OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

1. Jun 79

Memo For: R&G

Advance copies were LDXed to Gompert & Thomson (NSC).

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DECLASSIFIED UNDER AUTHORITY OF THE
INTERAGENCY SECURITY CLASSIFICATION APPEALS PANEL,
E.O. 13526, SECTION 5.3(b)(3)

ISCAP APPEAL NO. 2011-012, document no. 1
DECLASSIFICATION DATE: December 3, 2015

08-M-0538
MEMORANDUM FOR MR. DAVID GOMPERT, DEPUTY DIRECTOR, BUREAU OF POLITICO-MILITARY AFFAIRS, DEPARTMENT OF STATE

SUBJECT: SIOP Revision (U)

(1) Several adjustments which will become effective October 1, 1979, are being made to the Selected Attack Option (SAO) Structure of the US Single Integrated Operational Plan (SIOP). These adjustments reflect evolutionary refinements in our targeting which will provide additional measures of flexibility and increase our ability to control escalation in the event of Warsaw Pact aggression against NATO (see attached draft message for further detail).

(2) The JCS propose to introduce these changes into NATO military channels by message to SACEUR and SACLANT. We believe it prudent that the subject be introduced simultaneously in NATO political channels. The attached draft cable to USMISSION NATO recommends that Ambassador Bennett draw on the JCS message to inform NPG PermReps of the adjustments being made in the US SIOP.

(U) Request State transmit the attached cable. We understand the last meeting of NPG PermReps planned before Fall is scheduled for June 4.

Walter Slocum

WALTER SLOCOMBE
Acting Assistant Secretary of Defense
International Security Affairs

Attachment
a/s

cc: Mr. James Thomson - NSC

 Classified by Director, J-5
Review on 24 May 1979

Classified by Director, J-5
Handwritten in Secret
Date: 24 May 1979
 Chief, Standards Division, WHS

TOP SECRET

COPY 6 OF 6 COPIES.
TOP-SECRET

FROM: SECSTATE WASH DC
TO: USMISSION NATO
INFO: US DEL MC; BE
UNR MR SHAPE; BE
USOSACLANT, NORFOLK, VA
CINCLANT, NORFOLK, VA
USCINCEUR, VAHINGEN, GE
DSTP OFFUTT AFB, NE

TOP-SECRET

SUBJ: REVISION OF US SINGLE INTEGRATED OPERATIONAL PLAN (U)
1. $\frac{\$}{\frac{\$}{\frac{\$}}}$ ON APPROXIMATELY JUNE 1, 1979 THE JOINT CHIEFS OF
STAFF INTEND TO TRANSMIT TO SACEUR, AND SACLANT THE MESSAGE
QUOTED BELOW. THE JCS MESSAGE IS INTENDED TO INTRODUCE
INTO NATO MILITARY CHANNELS INFORMATION ON THE RESTRUCTURING
OF SOME SELECTED ATTACK OPTIONS (SAOS) IN THE US SINGLE
INTEGRATED OPERATIONAL PLAN (SIOP) WHICH WILL BECOME EFFECTIVE
OCTOBER 1, 1979. WE RECOMMEND THAT YOU DRAW ON THE JCS
MESSAGE TO ADVISE NATO POLITICAL AUTHORITIES THROUGH THE
NP6 PERMREPS OF THE ADJUSTMENTS TO BE MADE IN THE SIOP. JCS
MESSAGE FOLLOWS:

2. QUOTE TOP-SECRET. JCS SEND. SUBJ: SIOP REVISION (U)
   1. $\frac{\$}{\frac{\$}}$ AT THE APRIL '79 NUCLEAR PLANNING GROUP MEETING,
SECRETARY BROWN RECONFIRMED THAT US NUCLEAR WEAPON EMPLOYMENT
POLICY CONTINUES TO STRESS THE NEED FOR US NATIONAL COMMAND
AUTHORITIES TO HAVE VARIOUS SELECTIVE OR LIMITED OPTIONS.
IN THE ROUTINE PROCESS OF REVIEWING SIOP OPTIONS, WE CONTINUE TO MAKE EVOLUTIONARY REFINEMENTS IN OUR TARGETING AND FORCE PLANNING THAT WILL PROVIDE ADDITIONAL MEASURES OF FLEXIBILITY TO THE SIOP AND THAT RECOGNIZE ALLIED INTERESTS AND COMPLEMENT EXISTING THEATER NUCLEAR FORCES.

2. TO THIS END, THE SELECTED ATTACK OPTION STRUCTURE WITHIN THE US SIOP IS BEING UPDATED TO INCREASE OUR ABILITY TO CONTROL ESCALATION IN THE EVENT OF WARSAW PACT AGGRESSION AGAINST NATO. THESE SELECTED ATTACK OPTIONS—WHICH FOR THE FIRST TIME COULD BE EMPLOYED AGAINST BOTH CONVENTIONAL AND NUCLEAR THREATS FACING NATO—WILL PROVIDE A BASIS FOR CLOSER COORDINATION AND INTEGRATION OF US AND NATO PLANNING. THE REFINEMENTS WILL INCREASE THE FLEXIBILITY OF OUR NUCLEAR PLANS AND ENHANCE THE POTENTIAL FOR CONTROLLING ESCALATION IN AREAS OF PARAMOUNT INTEREST TO NATO.

3. THE REVISED OPTIONS ARE BEING DESIGNED TO PERMIT
4. {U} FURTHER DETAILS REGARDING THESE PLANS WILL BE
PROVIDED YOUR STAFF VIA THE EXISTING MILITARY LIAISON CHANNELS
THROUGH YOUR REPRESENTATIVES TO THE JSTPS. END QUOTE. VANCE
REVW 25 MAY 1999 REAS 6

COORDINATION:

ISA: PP&NSCA
EUR/NATO
DUSD{PRJ} R. O'Brien
OJCS-J5
NSC

PREPARED BY: COL P. R. DRENNON
OASD/ISA/PP&NSCA{PBJ}, X55819
Coordination of JCS Message to SACEUR/SAKLANT: SIOP Revisions

SUMMARY (Describe briefly the requirement, background and action recommended):

(U) Origin: JCS

(S) BACKGROUND: As one result of the Nuclear Targeting Policy Review, the JCS are updating the SIOP Selected Attack Option (SAO) structure to increase the flexibility of our nuclear plans and enhance the potential for controlling escalation in areas of paramount interest to NATO (see proposed message at Tab A of JCS package for details).

(S) PURPOSE: The proposed message is intended to officially introduce into NATO military channels the restructuring of SIOP SAOs. To introduce the SAO restructuring in political channels, we propose the draft message next under be transmitted to USMISSION NATO.

(U) RECOMMENDATION: PDASD/ISA coordinate where indicated on the JCS form 9 and approve the draft message to USMISSION NATO.

WALTER SLOCOMBE

Acting Assistant Secretary of Defense
International Security Affairs

Lynne E. Davis
PDASD, PP&NSCA

31 MAY 1979

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COORDINATION OUTSIDE ISA (Continue on reverse)

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NAME, DIRECTORATE, EXTENSION, AND SIGNATURE OF ORIGINATING OFFICIAL:

COL DRENNON, PP&NSCA, X55819

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PREVIOUS EDITIONS OF THIS FORM ARE OBSOLETE.