



OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE  
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20301

*D. L. H. K.*

*Disrupted w/ President  
see file*

*25 November 1975*

*Robert [unclear]*

*Cables in draft  
originally*

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. RUMSFELD

SUBJECT: Communications on SALT Matters

1. In order to assure that you are apprised of substantive communications with the Soviets on SALT matters, you should arrange with Brent Scowcroft and Dick Cheney for the following:

- a. Messages or letters between the President and Brezhnev should be shown to you. *win 24 hr*
- b. Messages and the gist of discussions between HAK and Soviet officials, such as Gromyko and Dobrynin, also should be shown to you. *24 hr.*
- c. Substantive communications between the NSC and Ambassador Johnson should be provided to the Department. In addition, substantive responses or policy directions to Johnson should be coordinated in advance with the Department. *24 hr.*
- d. Substantive communications between (back and forth) the NSC and SCC Commissioner Graybeal also should be provided to the Department. *24 hr.*
- e. Substantive communications on SALT matters with the U.S. Ambassador to Moscow should be provided to the Department. An arrangement exists between the DOD and State for the exchange of messages. These messages include EXDIS and NODIS cables but you will note in the attached summary that the number of such cables has dropped drastically despite periodic efforts through Scowcroft, Ingersoll and Eagleburger to increase the flow. State, of course, receives practically all of the general service type messages of the DOD. *24 hr*
- f. When HAK is on a trip and meets privately with senior Soviet officials on SALT issues, you should see his communications with the President on these discussions. *MEMO*

SIGNER'S

2. The previous Secretary of Defense had an unwritten arrangement with HAK which called for draft NSDMs on SALT or MBFR to be coordinated with the Secretary of Defense. These drafts were sent by courier and seen only by the Military Assistant and Jim Wade who made substantive recommendations to the Secretary.



In general, all of the DOD changes were accommodated in the final NSDMs. You should work out a similar understanding with Scowcroft.

3. Minutes of both the Verification Panel and NSC meetings should be provided to the DOD. This new procedure would help clarify or minimize the possibility of any misunderstandings resulting from the minutes being used by senior officials at State or NSC in recommending new positions for SALT. ||

Attachment  
As stated

JOHN A. WICKHAM, JR.  
Major General, USA  
Military Assistant

