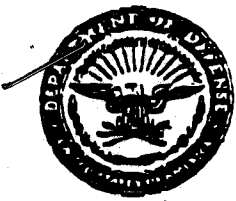


Copies to:

NPR



THE JOINT STAFF
WASHINGTON, DC

Obtained Under the
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by Hans M. Kristensen

18 JAN 1954

MEMORANDUM FOR THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE FOR NUCLEAR
SECURITY AND COUNTERPROLIFERATION

SUBJECT: Nuclear Posture Review (NPR)

1. I am concerned with the process by which the NPR is being conducted. While I support the collegial atmosphere that tends to spark ideas and creative input, we are now approaching the point at which our patience should begin to bear fruit. It is time for the Steering Group to focus on how we will review and approve the Working Group findings. This same concern with process has been expressed to me by the Services and CINCs based on input from their working group members.

2. Similarly, I am concerned with the intended use of the scenarios. If they are to be used in any way for force level determination, they must be able to stand up to rigorous analytical scrutiny. If the scenarios are so used, we all will be required to defend them to Congress and probably the press. I do not think the scenarios we are looking at are flawed, but we must be able to justify them and stay ahead of our critics.

3. Lastly, I am concerned that we decide on the coordination process we will use in finalizing the NPR. The results clearly have ramifications to all participants as well as the administration in general. While we will never have unanimous agreement, we need to build consensus in the most constructive manner possible.

4. I am ready to talk at your convenience, but believe all these concerns must be discussed at the next Steering Group Meeting, which should be as soon as your schedule permits.

YR

JOHN H. ADMIRE
Major General, USMC
Vice Director for Strategic
Plans and Policy

Acting Co-Chairman
Nuclear Posture Review

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