

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

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January 5, 1979

Presidential Directive/NSC-44

TO: The Vice President
The Secretary of Defense
The Secretary of Energy
The Director, Office of Management and Budget

SUBJECT: FY 1979-1981 Nuclear Weapons Stockpile (U)

The proposed FY 79-81 Nuclear Weapons Stockpile Plan is approved subject to future policy and programming decisions. The stockpile levels represent authorized ceilings, not to be exceeded, except as provided below or otherwise approved by the President. (U)

For the period FY 1979-81, the following are authorized:

- The production and retirement of those quantities of nuclear warheads and nuclear warhead parts necessary to achieve and maintain the approved stockpile, as well as the production of additional parts of nuclear weapons necessary for transfer to the United Kingdom pursuant to the Agreement for Cooperation. (SFRD)
- DOE, in coordination with DOD, to initiate production of such long lead-time nuclear warhead parts as may be necessary to prepare for FY 1982-83 production of warheads required to support approved DOD forces [redacted] This does not apply, however, to production of the nuclear warhead for the Standard Missile-2, which has not been approved by the President. (SFRD) 1.5 (a) & (g)
- DOE to produce and transfer to DOD parts of nuclear weapons, not containing special nuclear materials, as may be agreed by DOE and DOD. These parts may be used in nuclear weapons, training programs, research and development, and production. (U)
- DOE, in coordination with DOD, to make such changes in FY 1979-81 nuclear warhead production and/or retirement schedules as may be necessitated by changes in DOE

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Review On December 14, 1984

Declassify on: OADR

UNCLASSIFIED

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under provisions of E.O. 12958
by D. Van Tassel, National Security Council
188-212

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materiel availability, production/retirement capabilities, or quality assurance requirements; or as necessary to reflect adjustments in military requirements or delivery assets, provided the adjustments do not exceed ten percent in each year in strategic offensive, strategic defensive, tactical, or fleet warhead totals. Any changes within the ten percent limit that would represent a significant shift in defense requirements or warhead production capabilities will be submitted to the President for approval. (SFRD)

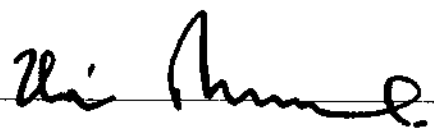
-- DOD to designate as retired and, in coordination with DOE, to retain custody of nuclear warheads for a period of up to 18 months from the designation date, if necessary to reduce DOE requirements for weapons storage during periods of high production workload at DOE assembly facilities. (S)

-- DOE to maintain a surplus [redacted] ^{1.5} above annual weapon requirements to provide a contingency reserve. However, prior to submission of the FY 81 budget, DOE, DOD, and OMB are to inform the President whether budget savings could be realized without adversely impacting national security by more closely aligning our special nuclear materials production capacity with projected requirements. (SFRD) (a) & (g)

The FY 1982-1986 Stockpile Projection that was submitted with the FY 1979-1981 Stockpile Plan has been noted; it should be updated to reflect policy and programming decisions as they occur, and used as the point of departure for the development of future Stockpile Plans. The FY 1980-1982 Stockpile Plan approval request and FY 1983-1987 Stockpile Projection should be submitted during June 1979. (U)

This directive supersedes PD/NSC-26, dated December 27, 1977. (S)

cc: The Secretary of State
The Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff



Brzigniew Brzezinski

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