

FILE 104



OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
DIRECTOR, PLANNING AND EVALUATION

WASHINGTON, D. C. 20301

8 October 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
DEPUTY SECRETARIES OF DEFENSE



SUBJECT: Cruise Missile Briefing - **INFORMATION** MEMORANDUM

Cruise missiles will present major issues for decision in the first half of 1977 as a result of:

the pressure to reach a SALT TWO agreement prior to the expiration of the Interim Agreement in October, 1977;

the DSARC **II** scheduled for January to decide whether or not to proceed into engineering development on ALCM and SLCM; and

increasing Congressional pressure to move to a single cruise missile program, especially if **DoD** should decide to put both ALCM and SLCM into engineering development.

A considerable amount of detailed (and persuasive) analysis has led to widespread support for the air-launched cruise missile concept. On the other-hand, **DoD's** failure to support, with detailed quantitative analysis, our stated rationale for the other launch options, i.e., submarine-, surface ship- and land-launch, has greatly reduced our ability to either make internal programmatic decisions on the scope and pace of our overall cruise missile program or to gain support for our positions in Congress and the SALT community. This is evidenced by our uncertain direction in the ship- and land-launched portions of the Tomahawk program and our inability to gain Congressional approval for same in the FY 77 Budget.

Accordingly, my staff has been independently evaluating the potential cost-effectiveness implications of **sea-** and land-launched cruise missiles under a variety of conflict scenarios. We plan to have the majority of our work completed by mid-December and would be prepared to brief you, as well as others throughout **DoD**, on our results prior to the upcoming DSARC.

E. C. Aldridge, Jr.
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