

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

October 24, 1980

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Presidential Directive/NSC-61

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

SUBJECT: FY 1981-1983 Nuclear Weapons Stockpile (U)

The President has approved the proposed Nuclear Weapons Stockpile Plan for FY 1981-1983 subject to future policy and program/budget decisions. The stockpile levels represent authorized ceilings, not to be exceeded except as provided below or otherwise approved by the President.

For the period FY 1981-83, 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 of Cooperation.

-- DOE, in coordination with DOD, to initiate production of such long lead-time nuclear warhead parts as may be necessary to prepare for FY 1984-1985 production of warheads required to support approved DOD forces.

-- 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.

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-- DOE, in coordination with DOD, to make such changes in the production and/or retirement of nuclear warheads during FY 1981-83 as may be necessary to reflect changes in DOE materiel availabilities, production/retirement capabilities, or quality assurance requirements; or as necessary to reflect changes as may be required by DOD because of adjustments in military requirements or delivery assets, provided the changes do not exceed plus or minus 10 percent in each year in strategic offensive, strategic defensive, tactical, or fleet warhead totals. Any such changes which indicate a significant shift in defense requirements or DOE production capabilities will be submitted to the President for approval.

-- 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.

The FY 1984-1988 Stockpile Projection which was submitted with the FY 1981-83 Stockpile Plan has been noted; it should be updated to reflect policy and programming decisions and used as the point of departure for the development of future Stockpile Plans.

The next joint submission should focus on the budget year (FY 1983) by submitting the plan for FY 1982-85 and an outyears projection to include FY 1986-90.

The Stockpile Projection, for the years beyond FY 1985, should be modified to enhance its utility in resource (particularly Special Nuclear Materials) planning. These modifications are to be developed during FY 1981 by the DOD and DOE in conjunction with the NSC staff.

This next stockpile plan and projection should be submitted to the President for approval not later than September 1, 1981.

This directive supersedes PD/NSC-56, dated February 27, 1980.



Zbigniew Brzezinski

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