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per 50 USC 403(g)

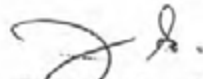
THE DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE

WASHINGTON, D. C. 20505

June 28, 1973

PERSONAL MEMORANDUM FOR DR. HENRY KISSINGER

In response to Brent Scowcroft's note of June 26, 1973,
the attachment suggests some points you may wish to
cover with Lord Cromer.



James R. Schlesinger

Attachment:
Discussion Points on
UK FBM Upgrade
Options (TS/Sensitive)

DECLASSIFIED

E.O. 12958, as amended, Sect 3.5

NLN 01-33/4 per 50 USC 403(g), ltr 4/15/2010

By BB NARA, Date 5/27/2010

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Discussion Points on UK FBM Upgrade Options

1. In earlier meetings, covering the period from August 1972 through May 1973, the US stated that only de-MIRV'd capability was being offered in the assistance options.
2. The UK stated that a MIRV capability was not desired in any case since the deterrent capability desired by the UK was only that of an assured penetration of the Moscow NCA ABM system.

US analysts noted that a single FBM boat with de-MIRV'd POSEIDON or ULMS-1 missiles (equipped with suitable MK3 warhead/RV bodies) would provide such a credible deterrent through a high confidence of exhausting that defense.

3. The US in SALT II rejected the inclusion of both a ban on SLBM MIRV systems and on the transfer of strategic offensive systems in any SALT treaty. Yet, since a de-MIRV'd POSEIDON or ULMS-1 missile would meet the UK stated need, there would be significant difficulty in defending a US decision to provide, at this time, a MIRV capability to the UK. The critics, both within and without the US Government, regard MIRV as a capability particularly prejudicial to long-term arms control possibilities. Given the Soviet proposals in SALT II and the almost certain difficulties noted above, a debate on this subject would now be inimical to the US negotiating position.
4. At this time we therefore believe that the UK should only consider the range of upgrade options offered in our past discussions. It is technically possible to refit a MIRV capability into both missiles if, at some future date, this was thought necessary or desirable by our governments.

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