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SECRETARY OF THE ARMY
WASHINGTON

26 JUL 1976



22 JUL 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

SUBJECT: European Capabilities Enhancement (U)

(U) Under the direction of the Chief of Staff, US Army, a study team, led by LTG James F. Hollingsworth, was dispatched to Europe to conduct an assessment of combat capabilities and potential of the US Army in Europe. You and the Joint Chiefs of Staff were briefed on the results of the study on 13 July 1976.

~~(S)~~ As indicated in the briefing, LTG Hollingsworth identified several issues which will require analysis by your office and subsequent policy decisions. These major issues include:

- a. Establishment of 48 hours as the warning time for Defense planning and programing for the defense of NATO.
- b. Establishment of 15 days as the Defense planning factor within which a surprise attack against NATO must be stopped and the Warsaw Pact's offensive capability destroyed, while continuing to plan for sustained conventional conflict.
- c. Deployment of three separate brigades to NORTHAG to serve as the foundation of a three division corps to be capable of employment in NORTHAG within 48 hours.
- d. Assessment of US requirements for forces, contingency stocks, and facilities south of the Alps.

(U) Because of the implications for the other Services, these issues have been referred also to the Joint Chiefs of Staff for consideration. The Army Staff is analyzing LTG Hollingsworth's recommendations that can be addressed within the Army. The Army comments on the Defense Guidance will recommend that you examine the recommendations in paragraphs a and b above for possible inclusion in the Defense Guidance.


Martin R. Hoffmann

Classified By: Director, DAMO-SS
SUBJECT TO GENERAL DECLASSIFICATION
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