



~~SECRET~~

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20301

25 AUG 1981

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MEMORANDUM FOR MR. MEESE

Subject: Letter to Mrs. Thatcher

Secretary Weinberger asked me to send you a copy of the attached letter which he sent to Mrs. Thatcher today. Copies are also being sent to Secretary Haig and Ambassador Louis.

Carl R. Smith
Carl R. Smith
Major General, USAF
Military Assistant to the
Secretary of Defense

Attachment (Secret)

UPON REMOVAL OF ATTACHMENTS THIS
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3/7/06 KOB
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SEC DEF CONTR No. X 15880

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23512



THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
WASHINGTON, THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

25 AUG 1981

24 AUG 1981

Her Excellency
Margaret Thatcher
Prime Minister of Great Britain
10 Downing Street
London
England

Dear Prime Minister:

As a result of my meeting with John Nott, I understand that an early decision by the U.S. on the D-5 missile for our Trident submarines would greatly assist the budgetary planning of Her Majesty's Government.

I am pleased to inform you that President Reagan has authorized me to advise you now, in advance of the public announcement, that we will use the D-5 missile in our Trident boats and will make that missile available to you should you desire to buy it. I would expect our public announcement to be made in a few weeks. I hope that this will prove helpful to you as you plan for the configuration of the U.K. Trident program.

I am especially pleased that the cooperation of our governments in strengthening our mutual security is again reflected in this decision.

Sincerely,

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NLRR E02-018 # 23512

BY KML NARA DATE 4/9/12

Classified by: Sec Def
Review on: 24 August 1987

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SEC DEF CONTR NO. X1585

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Sincerely,

Jasper W. Kulager

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Department of Defense - Secretary's papers (1981) DA 11832
Mess, Edwin W. Hill