

J.C.S. 1823/281

3 July 1956

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NOTE BY THE SECRETARIES

to the

JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF

on

CINCEUR/SACEUR 1959 ATOMIC WEAPONS REQUIREMENT STUDY

Reference: J.C.S. 1823/256

1. The enclosed letter by the Commander in Chief, U.S. European Command, USEUCOM/56/TS-Ser: 000500, dated 27 June 1956, and the CINCEUR/SACEUR 1959 Atomic Weapons Requirement Study,* are referred hereby to the Joint Strategic Plans Committee for consideration in connection with the study directed by SM-133-56, which study is now directed as a matter of priority.

2. It is desired that the report by the Joint Strategic Plans Committee be submitted by 8 August 1956.

*See 7/A dtd 8-3-56.
See Corrig. dtd 8-6-56.*

RICHARD H. PHILLIPS,
R. D. WENTWORTH,
Joint Secretariat.

* Not reproduced herewith; on file in Joint Secretariat.

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E N C L O S U R EHEADQUARTERS
UNITED STATES EUROPEAN COMMAND
Office of the Commander in Chief27 June 1956
USEUCOM/56/TS-Ser: 000500

MEMORANDUM FOR: The Joint Chiefs of Staff, Washington 25, D.C.
SUBJECT: CINCEUR/SACEUR 1959 Atomic Weapons Requirement Study

1. Forwarded herewith is "CINCEUR/SACEUR 1959 Atomic Weapons Requirement Study,"* prepared in response to SM-129-56,** "Atomic Weapon Requirement Studies for 1959," dated 15 February 1956.

2. The requirements stated for Part I were prepared without restriction as to an oralloy ceiling and with a free choice among weapons and delivery systems expected to be available in 1959. The stockpile distribution set forth in Part II was prepared under the oralloy ceiling provided by the Joint Chiefs of Staff, using programmed delivery vehicles and avoiding to the extent possible the use of weapons which are expected to be in short supply.

3. It should be emphasized that the stockpile distribution requested for Part II is not a measure of the atomic weapons requirement for this command. This stockpile distribution does not contain provisions for a reserve or for weapons to compensate for operational factors. Part II is, in essence, a listing of desired ground zeros on the basis of one weapon per expected target, but every effort has been made to build into the requested weapon stockpile sufficient flexibility to enable accomplishment of the highest priority tasks in the event of general hostilities in 1959.

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** Enclosure "A" to J.C.S. 1823/256

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4. A command coordination conference has resolved duplications in targets of mutual interest among CINCEUR/SACEUR and CINCSAC, CINCLANT and CINCNELM, except for certain airfields and ports in the forward area adjacent to forces of Allied Command, Europe, on which CINCEUR/SACEUR could not relinquish responsibility. Coordination results are reflected in the Appendices to the study.

5. A briefing team of two officers can be made available for conferences or presentations if desired.

/s/ ALFRED M. GRUENTHER
General, United States Army

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