September 26, 1980

Presidential Directive/MSC-60

To: The Vice President
    The Secretary of State
    The Secretary of Defense
    The Secretary of Energy
    The Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff

SUBJECT: Nuclear Weapons Deployments (U)

The President has approved the Secretary of Defense's Nuclear Weapons Deployment Request for FY 1980-81. (U)

Deviations from the deployment levels approved by this Directive are authorized only as follows:

-- Where necessary for prudent management, actual deployments may vary by plus or minus 10 percent (up to a maximum of (8) from the total authorizations by country and afloat or by category for each region, whichever is more restrictive, except: (78)

(1) Where substantial changes in deployments are scheduled to occur between fiscal years, in which case the 10 percent will apply after the new deployment level is reached, but not later than the end of each fiscal year. (G)

(2) To provide logistical flexibility and allow for the withdrawal of the 1,000 warheads from Europe as soon as feasible, the Special Deployment Category End FY 1980 level may vary by plus 250 or minus 250 warheads. (9/PRD)

(3) For nuclear weapons the plus 10 percent but no minimum deployment level is required. (8)

-- The conditional authorizations contained in the request are approved subject to the specified conditions being met. (U)

Prior to proceeding with the approved deployments, the Departments of State and Defense should obtain the President's approval of a jointly agreed strategy for consulting with our Allies. (E)

---TOP SECRET/FORMERLY RESTRICTED DATA---
Review on September 22, 2000
Extended by Z. Brzezinski
Reason for Extension: NSC 1.13(f)
Any other changes to the approved deployment levels must be coordinated between the Departments of State and Defense, and submitted to the President for approval. (U)

The following additional rules govern nuclear weapons deployments:

-- For the purpose of this directive, the NATO Guidelines Area (NGA) (Belgium, the Netherlands, and the FRG) is treated as an entity. However, the NSC Staff and the State Department will be notified prior to any redistribution within the NGA that would result in increased weapons levels within either Belgium or the Netherlands. (C)

-- The support of non-US forces will be in accordance with the Programs of Cooperation (POC) levels, subject to the following constraints: (TS)

(1) Custodial arrangements are to be complete and units and facilities are to be certified and have US unilateral communications to the supporting US custodial detachment prior to the deployment of weapons in support of non-US forces. Pending fulfillment of these conditions, these weapons may be deployed in support of US forces, subject to the other restrictions in this directive. (E/FRD)

(2) In the event of unexpected delays in scheduled modernization programs, weapons may be deployed up to the previous year's POC levels, provided the total authorizations by country or by category for each region are not exceeded. (S/FRD)

-- All nuclear weapons deployed to NATO will have permissive action link devices installed and locked, except for those in the NGA or being returned to CONUS for retirement. (TS/FRD)

This directive supersedes PD/NSC-51. (C)

The proposed Nuclear Weapons Deployment Authorization request for FY 1981-1982 should be submitted for Presidential approval no later than December 31, 1980. (U)

Zbigniew Brzezinski