

~~TOP SECRET~~

THE JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20301

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THE JOINT STAFF

JAN 1968  
\* FEB 1968

MEMORANDUM FOR THE ASSISTANT TO THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE  
(ATOMIC ENERGY)

Subject: Strategic Air Command Selective Employment -  
Air/Ground Alert (SEAGA) (U)

DECLASSIFIED UNDER AUTHORITY OF THE INTERAGENCY  
SECURITY CLASSIFICATION APPEALS PANEL,  
E.O. 12958, AS AMENDED, SECTION 5.3(b)(3)  
ISCAP No. Z006-019, document 1

1. ~~(TS)~~ The Strategic Air Command concept of a mixture of air/ground bomber alert which became effective 1 July 1968, is known as Selective Employment - Air/Ground Alert (SEAGA). Under this concept, a portion of the B-52 ground alert force is designated the SEAGA force. The sorties assigned to this force are routed, refueled, and targeted in such a manner that these aircraft are capable of using a single profile to strike their assigned targets employing one of a number of response options. These options provide for graduated increases in force posture to meet varying capability and survivability requirements. Regardless of ground or air alert posture, the SEAGA sortie is responsible for only one combination of SIOP targets.

2. ~~(TS)~~ Although SEAGA indoctrination training flights do not carry nuclear weapons, an agreement with the Government of Canada is necessary to permit overflight of Canadian territory by Strategic Air Command aircraft carrying nuclear weapons should it become necessary to implement airborne SEAGA during periods of increased tension. The existing agreement is for up to 23 daily overflights, and expires 30 June 1969.

3. ~~(TS)~~ SEAGA aircraft are being rerouted for maximum range, and the number of aircraft designated to participate in the program has been increased. The number of daily overflights would vary depending on the advance SEAGA posture selected and the number of B-52s deployed to support contingency operations.

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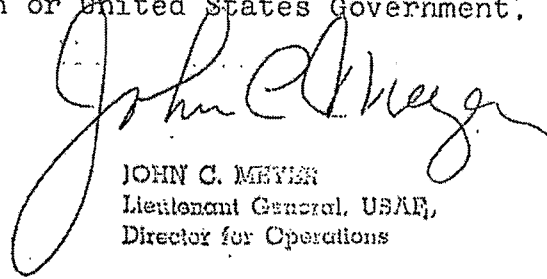
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EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN  
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4. (TS) It is requested that action be initiated to obtain Government of Canada approval for continuation and update of the agreement for overflight of Canadian territory by aircraft of the Strategic Air Command, carrying nuclear weapons, should it become necessary to implement airborne SEAGA during periods of increased tension. The number of daily overflights and routes to be flown are to be determined by the Strategic Air Command in coordination with the Canadian Armed Forces and the Canadian Department of Transport. Clearance for individual flights will be arranged as heretofore on a service-to-service basis. The agreement should continue for an indefinite period unless amended or terminated at the request of the Canadian or United States Government.



JOHN C. MEYER  
Lieutenant General, USAF,  
Director for Operations

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