

*Recd upon for Cdr*  
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MEMORANDUM

V 3310-6 TD 7067 (DConP)

10 March, 1967

The Minister

NUCLEAR ASW WEAPONS STORAGE IN CANADA

1. On 2 November, 1966, Cabinet approved a joint memorandum from the Secretary of State for External Affairs and the Minister of National Defence recommending that it be agreed in principle that the United States Navy be permitted to store airborne nuclear ASW weapons in Canada, subject to consummation of a mutually satisfactory agreement, the negotiation of which was to be undertaken by the Secretary of State for External Affairs. The purpose of this memorandum is to apprise you of the results of recent discussions which have taken place interdepartmentally and with JC officials dealing with the following aspects:

- a. Rules of Engagement. The United States Navy have provided us with information concerning their rules of Engagement as they apply to attacks on submarines. The rules are very stringent and are, in fact, identical to those used by Canadian Maritime Forces. They prohibit attacks until the submarine has been positively identified as hostile. Also, the submarine must have carried out an attack against Canada or the United States or warships of either country. In addition, once authority has been granted to carry nuclear ASW weapons on US aircraft, the aircraft commanders are also governed by further restrictions.
- b. Authorization for Use of Nuclear Weapons. The terms of the agreement will provide that the weapons will be released for operational use upon declaration of a NORAD Defence Condition 1 or a higher state of alert, or in the emergency circumstances set forth in paragraph 3(e) of the Consultation Agreement of September 17, 1965 between the two governments, or when otherwise authorized by both governments. To provide for action in the emergency circumstances referred to above, it is anticipated that the Prime Minister acting on behalf of the Government of Canada will provide "timely authorization" to the President of the United States for the operational use of these weapons. The wording of the document that will provide for "timely authorization" is now being studied by External Affairs and this department. It is expected that co-incident with the signing of the Government-to-Government Agreement the Prime Minister's acceptance of the agreed "timely authorization" document will be communicated to the United States.

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- c. Service-to-Service Technical Arrangements. As in the case of our other nuclear agreements, it is necessary to have a supporting Service-to-Service Supplementary Arrangement to provide detailed procedures for handling the weapons in accordance with our responsibilities on behalf of the Atomic Energy Control Board. In our preliminary meetings with US officials the wording of a draft supplementary arrangement has been agreed to. As soon as the Government-to-Government Agreement is signed a copy of the draft supplementary arrangement will be forwarded to Washington for formal acceptance by the USN. One problem in this area that is causing difficulty is that the draft supplementary arrangement tabled by the USN bore, in addition to the SECRET security grading which we have on similar documents, the classification of "Formerly Restricted Data" (Canadian Zed). We have made it clear to US officials that we would have to object strongly to the document carrying this classification, because of the impracticalities of operating in these circumstances. There is good precedent in that we already have four other similar supplementary arrangements with the US Services, none of which carries an FRD classification.
- d. Public Announcement. There has been acceptance by both the Canadian and United States Governments of the fact that every effort will be made to keep knowledge that the agreement exists classified as SECRET. There is, however, always the possibility of information leaks which could cause the agreement to become public knowledge. Therefore, a public statement has been proposed which could be used if necessary; a copy of our proposal is attached as Annex 3. This was passed to the United States representatives and there will be further discussions between External Affairs and the State Department on the exact wording.

2. In relation to the Government-to-Government Agreement itself, External Affairs are now in the process of preparing a draft which will be passed to the US and circulated in Ottawa to the AECB and to DND as a final step in obtaining Canadian acceptance. This is necessary because a series of minor amendments to the original draft note have been made.

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY  
J. V. ALLARD

Encl.

J. V. Allard  
General  
Chief of the Defence Staff

A.S.G. Johnson, W/O, 1-1000/10

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