



OFFICE OF THE HISTORIAN

FOREIGN RELATIONS OF THE UNITED STATES, 1977–1980, VOLUME IV, NATIONAL SECURITY POLICY

52. Memorandum From Secretary of Defense Brown to President Carter¹

Washington, March 3, 1978

During preparation for your visit to the National Military Command Center (NMCC) on 28 January 1978,² I examined available SIOP targeting options for non-Soviet Warsaw Pact (NSWP) countries. I believe the information on the effects that 'withholds' could have on fatalities and on attack effectiveness in the NSWP may be of interest to you.

[3 paragraphs (21 lines) not declassified]

Your visit to the NMCC set a most welcome precedent. Continued practice exercises of the SIOP with your participation will prove valuable in refining that decision process.

Harold Brown

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1. Source: Carter Library, National Security Affairs, Brzezinski Material, Brzezinski Office File, Subject Chron File, Box 86, Defense: 1978. Top Secret. Outside the System. Carter initialed the memorandum.↵
 2. See [footnote 2](#), [Document 50](#).↵