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John Gordon's 31 October Tactical Systems Paper

Para 4. Strawman measures for Soviet tactical nuclear weapons

- Consolidation

-- Consolidate tactical nuclear weapons being retained at sites providing the maximum security and control, even if those might be operational bases.

-- Consolidate those weapons to be destroyed at locations separate from operational units.

-- Determine the optimum number of storage sites by how best to maximize control and security of the weapons, i.e., minimum is secondary consideration to security and control. (For operational unit weapons, this might be operational unit storage sites.)

-- Impose additional control on weapons to be destroyed, i.e., ensure control of storage sites are placed in an agency other than that with operational control of delivery vehicles.

- Weapon Disassembly

-- For weapons to be retained (operational), remove critical components and store these items at location(s) sufficiently removed and secure that loss of site control, by itself, would not permit complete weapons to be assembled. (For weapons at operational sites, this component separation might be acceptable, where an actual dismantling probably would not.)

-- For weapons to be removed from the stockpile and destroyed, as soon as practicable extract components (as above), but then render the component(s) non-operational by physical or mechanical destruction. (A more invasive interim process, "poisoning" of the warhead's pit could also be suggested to neuter the weapon itself.) Then, as determined by schedule, accomplish the longer term dismantlement process (at a maintenance/storage facility which could be the same site).

- Inventory/Tagging

-- Inventory and tag those weapons to be removed and destroyed. (Neither side should be averse to a tracking mechanism for this class of weapons as long as it's intrusiveness was not extended into the actual demilitarization facilities; this level of monitoring would likely be too intrusive for application to operational weapons, i.e., those retained.)

- Presence at Sites

-- Establish a monitoring presence at storage sites where

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weapons are being held pending removal and destruction. (This regime would likely be too intrusive at operational sites.)

-- Propose the scope of this presence be bilateral between the Union and the U.S.

-- Include all sites -- republics and the U.S. -- that hold the non-operational weapons (bringing the Alliance in raises the monitoring of UK sites in Germany and the UK, an issue that has not been raised in prior negotiations).

-- Including the U.N. in the monitoring regime might establish a positive precedent for international involvement, but broadens the scope of any agreement, passes control of monitoring to an agency not answerable to either of the major signatories, and probably would not provide the major participants with the assurances necessary.

- Technical Assistance

-- Offer U.S. assistance to the Union and/or any inter-republic nuclear agency, specifically in those areas where design information would not be the restraining factor, e.g., safety standards, transportation, and security standards and procedures.

-- Offer U.S. assistance in transporting and disposing of special nuclear material.

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