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THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20301

Doc #405 #3  
12-11-81  
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DECLASSIFIED IN PART  
Authority: EO 13526  
Chief, Records & Declass Div, WHS  
Date: MAR 17 2016

August 8, 1980

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

SUBJECT: Significant Actions, Secretary and Deputy Secretary of Defense (August 2-8, 1980)

JS 3.3(b)(5)

PD-59, Nuclear Weapons Employment Policy: To implement your guidance of this morning, and in view of continuing Congressional and media interest in PD-59 strategic doctrine, my speech at the Naval War College a week from Wednesday will address our evolving strategic doctrine. The points I will emphasize--and the ones we will work to have the media understand--are: we are talking about what we could and (depending on the nature of a Soviet attack) would do in response to a Soviet first strike--nothing in the policy contemplates an American first strike; this evolution in our doctrine enhances deterrence, because--like our nuclear modernization programs--

[REDACTED]

finally, the pursuit of careful strategic policy decisions such as this one, and not reckless searches for "superiority" or indiscriminate weapons procurement programs, is the prudent way to assure our security. (S)

Egyptian Negotiations: Assistant Secretary Dave McGiffert's meetings with Egyptian Vice President Mubarak and General Badawi, Minister of Defense, were successful in securing agreement in principle for increased U.S. access to Egyptian facilities, particularly Ras Banas, and for joint U.S./Egyptian exercises. We are now working to develop a strategy to negotiate a detailed agreement on Ras Banas, and hope to reach an accord during follow-on meetings later this month in Cairo. (S)

NATO Family of Weapons Concept: Yesterday we signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the UK for development and production of the Advanced Medium Range Air-to-Air Missile and the Advanced Short Range Air-to-Air Missile. This agreement implements one of the first programs in our Family of Weapons concept, an initiative designed to avoid duplication of development costs among NATO allies. West Germany

JC, NSA, Brz Met, Ag file, DoD, 8-9/80, box 7 #1 15mm-0607

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and France are expected to sign the MOU next week. Under this program, we will develop and produce the medium range missile and the UK and West Germany will jointly develop and produce the short range version. (France has a special status as a signatory government; it retains the option to become a full participant at a later date, but for the moment they are trying to have it both ways--to gain information from this association, and then use it to build a competitive missile of their own.) This program will save an estimated \$200 million for each missile system, facilitate cross-servicing of armaments in NATO, enhance aircraft armaments interoperability, and substantially reduce logistics costs. (U)

Marine AV-8B Harrier Aircraft: The V/STOL Harrier is ready to begin Full Scale Engineering Development. There is a serious question, however, whether the Marine Corps requirement for 336 aircraft represents an economical production quantity. Moreover, whether it makes sense to procure the aircraft at all also depends on the anticipated level of U.S. defense budgets during the next five years.

The UK has completed its own technical evaluation of the AV-8B and is anxious to enter a joint program with us. Such a venture would allow the British to discontinue their other on-going V/STOL development programs, as well as add a minimum of 60 aircraft to the initial buy. In addition to significantly enhancing third-country sales potential, a joint program would also be consistent with our NATO Rationalization-Standardization-Interoperability objectives.

Yesterday the British Chief of Defence Procurement visited me to press for a decision on the joint program, and to gain assurance of our support before terminating their separate V/STOL efforts. I agreed only to consider the matter as part of the FY 82 budget process. ~~(S)~~

Industrial Responsiveness Study: I have become increasingly concerned about the inflation and schedule delays apparent throughout the entire aerospace industry and the expected impact on DoD acquisition programs. As a result, I have asked the Defense Science Board to study these problems--as well as other related issues such as industrial productivity--and to recommend short- and long-term remedial actions. I expect this task force of prominent outside engineers and businessmen to develop a broad spectrum of proposals to increase the productivity of defense industry. The study report will consider changes in investment policy, modifications in contracting procedures, and enhancement of industry competition. (U)

Office of the Secretary of Defense  
Chief, RDD, ESD, WHS  
Date: MAR 20 1982 Authority: EO 13526  
Declassify: \_\_\_\_\_ Deny in Full: \_\_\_\_\_  
Declassify in Part: X  
Reason: 3.3(6)(5)  
MDR: 15-M-6607

*Howard Berman*

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