

NORTH ATLANTIC MILITARY COMMITTEE

COMITE MILITAIRE DE L'ATLANTIQUE NORD

Standing Group

Groupe Permanent

D/SECY(IPT)-23-58

25 January 1958

MEMORANDUM FOR THE STANDING GROUP

SUBJECT: Minimum Essential Force Requirements 1958-1963

Reference: IPT 197/27 - Enclosure "A" (Draft circulated under cover of SGWM-33-58)

1. The Standing Group Intelligence Committee proposes the following amendments to reference document:

a. Page 1 Line 13

Delete heading of paragraph 2 and substitute:

"Objectives under conditions short of general war."

b. Page 1 Line 21

Heading of paragraph 3 to read:

"Military Objectives in General War."

c. Page 1 Line 27

Before "Soviet Bloc" insert,

"the Soviet Union and to the".

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DOCUMENT RECLASSIFICATION MEMO: #10  
Per Authority  
By: *JUR* Date: *Jan 68*

d. Page 2 Line 1

Before "Allied" insert "other".

e. Page 2 Lines 17 - 18

Delete "The Soviet initial objectives" and substitute,

"Soviet Military Objectives elsewhere".

f. Page 2 Lines 28 - 30

Delete sub-para c and substitute,

"Soviet attempts to achieve some of the objectives in paragraph

3a and b above would be undertaken in peacetime through

UK political and/or economic steps. (or by local actions.)  
reserv.  
in brackets

DISTRIBUTION: A1-9, 11, 13, 16, B, C,  
E9, 10, X (German IPT Planner)

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Page 2

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g. Page 3 Line 11

Add at end "which will continue to form the bulk of the equipment of the Soviet Armed Forces."

h. Page 3 Line 28

Delete "estimated" and substitute "assumed".

i. Page 3 Line 29

[UK posi- After "4,000" add in brackets "(2,500 - 3,000)."  
tion in  
brackets]

j. Page 4 Lines 4 - 6

Delete from "nominal" to the end of the sentence. Substitute, "various estimated maximum ranges from 75 to 700 nautical miles and CEP's varying from 1200 feet to 3 nautical miles, depending upon range."

k. Page 4 Line 6

[UK posi- Delete "From 1958 onwards" and substitute "Now  
tion in  
brackets] (In 1961)"

l. Page 4 Line 9

In blank, insert "2-3".

m. Page 4 Line 15

[Fr delete Put "or less" in brackets.  
in  
brackets]

n. Page 4 Line 17

After "percent" add "initially, but which would improve thereafter".

o. Page 4 Line 20

[US reser- After "ICBMS" insert "(using preproduction models).  
vation in  
brackets]

p. Page 4 Line 29

After "date" delete remainder of paragraph to Page 5 Line 6 and substitute:

"There could now be operational a missile capable of being launched from a submarine with a range of at least 500 nautical miles. By 1961/62 a missile with a range of at least 1000 nautical miles could probably be operational."

q. Page 5 Line 5

[UK posi- After "1961", add "(/1962)".  
tion in  
brackets]

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Before "15" add "about".

s. Page 5 Line 13

After "In" add "1959/".

t. Page 5 Line 19, 20

Delete "supersonic" and delete "still faster".

u. Page 5 Line 22Delete "There could now" and substitute,  
"Between now and 1960 there could".v. Page 5 Line 25

Delete "1960" and substitute, "The period 1960-1962".

w. Page 5 Line 27

Delete "15" and substitute "10".

x. Page 6 Line 28

After "Strength" add "with regard to manpower".

y. Page 7 Line 23

Before "continued" insert "necessary".

z. Page 8 Lines 16 - 18Delete from "By the end" to end of sentence and  
substitute:

"By 1960, the USSR could have about 20 submarines converted to fire missiles. In 1962, about 20 new construction conventional powered submarines able to fire missiles could be available. By the end of 1963 there could be about 10 nuclear powered missile submarines. Whatever combinations of types of submarines and missiles the USSR may adopt, their total missile submarines at the end of the period will probably not exceed 5-10 percent of their total submarine strength."

aa. Page 8 Line 23[Fr reser-  
vation in Delete "25-30" and substitute ("about 25").  
brackets]bb. Page 8 Line 27[US reser-  
vation in Delete "600" and substitute ("500-600").  
brackets]

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pp. Page 15 Line 20

After "to" add "the Soviet Union and to the".

qq. Page 15 Line 21

Delete "At the same time" and substitute:

"As soon as possible, but without prejudice to surprise".

rr. Page 16 Line 7

Delete sub-paras (5) and substitute:

[US  
res] "(5) Air and guided missile action against production, control  
and population centres, and thereby national morale, in North  
America, Europe, and the United Kingdom, and, as appropriate  
in the Middle East and North Africa."

ss. Page 16 Line 20

Add "US and Fr position" in margin.

tt. Page 16 Line 23

Add new sub-para:

"(1) To carry out political and economic penetrations, and to  
confront the Free World nations with the implicit threat of  
Bloc forces-in-being and particularly of potential nuclear  
destruction, all designed to weaken the cohesion of the West and  
to undermine the will and capacity to resist Communist  
aggression."

Renumber present sub-paras.

uu. Page 16 Line 35

Before "local" add "similar".

vv. Page 16 Line 36

Add alternate para b as follows:

"b. In circumstances other than those of general war  
Soviet action will be confined to subversive activities and  
economic penetration carried on under the guise of "peaceful  
co-existence"; they will not include the employment of Soviet  
UK Bloc Armed Forces in military ventures unless, in the Soviet  
posi- appreciation the defense posture of NATO as a whole and the  
tion] NATO shield forces in particular is so weak that the Soviets  
will estimate that they could indulge in such ventures without  
risk of provoking general war."

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2. The Standing Group will consider these amendments at the continuation of its 363rd meeting to be held at 1500 hours on 26 January.

H. V. Fraser

H. V. FRASER  
Colonel, British Army  
Deputy Secretary

HVF:ce

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