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Authority IND 959228
By TJ NARA Date 7/17/01

European Region, ISA
March 23, 1960

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Retain class n Change / classify to NATO DEFENSE MINISTERS' CONFERENCE

With concurrence of STAT / NATO

Declassify In part and excuse as shown PROVISION OF ADVANCED WEAPONS TO NATO COUNTRIES

EO 12356, Sec. 1.3 (a) (6-1-1-95) (Other than IRBMs)

FPC/HDR by ST
Withdrawal No. 15-3

Background Paper

Summary

Advanced weapons are essential to implement NATO military strategy, and increasing numbers of units equipped with such weapons are included among the minimum essential NATO forces' requirements for the period through 1963. The U.S. is prepared to assist other NATO countries, to the extent permitted by Congressional appropriations, to acquire new weapons called for by MC-70 which they are unable to procure from their own resources. Through FY 1960, the U.S. has allocated approximately a billion dollars for a variety of missiles and modern aircraft and related training for its NATO allies, in addition to the advanced weapons made available for purchases. The U.S. will also continue to assist European NATO programs of common production of advanced weapons. In view of limited manufacturing capabilities and of limited MAP fund availabilities, advanced weapons are allocated to NATO countries on a priority basis, taking into account the recommendations of NATO commanders and JCS and the ability of recipients to absorb, utilize and maintain the weapons effectively. In consonance with country capabilities, future programs of military assistance to NATO countries are expected to emphasize the provision of advanced weapons and related training to an increasing extent. U.S. plans to provide increased assistance in advanced weapons are dependent, to a considerable degree, upon increased efforts by other NATO countries to meet more of their own requirements.

1. Requirement for Advanced Weapons. NATO military strategy depends on a fully effective nuclear retaliatory force and shield forces having the capability to respond quickly, with nuclear weapons, should the situation so require, to any type of aggression. The necessity for such forces was recognized in the Political Directive to the NATO military authorities adopted by the North Atlantic Council on December 13, 1956, and has been reaffirmed in various NATO documents approved since then. The force requirements set forth in MC-70 as the minimum essential to implement NATO military strategy for the period 1958-1963 include increasing numbers of units over this period equipped with various types of missiles and atomic capable aircraft.

2. U.S. Support. The U.S. strongly supports MC-70 and fully appreciates the urgent importance of effectively integrating new weapons into NATO forces to counter growing Soviet capabilities. It recognizes also problems faced by many European NATO countries in modernizing their forces and is prepared to assist such countries under the Mutual Security Program, to the extent permitted by Congressional appropriations, to acquire the advanced weapons required by MC-70 which they are unable to procure from their own resources. Thus, approximately a billion dollars has been approved under military assistance programs since FY 1956 to finance an increasing variety of missiles (including IRBMs) and advanced aircraft for our NATO allies and the related training. In addition, of course, such weapons have been, and will continue to be, made available for purchase by our NATO allies.

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3. Coordinated NATO Research, Development and Production of Advanced Weapons. In addition to providing new weapons from its own production, the U.S. is assisting European NATO efforts, undertaken in accordance with the agreement reached at the NATO Heads of Government Meeting in December 1957, to develop coordinated programs of research and production of selected advanced weapons. (See separate papers on "Coordinated European Production Program" [Other than Mid-range Missiles], NATO MRBM Production Programs, and NATO Coordinated Aircraft Production.)

4. Content of Advanced Weapons Programs. Programs approved through FY 1960 include surface-to-air missile systems (Nike), surface-to-surface ground missile systems (Honest John, Corporal, Sergeant, and Matador), ship-to-air missile systems (Terrier and Tartar), air-to-air missiles (Sidewinder) and necessary aircraft modifications, F-84F atomic delivery conversion kits, F-100 supersonic aircraft, and IRBMs (Thor and Jupiter). Attached is a summary of the status of each of the advanced weapons included in programs approved thus far.

5. Priorities and Limitations. Current U.S. production facilities are not adequate to meet all of NATO's requirements for advanced weapons within the recommended time periods. In view of the limited manufacturing capabilities as well as of limited Congressional appropriations for military assistance, advanced weapons becoming available are allocated to NATO countries able and willing to man, utilize and maintain them, to meet highest priority requirements, taking into account the military advice of SACEUR and SACLANT. The extent to which the U.S. is able to assist in modernization of NATO forces is dependent to a considerable degree on the willingness and the increasing capability of the other NATO countries to provide most of the maintenance support for their own forces.

6. Future Prospects. It is intended that future programs of U.S. military assistance to NATO countries will emphasize the provision of advanced weapons and related training. A substantial portion of the FY 1961 MAP, now being prepared for presentation to Congress, will probably be allocated for such purposes. The U.S. believes that it can be most helpful to the NATO effort by devoting an increasing proportion of U.S. aid to new weapons; also, that the increasing portion of its own defense expenditures which it devotes to research and development of new weapons redounds to the benefit of NATO as a whole. The U.S. will also continue to provide support to NATO programs of coordinated European production of advanced weapons and in programming deliveries of advanced weapons, will take account of European production programs as well as of the primary consideration of meeting MC-70 requirements. However, U.S. plans to continue emphasis on advanced weapons assistance, and the necessary public and Congressional approval of such programs will depend to a considerable degree on increasing efforts by the European NATO countries to meet more of their own conventional requirements.

Attachment

Paper entitled "Status of
New Weapons Programmed for
NATO Countries through FY 1960"

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ATTACHMENT

STATUS OF NEW WEAPONS PROGRAMMED FOR NATO COUNTRIES THROUGH FY 1961

1. Approved and Funded Through FY 60:

NIKE. 30 bns. offered various NATO countries including 18 under MAP and 12 for sale (to Germany); 20 bns. accepted, including 14 under MAP and 6 purchased. Belgium and Denmark have not yet accepted one each of 2 bns. offered. 11 bns. have been delivered through February 1960.

HONEST JOHN. Equivalent of 45½ bns. offered various NATO countries, 23½ under MAP, 19½ for sale to Germany, and 2½ to U.K. to be financed with Plan K funds; 22½ bns. accepted under MAP; 9½ bns. purchased. 17½ bns. have been delivered through February 1960.

CORPORAL. 2 bns. provided U.K. financed by Plan K funds.

MATADOR. Partial squadron purchased by Germany.

TERRIER & TARTAR. One TERRIER battery installation purchased by Italy and additional components of this battery programmed for Italy in FY 1959. One battery and 40 missiles included for Netherlands and a portion of TARTAR launching system programmed for France in FY 1959. FYI One TERRIER battery with 40 missiles and a TARTAR battery are included in the FY 60 program for Netherlands and Italy respectively. END FYI.

IREM. Four THEOR squadrons programmed for the U.K. financed in large part from Plan K funds. Deliveries to be completed March 1960. Two JUPITER squadrons are programmed for Italy and initial funds for one squadron for Turkey are included in the FY 60 program.

SIDEWINDER. Bulk of \$32.5 million worth of these air-to-air missiles programmed in FY 58 and FY 59 allocated to NATO area. These missiles and a small allotment for Denmark and Turkey in FY 60 provide 50% of the basic load of 16 per aircraft modified to carry this weapon. Except for Greece and Turkey, all weapons beyond the 50% basic load are to be purchased by recipient countries from European production.

F-84F CONVERSION KITS. Approximately 1,000 of these kits provided to several NATO countries to give atomic capability to their fighter bomber aircraft.

F-100 AIRCRAFT. Nine squadrons offered; 8 accepted (4 France; 3 Turkey; 1 Denmark), remaining squadrons under consideration for training or attrition replacements.

Attachment
Page 1 of 2

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2. FY 60 Items Pending BOB Apportionment:

LACROSSE. One bn. for Italy.

SERGEANT. One bn. for Belgium.

MACE. Partial system and 18 missiles for 60 missile squadron. Remainder in FY 61 program.

3. New Weapons in Proposed FY 61 Programs:

SERGEANT. One bn. for Netherlands.

DAVY CROCKETT. Eight platoons - Italy 2; Greece 2; Turkey 2; Belgium 1; Netherlands 1.

TARTAR. One bty. for Italy.

TERRIER. Two btys. for Italy; one for Netherlands on a proposed 60% U.S.-40% Dutch cost-sharing basis.

F-104. Nine squadrons: Turkey 1; Greece 1; Norway 1 on a grant basis; Belgium, Netherlands, and Italy two each on a proposed cost-sharing basis still subject to discussions with the countries.

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