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DEFENSE



THE UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20301

RESEARCH AND
ENGINEERING

18 JUL 1983

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MEMORANDUM FOR SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
DEPUTY SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

SUBJECT: German/US Joint Air Base Defense Discussion
INFORMATION MEMORANDUM (U)

(C) Minister of Defense Woerner will visit the Secretary of Defense this week with the expectation of discussing ways to improve NATO air defense. Improvements needed in air defense in general are of the very highest importance and were included in the United States emerging technology paper presented to the NATO Council in December 1982. Over the past several years, we have seen NATO's integrated air defense deteriorate while the Warsaw Pact air and missile threat has grown substantially. Air Defense is of critical importance to the defense of NATO. The Alliance must be in a military posture to blunt and survive an air/missile attack and have enough military force and political resolve to regain the initiative. NATO cannot allow further unraveling of its integrated air defenses. Minister of Defense Woerner has taken air defense improvements through a viable two way street approach as one of his highest priorities. Positions within the Department are being jelled; however, in preparation for this important meeting I believe it would be useful for you to review the attached documents.

Background

(C) The Germans Minister of Defense proposed to the United States in October 1982 that we discuss joint solutions to point air defense of German and United States air bases in Germany. Their interest was stimulated by an increased threat to their weakly defended Toranado bases, a budget constraint caused by an overcommitment in their Toranado Program and the fact that our Congress had placed \$50M in the FY83 budget for defense of air bases in Central Europe. The German offer was intentionally vague to allow a wide range of discussion.

(C) Our delegations met with the Germans in February 1983 to discuss the offer and a Letter of Intent was signed to explore the proposal and variations which would strengthen the air defense capacity of NATO. Seven complex options/variants were identified to be examined by a Joint expert group. All of the options were combinations of procurement, manning and support of both ROLAND and PATRIOT. The meeting had high level German and United States interest.

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(U) Working level meetings in March, April and June have been useful to exchange data, but unsuccessful in structuring a package with fundamental issues isolated for decision by Senior Level Political/Military leadership.

German Position

(C) The Germans have funds for PATRIOT in their budget but their Parliament wants 100% offsets. They want to spend PATRIOT money in Germany to build ROLANDs and put them on United States and German MOBs and COBs. The United States would furnish the PATRIOT systems as Quid pro Quo.

United States Position

(C) The Services have not been sufficiently interested in ROLANDs in Germany for United States air base defense to add \$2-3B to pay for Germany to have PATRIOT. It can be argued that United States IHAWK/Chapparral assets provide adequate defense for United States main operating air bases and that Germany is responsible for their main operating and United States colocated bases.

(C) Options are being explored for German manning of some United States PATRIOTs planned for CONUS but forward deployed to Europe. This has not been viewed favorably by the United States Army or Germany Air Force, but has been supported by General Rogers. We are staffing an option paper in the Department to flush out this approach (Tab A).

(C) The Joint Export Group has prepared a final report (Tab B). This has been a useful data gathering effort; however, the level of interaction has been insufficient to approach the real possibilities to improve air defense that could be achieved at your level.

(C) Dr. Hans Ruhle, FRG Minister Director of Plans, has been here this week in preparation for Minister Woerner's visit next week and has suggested that an Agreement of Principle between the Secretary of Defense and Minister of Defense FRG on cooperative measures be signed next week during MOD Woerner's visit (Tab C)

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Attachments
As Stated (S)

Prepared by Col Beck, x77645

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