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NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20508

October 18, 1991

MEMORANDUM FOR AMBASSADOR REGINALD BARTHOLOMEW
MR. STEPHEN HADLEY
MR. VICTOR ALESSI
MR. DOUGLAS MACEACHIN
LTG JOHN SHALIKASHVILI
AMBASSADOR READ HANMER

FROM: JOHN GORDON
SUBJECT: Paper for Nuclear Initiatives Meeting

I suggest we meet Monday, October 21, at 3:00 in Room 208 to take stock of where we are on the President's initiative.

One issue we should resolve soon is the modalities for the discussions on command and control, safety/security/ transportation, and warhead dismantlement. I offer a short paper (attached) to serve as a basis for discussion and decision on this issue. The paper has not been reviewed or approved by any agency.

Attachment
As stated

Office of the Secretary of Defense
Chief, RDD, ESD, WHS
Date: 3 Apr 2014 Authority: EO 13526
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Consultations With the Soviets
on Nuclear Weapons Control, Surety, and Dismantlement

Purpose

This paper lays out a top-level approach to launching and managing the consultations on nuclear weapons command and control, surety (safety, security, transportation, control) and dismantlement which the Soviets agreed to in Moscow.

Objectives

Our main objectives in conducting the consultations are to A.) reduce the risks of both a nuclear weapon accident and loss of control of a nuclear weapon in the Soviet Union given the domestic turbulence there, and B.) to facilitate the safe and rapid dismantlement of the weapons the Soviets have promised to so dismantle. Supporting objectives include:

- To learn as much as possible about Soviet systems and procedures for nuclear weapons C2, surety, and dismantlement in order to identify any weaknesses or deficiencies that might be remediable through U.S. assistance.
- To increase transparency in their nuclear weapons management system in order to gain confidence that they are fulfilling their unilateral removal and destruction commitments.
- To set in motion a consultative process wherein initial successes can form the basis for more ambitious interactions leading to enhanced security for both sides.

ISSUES FOR DISCUSSION

Bilateral Forum

- Experts groups associated with the Bartholomew-Obukhov Group
- Meetings of experts held in capitals or at relevant technical facilities
- Alternatively, most meetings to be held in Geneva

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- Meetings will be technical in nature with the technical discussions led by the agency with overall responsibility

U.S. Management

- Need a centralized but flexible policy process to guide overall discussions.
- All meetings and discussions with the Soviets (and with republics) will be instructed.
- NSC-chaired subcommittee responsible for overall development of discussion materials and instructions. Overall guidance from PNI Steering Group.
- Interagency working groups on the specific issues:
 - Nuclear command and control (OJCS/OSD chair)
 - Safety, security, transportation, storage (OSD/DOE chair)
 - Warhead dismantlement (DOE chair).
- Day-to-day management would be improved by designating an individual to help expedite preparations of materials and ensure consistency and continuity between working groups. This individual would also be the policy community focal point at the bilateral experts meetings -- again ensuring consistency and overall coordination among the various groups.

Next Bartholomew-Obukhov Meeting

- Meet by mid-November
- Agenda:
 - Update data to be offered on withdrawals and dismantlement
 - Establish expert groups
 - Define topics
 - Broad briefings on command and control and nuclear systems management
 - Other topics ??

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