

WITHDRAWAL SHEET (PRESIDENTIAL LIBRARIES)

FORM OF DOCUMENT	CORRESPONDENTS OR TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
#2 ltr	President to PM Pearson TS 1 p <i>Open NLJ 96-80</i>	3/14/64	A
#3 memo	President to SecDef TS 1 p <i>sanitized 1-4-93 NLJ 93-67</i> [Duplicate of #11a] <i>sanitized 5-13-05 NLJ 98-72</i> <i>same sanitization 01/01/17 per NLJ 15-12</i>	3/14/64	A
#4 ltr	Duplicate of #2 <i>Open NLJ 96-80</i>		
#5 memo	Smith to Bundy C 1 p "	3/11/64	A
#6 memo	Smith to President TS 1 p "	3/13/64	A
#8 memo	McNamara to Bundy <i>same sanitization 1/30/18 per NLJ 15-13</i> TS C 2 p <i>sanitized 2-21-97 NLJ 92-404</i> <i>downgraded to</i>	2/1/64	A
#9 memo	McNamara to Bundy <i>exempt 12-18-96 NLJ 92-405</i> TS- 3 p <i>exempt 1/30/18 per NLJ 15-13</i>	1/18/64	A
#9a memo	Duplicate of #9- " "		
#9b rpt	Attachment to #9 TS- 2 p <i>exempt 1/30/18 per NLJ 15-13</i>	undated	A
#9c rpt	Attachment to #9 TS- 8 p <i>exempt 1/30/18 per NLJ 15-13</i>	undated	A
#9d rpt	Attachment to #9 TS- 3 p <i>exempt 1/30/18 per NLJ 15-13</i>	undated	A
#9e rpt	Attachment to #9 TS- 4 p <i>exempt 1/30/18 per NLJ 15-13</i>	undated	A
#10 ltr	President to PM Pearson (draft) TS 1 p	undated	A
#11a memo #11b memo	Duplicate of #3 } <i>sanitized 1-4-93 NLJ 93-67</i> " } <i>sanitized 5-13-05 NLJ 98-72</i>		

FILE LOCATION

NSF, NSAM, NSAM 287--Release Procedures, Nuclear Weapons, supply of  Box 3

RESTRICTION CODES

- (A) Closed by Executive Order 12356 governing access to national security information.
- (B) Closed by statute or by the agency which originated the document.
- (C) Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in the donor's deed of gift.

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

*File*  
1

9 March 1964

General Clifton,



If you agree, I will send the attached NSAM on nuclear weapons for Canada in through Mr. Bundy. I changed the last paragraph per our discussion Saturday. In addition, I also will recommend, and Bill Brubeck agrees, that the President send Pearson a letter telling him action on this matter is beginning.

*WXS*  
W. X. SMITH

*Not yet sent over. This statement  
would as to whether it is  
OK.*

NS Am 287

2

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

March 14, 1964

~~TOP SECRET~~

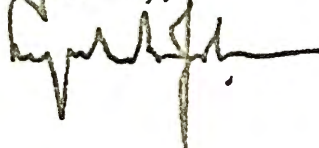
Dear Mr. Prime Minister:

I have been reviewing proposals put forward by our Department of Defense concerning the detailed procedures for the control of nuclear weapons assigned in support of NORAD air defense units in Canada, and I have now asked Secretary McNamara to inform our General Gerhart at NORAD that he should initiate discussions with your Government on this subject.

I send you this note so that you will be sure to know of the initiation of these discussions, even though in their initial phases they will probably proceed at a military level. Later on, when the discussions are further advanced and you have had an opportunity to inform yourself on the matter, I think it might be helpful for the two of us to have a discussion on procedures themselves and of any needful arrangements for intergovernmental consultation before their adoption. This will ensure that our two Governments continue to move forward in step on this important issue.

So I look forward to consulting with you further on this after our colleagues have had a chance to prepare the ground.

Sincerely,



The Right Honorable  
Lester B. Pearson, P. C., O. B. E., M. P.  
Prime Minister of Canada,  
Ottawa.

~~TOP SECRET~~

**DECLASSIFIED**  
**E.O. 12958, Sec. 3.6**  
**NLJ 96-80**  
**By us, NARA Date 3-11-98**

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

~~TOP SECRET~~

March 14, 1964

NATIONAL SECURITY ACTION MEMORANDUM NO. 287

TO: The Secretary of Defense

SUBJECT: Release Procedures for Nuclear Weapons Assigned  
in Support of Canadian CF-101 Squadrons

I have reviewed with the Joint Chiefs of Staff the recommendations concerning the procedures for release of nuclear weapons from US custody to Canadian CF-101 squadrons as outlined in your 1 February memorandum to the Special Assistant for National Security Affairs, and approve in principle the following guidelines:

a. [Redacted]

3.3(b)  
(2,6,9)

b. [Redacted]

"

It is understood that [Redacted]

[Redacted]

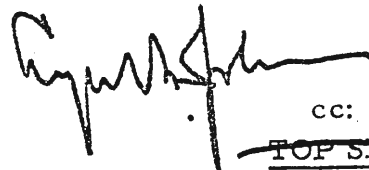
"

Within this framework, CINCNORAD may proceed with negotiations. [Redacted]

"

I request you submit them in substance to me, along with the related proposed arrangements for intergovernmental consultation. I wish to consult with Prime Minister Pearson on these matters prior to final agreement by our two governments.

cc: Secretary of State



cc: Mr. Bundy

SANITIZED  
Authority NJ 15-12  
By CTS, NARA, Date 4/2/17

~~TOP SECRET~~

Col. Smith  
Mr. Johnson  
NSG Files

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

March 14, 1964

~~TOP SECRET~~

Dear Mr. Prime Minister:

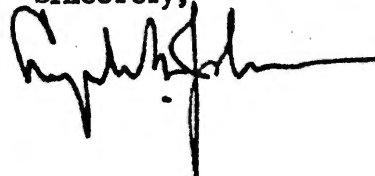
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I send you this note so that you will be sure to know of the initiation of these discussions, even though in their initial phases they will probably proceed at a military level. Later on, when the discussions are further advanced and you have had an opportunity to inform yourself on the matter, I think it might be helpful for the two of us to have a discussion on procedures themselves and of any needful arrangements for intergovernmental consultation before their adoption. This will ensure that our two Governments continue to move forward in step on this important issue.

So I look forward to consulting with you further on this after our colleagues have had a chance to prepare the ground.

**DECLASSIFIED**  
**E.O. 12958, Sec. 3.6**  
**NLJ 96-80**  
**By us, NARA Date 3-11-98**

Sincerely,



His Excellency  
Lester B. Pearson, P. C., O. B. E., M. P.  
Prime Minister of Canada,  
Ottawa.

~~TOP SECRET~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

11 March 1964

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. BUNDY

SUBJECT: Release of Nuclear Weapons to Canada

Given the significance of the Canadian nuclear matter, I recommend that the President himself sign the NSAM approving in principle the recommendations concerning the release of nuclear weapons from US custody contained in the Secretary of Defense's 1 February memorandum to you. The NSAM stipulates that the arrangements should come back to the President before adoption. General Clifton concurs in the NSAM. It is in line with what he told me of the President's meeting with the Chiefs. He said the President wanted personally to consult further with Pearson to make certain the PM knew all about DEFCON 1 and the like, but that the consultation should wait until the proposed arrangements are further along.

I suggest that the President tell the Prime Minister now of his desire to discuss these matters after they progress further. It will demonstrate Presidential interest in this very important matter as well as a sympathetic concern for the interests of the Prime Minister. It will also alert the highest levels of the Canadian government that the negotiations are underway, thus permitting them early to work with their military on this matter, another of the President's objectives, according to General Clifton. A suggested letter is attached which Bill Brubeck concurs in and which he checked with State.

A memorandum to the President, attaching the NSAM and letter for his signature are attached. Hopefully they will permit us to launch forth on the next step.

*WJS*  
W. Q. SMITH

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E.O. 12958, Sec. 3.6  
NLJ 96-80  
By is, NARA Date 3-11-98

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

6

**EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT**  
**NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL**  
WASHINGTON 25, D.C.

~~TOP SECRET~~

March 13, 1964

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

SUBJECT: Release of Nuclear Weapons to Canada

Pursuant to your discussion with the Joint Chiefs of Staff, the memorandum to the Secretary of Defense at Tab A approves in principle the release of nuclear weapons from US custody to Canadian fighter interceptors under conditions of surprise attack or upon the declaration of Defense Condition 1 (DEFCON 1) or higher readiness.

The memorandum also authorizes Secretary McNamara to have General Gerhart (CINCONAD/CINCNORAD) negotiate procedures with the Canadians to govern the operational use of nuclear weapons assigned in support of the Canadian NORAD units. Finally, it assures that the substance of the arrangements on intergovernmental consultation above the NORAD level will be reviewed and approved by you.

Given the legal and constitutional significance of this matter, it seems desirable to have the memorandum signed by you.

As a related step, it would seem very useful to suggest to Prime Minister Pearson the value of further consultation between the two of you prior to adoption of the intergovernmental arrangements. Such a letter will show your deep personal interest in these matters and your appreciation that the matter is equally important to the Prime Minister. It will also make the highest levels of the Canadian government aware that negotiations are now proceeding. A suggested letter is at Tab B for your signature. The State Department concurs in its dispatch.

DECLASSIFIED  
E.O. 12958, Sec. 3.6  
NLJ 96-80  
By is, NARA Date 3-11-98

*W. Y. Smith*  
W. Y. SMITH

*McP. Sum of* (Smith is my  
JCS liaison)

~~TOP SECRET~~



~~TOP SECRET~~

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20301

7

18 January 1964

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. McGEORGE BUNDY, SPECIAL ASSISTANT  
TO THE PRESIDENT FOR NATIONAL SECURITY  
AFFAIRS

SUBJECT: Release Procedures for Nuclear Weapons Assigned in Sup-  
port of Canadian CF-101 Squadrons

In signing the attached memorandum of this date on the above subject,  
the Secretary asked that I pass on the following qualifications to you:

- a. It is to be used as background information only.
- b. A briefing should be arranged for the President and an offer  
should be made to General Gerhart (CINCNORAD/CONAD) to attend.

State Department has also asked that Mr. Rusk attend.

W.J. Howard  
Assistant to the Secretary  
of Defense (Atomic Energy)

Attachment  
As indicated above

~~TOP SECRET~~

~~RESTRICTED DATA~~  
ATOMIC ENERGY ACT, 1954  
AS AMENDED

UPON REMOVAL OF LIMITATIONS THIS  
DOCUMENT SHOULD UNCLASSIFIED

17 20E

cc. 1. Col Smith  
2. P. Johnson  
3. Ref 6 BKs  
1 FEB 1964

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. McGEORGE BUNDY

SUBJECT: Release Procedures for Nuclear Weapons Assigned in Support of [redacted] Squadrons

1.5(d)

Reference is made to my memorandum of 18 January 1964 on the above subject in which I provided, for information, proposed U. S. nuclear weapon employment and release procedures which had been developed by [redacted] and endorsed by the Joint Chiefs of Staff. Our review of the proposed employment and release procedures has been completed.

1.5(d)

As a result of our review I propose the following:

a.

[redacted]

1.5(d)

b.

[redacted]

1.5(d)

The release of nuclear weapons [redacted] as indicated above would be only for the specific operations listed below which would be carried out in accordance with [redacted] approved rules of interception and engagement.

a. Fly interception missions against objects which have been declared hostile.

~~TOP SECRET~~

EXCLUDED FROM AUTOMATIC  
REGRADING; DOD DIR 5200.10  
DOES NOT APPLY

SANITIZED  
Authority NJ 15-13  
By CTS, NARA, Date 12/14/17

b. Fly identification missions and subsequently engage if the object is declared hostile.

c. Deploy from home bases to isolated dispersal and deployment airfields to insure their survivability and to place forces in areas where they can best meet the developing threat.

The proposed release procedure would permit the timely response which is essential for an effective air defense, allow the best operational posture consonant with other pertinent considerations, and provide for the survivability of

[REDACTED]

1.5(d)

In view of the vital requirement for an effective and responsive air defense of the North American Continent; I recommend that the proposed procedures for release and employment as stated in the second and third paragraphs of this memorandum be approved. Such policy approval would be utilized as the framework for developing detailed

employment procedures [REDACTED] Upon the satisfactory completion of such procedures the papers accomplishing the proposed [REDACTED] will be submitted in the appropriate form for the President's action.

1.5(d)

In consideration of these procedures you may feel that a personal briefing for the President by the [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] would be appropriate. I would be pleased to make the necessary arrangements. In the event that you elect to have such a briefing arranged, both the Secretary of State and I would like to attend.

1.5(d)

This action is concurred in by the Department of State.

*Robert S. McNamara*

EXTRA COPIES

11

11a

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

~~TOP SECRET~~

March 14, 1964

NATIONAL SECURITY ACTION MEMORANDUM NO. 287

TO: The Secretary of Defense

SUBJECT: Release Procedures for Nuclear Weapons Assigned  
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a. [Redacted]

3.3  
(b)  
(2,6,9)

b. [Redacted]

"

It is understood that [Redacted]

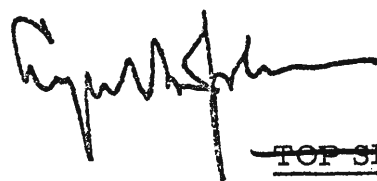
"

Within this framework, CINCNORAD may proceed with negotiations. [Redacted]

"

I request you submit them in substance to me, along with the related proposed arrangements for intergovernmental consultation. I wish to consult with Prime Minister Pearson on these matters prior to final agreement by our two governments.

SANITIZED  
E.O. 13292, Sec. 3.5  
NLJ 78-72  
By iss, NARA, Date 4-13-05



~~TOP SECRET~~

11-b

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

~~TOP SECRET~~

March 14, 1964

NATIONAL SECURITY ACTION MEMORANDUM NO. 287

TO: The Secretary of Defense

SUBJECT: Release Procedures for Nuclear Weapons Assigned  
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It is understood that [Redacted]

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SANITIZED  
E.O. 13292, Sec. 3.5  
NLJ 98-72  
By us, NARA, Date 4-13-05

~~TOP SECRET~~