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ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE  
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20301

3 MAR 1976

INTERNATIONAL SECURITY AFFAIRS

In reply refer to:  
I-21014/76

MEMORANDUM FOR THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

SUBJECT: SIOP Briefing for the NATO NPG -- ACTION MEMORANDUM

At the meeting of the NATO Nuclear Planning Group (NPG) in Hamburg you agreed to consider providing to NPG an updated briefing on SIOP and on its coordination with SACEUR's Scheduled Strike Program. We are proceeding on the assumption that you intend to provide the briefing and to present it yourself.

I have asked the Joint Chiefs of Staff to prepare the briefing for your use. One difficulty that may arise is compressing the material available into a reasonable length of time. The original SIOP briefing we provided to NATO in 1966 was a half-day presentation, and the one in 1972 was about an hour. We are asking the JCS to provide an up to 60 minutes briefing. This could be shortened later if you desire.

On the assumption that the next NPG Ministerial meeting will take place during the week of 14 June, we are asking the Joint Chiefs of Staff to forward their proposed briefing to us by 1 May for review at the OSD level. We suggest that you review the briefing on 26 May at 1500.

This briefing will not replace the Strategic Balance briefing which traditionally opens the NPG Ministerial meetings. If the discussion at the next ministerial meeting is to focus on "improvements to the effectiveness of NATO's theater nuclear forces," the Strategic Balance briefing ought to be relatively short, e.g., 10-15 minutes, updating material previously presented. If you agree, we will prepare the Strategic Balance briefing accordingly. The briefing of SIOP would occur later in the meeting.

Amos Jordan  
Acting Assistant Secretary

5 MAR 1976

Scope of SIOP briefing: DR APPROVE \_\_\_\_\_ DISAPPROVE

Scope of Strategic Balance briefing: DR APPROVE \_\_\_\_\_ DISAPPROVE

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SEC DEF HAS SEEN

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Classified by ASD/ISA  
SUBJECT TO GENERAL DECLASSIFICATION SCHEDULE OF  
EXECUTIVE ORDER 11652. AUTOMATICALLY DOWNGRADED  
AT TWO YEAR INTERVALS. DECLASSIFIED ON 31 Dec 1984

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