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ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20301

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Chief, RDD, ESD, WHS  
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INTERNATIONAL  
SECURITY POLICY

MEMORANDUM FOR THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

THRU UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE FOR POLICY *W. G. ...* JUL 19

SUBJECT:  Deployment of PERSHING II in the FRG --  
INFORMATION MEMORANDUM

Given the acute political sensitivity of the PERSHING II deployment issue in Germany, the unexpected resolution concerning deployments passed by the Bundestag on 23 June has caused the Federal Republic's government to assess carefully its position. Chancellor Kohl and other senior officials have stated publicly the Federal Republic's continuing firm commitment to begin PERSHING II deployments in December if the Geneva negotiations have not reached an agreement obviating the deployments. Nevertheless, the potentially volatile domestic situation has forced the government to take a literal interpretation of the 23 June resolution. This interpretation has been conveyed to us by both Genscher and Woerner, who received their instructions directly from Chancellor Kohl:

- No missiles or parts of missiles, including "dummy" missiles used for testing, can be brought into Germany before completion of the required Bundestag debate in mid-November.
- While the resolution does not prohibit conversion of erector-launchers (EL) in Germany, the potentially high visibility of this item as it moves to various facilities -- including the designated German subcontractor -- make the process vulnerable to demonstrations, and could lead to charges that the resolution was being violated. Finally, the German subcontractor's facility is in Saarbrucken, which is governed by Oskar Lafontaine, who can be expected to be able to generate large demonstrations. Consequently, all EL conversion necessary before mid-November should take place outside Germany, if possible.
- All other activities, to include deployment of warhead training devices, can proceed as scheduled.

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The current plan envisioned conversion of eractor-launchers beginning in Germany last month, with arrival of missile parts beginning in September. The first PERSHING II battery (9 launchers) is to become operational on 15 December. Informal discussions with the Army Staff indicate that alternatives which would meet the Germans' concerns, while certainly not desirable, are available. While we might be able to dissuade the Germans on the issue of XL conversion outside Germany, the process would likely consume several valuable weeks, during which no preparations could proceed. Consequently, I have asked the Army to develop a plan for conversion, in the United States, of sufficient BAs to complete the first PERSHING II battery on time. A copy of my memo to Under Secretary Ambrose is attached.

German Foreign Minister Genscher and MOD Political-Military Director MG Tandecki will be in Washington on 11 July. We should be prepared to inform them of our plan at that time, and seek firm FRG commitment to it with no further perturbations. I believe we should insist -- and with your approval we will insist -- that the German Government defray the added costs stemming from these last-minute demands.

*Richard Perle*  
RICHARD PERLE

Attachment  
as stated

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