



INTERNATIONAL
SECURITY AFFAIRS

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ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20301

1 SEP 1977

In reply refer to:
I-35295/77

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR OF DEFENSE RESEARCH AND ENGINEERING
AMBASSADOR ROBERT W. KOMER, SPECIAL CONSULTANT TO THE
SECRETARY OF DEFENSE ON NATO AFFAIRS
ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE (PROGRAM ANALYSIS & EVALUATION)
DIRECTOR, NET ASSESSMENT
ASSISTANT TO THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE (ATOMIC ENERGY)

SUBJECT: Follow-on Studies for PD/NSC-18

The attachment forwards pertinent extracts of Presidential instructions on the subject.

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OASD (ISA) has assumed primary OSD responsibility for actions directed by these Presidential instructions.

Walter Stewart

Acting Assistant Secretary of Defense
International Security Affairs

Enclosure
a/s

Copy furnished:
Deputy Secretary of Defense
Director of Policy Review

DECLASSIFIED SEP 27 2007
Authority: EO 12958 as amended
Chief, Records & Declass Div, WHS

~~Downgraded to Secret~~
Date: ~~04/11/00~~
Chief, Declassification Division, WHS

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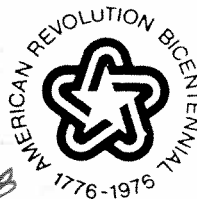
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USDPRE JS-72765-7

Rec. C 157689

07-M-2878
Unclassified when detached
from classified inclosures

Doc #1



6 SEP 1977

SUBJECT: Follow-on Studies for PD/NSC-18 (U)

(U) Pertinent extracts of a memorandum dated 24 August 1977, addressed to the Secretary of Defense and signed by Zbigniew Brzezinski.

~~(S)~~ Concurrently with the issuance of PD/NSC-18 on US National Strategy, the President has instructed that the Secretary of Defense will review current targeting policy and recommended targeting criteria for NSC consideration and Presidential decision. This review will consider the relevant political and strategic advantages of several options including among others:

- an option which would effectively target 70 percent of all identified Soviet economic recovery resources, 70 percent of all identified political recovery resources, 70 percent of all identified military recovery resources and 90 percent of all other identified Soviet military targets and related commands, control and communications facilities. It would also consider options which would preclude the Soviet Union from inflicting more fatalities on the United States than the United States could inflict on the Soviet Union, also taking into account demographic differentials. Pending the completion of this review, the United States will continue to employ forces according to NSDM 242.

~~(S)~~ The Secretary of Defense should provide, through the NSC, his assessment of the specific amount of hard-target kill capability the US should maintain into the future, identifying the strategic purposes such capabilities would serve. No action should be taken to diminish US hard-target kill capabilities pending the President's decision.

~~(S)~~ The Secretary of Defense, together with the Director of Central Intelligence, will undertake an examination for NSC review of the wartime target acquisition capability required for the secure reserve force.

~~(S)~~ The Secretary of Defense will provide an analysis and recommendations to the NSC for the President's decision of the appropriate United States response regarding the future of the US Triad concept.

~~(S)~~ Recommendations on the appropriate level of US capability to sustain a worldwide conventional war against the Soviet Union and its allies should be coordinated by the National Security Council for the President's decision. This should be based on:

1. an evaluation of Warsaw Pact capabilities to sustain combat;
2. consultations with our NATO allies concerning their willingness to agree upon a uniform goal for sustained combat capability;

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USDR: TS-7765-7

Classified by Zbigniew Brzezinski
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EXECUTIVE ORDER 11652. EXEMPTION CATEGORY 3
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6157689

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3. the necessity to emphasize early combat capability so as to fulfill NATO strategy and minimize reliance upon nuclear weapons and the resultant tradeoff with the capability to sustain extended conflict;
4. an examination of the implications of alternative US-NATO mobilization and industrial preparedness postures;
5. a review of the interrelationship between US global political objectives, defense strategy, and naval deployment.

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OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT TO THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
(ATOMIC ENERGY)

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COMMUNICATIONS ROUTING GUIDE

16 Sep 77

DATE RECEIVED

OASD(ISA) Memo dtd 1 Sep 77, Subj: Follow-on Studies for PD/NSC-18,

w/Cy # 7 of Incl

Sequence	Initial	ACTION	INFO	Sequence	Initial	ACTION	INFO
	MR COTTER				COL CATHCART		
	MG KEY				CAPT SISSON		
91	LTC HODGE				COL WARGOWSKY		
	COL McDANIEL				MAJ CARLSON		
	CDR CLIFF				DR ADAMS		
	LTC WILSON						
	LTC VAJDA						
	MAJ OPPENHEIM				SMS WASHINGTON		
	SEC POTTER						
	MAJ DAVIS						
	MR MOSS				CONSULTANTS		
B	DR. MARSHALL						
OASD(AE) ADMINISTRATION DISPOSITION INSTRUCTIONS file: destroy:				OTHER: (Specify) <i>Return to Lt Hodge after routing</i>			

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