

DECLASSIFIED
Authority 969 057
By J NARA Date 1/6/94 DIS-FILES
7212550



TOP SECRET/NODIS

NODIS REVIEW

Cat. A - Caption removed;
transferred to O/FADRC

Cat. B - Transferred to O/FADRC
with additional access
controlled by S/S

Cat. C - Caption and custody
retained by S/S S/S/MP

Reviewed by: [Signature]

Date: 14 Dec 1972

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
INFORMATION MEMORANDUM

NODIS REVIEW

Cat. A - Caption removed;
transferred to O/FADRC

Cat. B - Transferred to O/FADRC
with additional access
controlled by S/S

Cat. C - Caption and custody
retained by S/S

Reviewed by: [Signature]

Date: 8/7/78

To: The Deputy Secretary JMI sm
From: PM [Signature] Ronald I. Spiers

US-UK Nuclear Cooperation: Letter from
Deputy Secretary of Defense Rush

During the broad US-UK review of the entire range of Anglo-American cooperation in the nuclear field which was held in London in February, the British participants informed the US team (composed of senior DOD and AEC officials) that their continuing studies of the Project Definition stage of the Super Antelope POLARIS modernization program had indicated a requirement for research results that could be obtained only from additional underground effects tests as well as for a limited number of underground tests of the nuclear device itself. AEC Chairman Schlesinger mentioned the tentative and informal British request in the report he prepared for Dr. Kissinger on the US-UK talks.

The British technicians working on the Super Antelope program raised the question of post-Project Definition Phase assistance on subsequent occasions with their American scientific counterparts, citing the need for continuity in the planning and execution of the overall project. The US representatives made it clear that the US would expect to have a UK Ministerial level commitment to carry out Super Antelope before the US would be prepared to make a firm decision on actual support.

The Chief Scientific Advisor of the British Ministry of Defense, acting on the authorization of his Minister, has now presented a formal request for post-Project Definition assistance to DOD and AEC. The request notes that while a final Cabinet level decision to proceed on Super Antelope is not expected until late in 1973, the British Cabinet has authorized the bureaucracy to proceed

POL 7 US
NR DEF 1
NR-MS

TOP SECRET/NODIS

CLASSIFIED BY [Signature]
EXEMPT FROM GENERAL DECLASSIFICATION
SCHEDULE OF EXECUTIVE ORDER 11652
EXEMPTION CATEGORY
AUTOMATICALLY DECLASSIFIED ON

MICROFILMED
BY S/S

DECLASSIFIED

Authority 969 057

By J NARA Date 1/6/99

~~SECRET/NODIS~~

with (and has provided the funding for) certain selected long lead time actions in order to insure adherence to the research and development schedule. The British request has become a matter of urgency at this point because several of the underground tests of interest to the UK have been accelerated by us in order to move forward more quickly with our own TRIDENT program. At present, the projected schedule calls for the first effects test in which the British wish to participate to be detonated in mid-1973. The first test of a British device is presently scheduled for the end of 1973 or very early 1974. (The last test of a British device was carried out in 1965.)

The AEC has established a sensible set of guidelines to govern the execution of the British device tests. Among them are: the UK will provide the device; the UK will pay all the costs of the test; the US will conduct the test, collect the research data, and transmit the results to the UK; there will be no publicity about the testing of a British device, but HMG will acknowledge its role if this becomes necessary.

The Department of Defense believes that despite the fact that the long lead time items go beyond the Project Definition stage of the Super Antelope program into the Engineering Development stage, proceeding with the limited additional assistance involved is in accord with the President's policy of cooperating as fully as possible with the UK in the military nuclear field. EUR and PM reviewed the letter Mr. Rush proposed to send to Dr. Kissinger and concurred in it.

Attachment:

Letter to Mr. Kissinger from Mr. Rush

TOP SECRET/NODIS

Drafted: PM/AE:HGHandyside:dlb dlb,
7/25/72:x21835

Clearance: EUR/NE - Mr. George (In Draft) dlb

DECLASSIFIED

Authority 969 057

7212400

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY

By J NARA Date 1/6/99

WASHINGTON, D. C. 20301

72125
21 JUL 1972

Honorable Henry A. Kissinger
Assistant to the President for
National Security Affairs
Executive Office of the President
Washington, D. C. 20500

Dear Henry:

You will recall that in my letter of 18 May I noted the expectation that the UK would ask us for assistance in initiation of effort this summer, in selected areas, to insure continuity of their Super Antelope program beyond Project Definition. We now have received such a request, covering long lead time matters related to underground test participation, flight test on U.S. ranges, and use of U.S. simulator facilities for weapon effects and reentry system separation tests. They note that other similar areas may become apparent soon.

We have been advised that Ministerial level approval has been obtained for this request, including provision of requisite funding, pending a further Ministerial decision at the end of this year to proceed with full scale Engineering Development. Funds would be provided and expended through the same channels as the Project Definition effort to date.

There is a considerable degree of time urgency in this request, deriving from the fact that the schedule for underground tests - in which the UK wishes to participate - has been accelerated recently because of our TRIDENT program.

In view of this, and the fact that proceeding with this limited additional assistance appears to me fully in consonance with the President's policy of cooperation with the UK, I intend to authorize the necessary steps for implementation unless you advise me to the contrary within ten days.

I shall continue to keep you informed of developments.

This has been coordinated informally with State, and I am sending a copy of this letter to John Irwin.

Sincerely,

Signed
KENNETH RUSH

Kenneth Rush

Classified by DDR&E
EXEMPT FROM AUTOMATIC DOWNGRADING AND
DECLASSIFICATION SCHEDULES. AUTHORITY DERIVED FROM
DECLASSIFICATION GUIDE NOT DETERMINED.

CONFIDENTIAL

TOP SECRET

Sec Def Cont Nr. X-365