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THE DEPUTY SECRETARY OF STATE  
WASHINGTON

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7  
August 26, 1980

MEMORANDUM FOR: Mr. Lloyd Cutler  
The White House

From: Warren Christopher *W.C.*

Subject: PD-59 Chronology

The attached chronology has not yet been reviewed by Reg Bartholomew who will be returning to Washington later this week. I will send you any modifications that he suggests.

We have not yet contacted Cy Vance to ask for his recollections. Do you want to do that or should we? ✓

Attachment:

As stated.

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With ~~Top Secret~~ Attachment.

CCC

PD-59 CHRONOLOGY

- August 24, 1977 PD-18 ("US National Strategy") established general strategic targeting policy and directed SecDef to undertake a review of targeting policy. Pending that review, the US was to continue to use its nuclear forces according to NSDM 242. State did not participate in the ensuing study. (We have no record of having received a copy of August 24, 1977 memo to SecDef tasking targeting review.)
- State expressed an interest in having the targeting review (as well as other "PD-18 follow-on" studies) done on an interagency basis but was told by the NSC staff that DoD would do the studies and then submit them for interagency review. (No documentation.)
- June 1, 1978 State received information copy of Phase I report of the Targeting Policy Review, which analyzed the key issues, after it had been approved by SecDef. No one from State participated in Phase I. Outside consultants were involved.
- July 14, 1978 Letter from Gompert to Slocombe with unsolicited informal comments, suggesting State participation in Phase II, and commenting on the contents. (State re-ceived no response to these comments and did not participate in Phase II.)
- September 29, 1978 Our records give no indication that strategic targeting policy was addressed at this meeting.
- November 28, 1978 SecDef sends finished Policy Review (Phases I & II) to President, copy to SecState.
- February 21, 1979 Gelb sent memorandum to Aaron/McGiffert/LTG Smith on DoD's Nuclear Targeting Policy Review suggesting that several of the study recommendations (flexibility, endurance, political and military planning,

LUA target package, data base, DoD exercises) be discussed in a PRC. Other subjects for discussion also suggested. No reply from DoD or NSC.

April 4, 25,  
26, 1979

SCC meetings on targeting.

- o First SCC meeting. Initial discussion of broad targeting issues: industry, population, hard target kill. Vance attended.
- o Second SCC meeting. Four briefings, no discussion. No summary of conclusions received. Vance attended.
- o Third SCC meeting. Discussion of range of targeting issues: China, "regionalization," hard target kill, launch under attack. Christopher attended. No summary of conclusions received. No decisions taken. DoD was directed to draft more specific rationales and proposals on several key issues. State SCC representative suggested further work be done on interagency basis but was told by Chairman that DoD would do the work and circulate its proposals for interagency comment before submission to President.

Autumn 1979

PM asked OSD and NSC staffs about the status of the follow-on studies called for by the SCC. PM was told that some of the studies were started and some changes to our targeting plans were being made. State received no studies.

November-  
December 1979

State provided working level comments and suggestions on presentation of targeting policy in SecDef's FY 1981 Annual Report.

*what were they?*

February 25, 1980

Bartholomew sent memo to Komer suggesting a mini-PRC to discuss current targeting policy and the status of follow-on studies called for by the 1979 SCCs (copy sent to MGen. Welch). No reply received.

March 5, 1980

Bartholomew asked Slocombe and McGiffert about status of our request to Komer for a mini-PRC and follow-on work on targeting policy. OSD "noted" our inquiry. State received none of the follow-on analyses or any other information.

March 1980

State and ACDA received the Consolidated Guidance (CG) after it had been reviewed and commented upon by the Services and approved by SecDef as basis for FY 82 Defense programs and budgeting. (The strategic nuclear forces chapter of the CG concentrated on force survivability and modernization issues. It did not discuss strategic targeting issues.) State's suggested revisions in the earlier Defense Policy Guidance's treatment of strategic nuclear policy were not accepted by OSD.

June 3, 1980

State Department first received copy of SecDef's briefing to the NATO Nuclear Planning Group on SecDef's plane enroute to Norway. *used?*

Note: ACDA's only participation in the entire process was at the three SCC meetings in 1979.