# INSTRUCTIONS FOR EXPENDITURE OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS IN EMERGENCY CONDITIONS

1. General Authority.

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### 2. Definitions.

In those cases where terms used in these instructions require a special definition, they are marked by an asterisk and are defined in Appendix A.

3. Situations in Which Expenditure\* of Nuclear Weapons\* is Authorized.

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#### APPENDIX A

## DEFINITIONS

The following definitions are established for the purpose of these instructions.

- 1. The terms "expend, "expending," and "expenditure refer to the firing or launching and detonation of a nuclear weapon. This term specifically includes launching missiles with nuclear warheads.
- 2. <u>Nuclear Weapons</u> include all types of weapons and devices which release atomic energy.
- 3. Aerospace. Of, or pertaining to, the earth's envelope of atmosphere and the space above it; two separate entities considered as a single realm for activity in launching, guidance, and control of vehicles which will travel in both realms.

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5. Non-SIOP Strikes. Those nuclear strikes, not programmed in the SIOP, but programmed by CINC's in support of general war plans and contingency plans for their areas of responsibility.

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6. Major Assault. An attack which is of such magnitude and intensity as to jeopardize immediately the survival of major U.S. forces, or to risk rendering major U.S. forces militarily ineffective. Such an assault may be either supported by nuclear weapons or by conventional weapons. In making a decision to expend nuclear weapons in accordance with these instructions, the important considerations regarding a major assault are:

The scope and intensity of the attack.

Its apparent purpose, and

The progress that is being made toward the objective of destroying major U.S. forces, or rendering them militarily ineffective.

- 7. Major U.S. Forces refers to those organized units of the U.S. military forces comprising the essential operational military strength of the United States, such as numbered field armies, fleets and air forces assigned to unified and specified commands; and joint forces, generally of the same strength, which comprise the United States military strength in a geographical area.
- 8. Sino-Soviet Bloc. The term Sino-Soviet Bloc is used to describe that group of nations which actively support communist ideology, and which may act in concert against the United States in case of war. For the purposes of this paper, the "Bloc" is considered to be composed of the USSR, Communist China and all European and Asiatic Satellites.

APPENDIX B

CONTROL OF EMERGENCY AUTHORITY
TO EXPEND NUCLEAR WEAPONS

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