8.

In April we received a letter from Dr. Logvin Overchuk of the Soviet Embassy which fully conceded to the conditions required by the United States for resuming activities under the Agreement. Although NSC guidelines allow for Working Group meetings in order to continue activities, we were instructed in a memorandum from Allen Holmes of April 21 to try to resume cooperation through correspondence. Accordingly, the limited program of cooperation previously approved by the NSC was submitted to the Soviets by our Agricultural Counselor in Moscow. The Soviets responded positively, but would only agree to the implementation of proposals after the Working Group discussions, in effect stating that they had already conceded to U.S. policy requests by agreeing to resume activities without a formal Joint Committee meeting.

Timing of the visit of a USDA team to Moscow is critical. As we made clear in the policy paper on the Agricultural Agreement, the key element under the Agreement is the annual travel of winter wheat and spring grain teams to report on crop conditions in the U.S.S.R. The attempt to resume activities by correspondence closed off travel opportunities for the winter wheat team in early June--the winter wheat crop is currently being harvested. It is imperative now that the spring grain team travel by the end of July. For these reasons, the USDA team must travel to Moscow as soon as possible, and preparations must begin immediately.

Because it takes several days for written responses to arrive, please have Roger Neetz of my staff notified by telephone (447-4445) as soon as the decision is made.



The Office of International Cooperation and Development
is an agency of the
United States Department of Agriculture