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"History of the Custody and Deployment of Nuclear Weapons, July 1945 Through September 1977," February 1978:

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HISTORY OF THE CUSTODY AND DEPLOYMENT OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS (U)

JULY 1945 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 1977



3600

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APPENDIX A

CHRONOLOGY
TRANSFER AND DISPERSAL
OF
NUCLEAR WEAPONS
CY 1950 - CY 1977

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Handwritten notes:
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CHRONOLOGY
TRANSFER AND DISPERSAL OF
NUCLEAR WEAPONS

Jun 14, 1950 Transfer of [redacted] nonnuclear components of the Mk 4 bombs from AEC to DoD for training.

Aug 1950 Transfer of nonnuclear components from AEC to the USAF for storage at overseas bases and to the Navy for storage on the [redacted] weapons).

Late 1950 Nonnuclear components moved to UK [redacted] and to Guam [redacted].

Dec 6, 1951 Nonnuclear components authorized on [redacted]

May 1951 Nonnuclear components authorized on [redacted]

Apr 6, 1951 President authorized the transfer of [redacted] nuclear bombs from AEC to General Vandenberg. This was the only dispersal and transfer authorization in fiscal years 1951 and 1952.

Jun 1951 The [redacted] bombs transferred to General Vandenberg's custody were moved to Guam.

Jul 22, 1952 Nonnuclear components [redacted] authorized for storage in UK, Guam, [redacted] and on carriers.

Jun 20, 1953 President authorized dispersal of weapons under AEC control to carriers, ammo ships, Guam, [redacted] and the UK. Nonnuclear components could be stored at the above locations and Alaska, Hawaii, [redacted]. This constituted the dispersal authorization for fiscal years 1953 and 1954.

Jul 1953 Arrangements were made with the AEC for storage of [redacted] nuclear weapons on carriers and Guam.

Apr 1954 The President authorized the dispersal of nuclear weapons under AEC control to ammunition ships, cruisers and submarines.

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Dec 1, 1954 For FY 1955 the President authorized the transfer of [redacted] nuclear weapons from AEC to DoD. Dispersals were authorized to CONUS, the UK, [redacted] West Germany, Hawaii, Guam, [redacted] naval vessels.

Jan 1955 Nuclear weapons were dispersed to UK, [redacted] Guam, Hawaii, [redacted] naval vessels. Dispersal to Alaska, [redacted] and West Germany had also been authorized by the President on December 1, 1954.

Aug 29, 1955 The President authorized [redacted] low yield (under DoD custody) and [redacted] high yield (under AEC custody) to be dispersed in CONUS, UK, [redacted] West Germany, on Guam, [redacted] Hawaii and naval vessels in FY 1956.

Mar 8, 1956 The President amended the August 29, 1955 authorization and established a ceiling of [redacted] weapons to be transferred from AEC to DoD, exclusive of high yield.

Nov 24, 1956 The FY 1957 dispersal plan was approved. Totals of [redacted] low yield under DoD and [redacted] high yield under AEC could be dispersed.

Aug 6, 1957 A total of [redacted] low yield and [redacted] high yield weapons and a combined total of [redacted] were authorized for dispersal during FY 1958.

Jan 3, 1959 The President ordered the transfer of [redacted] low yield and [redacted] high yield weapons (for the first time) to DoD for FY 1959. The high yield weapons were to be transferred when AEC and DoD had worked out the arrangements.

Feb 26, 1959 The President authorized the transfer of [redacted] nuclear weapons to DoD for FY 1959. This authorization replaced the FY 1959 January 3, 1959 approval. DoD now was authorized custody of both low and high yield weapons.

Nov 5, 1959 The President approved the FY 1960 dispersal plan and authorized DoD custody of [redacted] weapons. Dispersal was authorized for the first time to [redacted]

Jan 16, 1961 The FY 1960 dispersal plan was approved by President Eisenhower. DoD was given custody of [redacted] weapons.

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- May 20, 1961 President Kennedy approved the FY 61 NWDCP of January 16, 1961 provided that additional weapons were not dispersed in support of non-US forces and subject to the desirability of retaining a substantial reserve in the National Stockpile Sites. This was the basic dispersal authorization for US forces for FY 61, 62 and 63, and for non-US forces in FY 61.
- Apr 10, 1962 NSAM 143 authorized the dispersal of [redacted] nuclear weapons for support of designated non-US NATO forces. However, it also precluded the loading of [redacted] exclusive of forces in the United Kingdom. This was the basic dispersal authorization for non-US forces for FY 62 and FY 63.
- Oct 23, 1962 NSAM 197 required "approvals in principle" by the President for support of non-US forces. Dispersal approval for weapons for these forces would continue under NSAM 143.
- Dec 26, 1962 President Kennedy disapproved the proposed FY 62 dispersal plan but did permit DoD custody of [redacted] nuclear weapons and components.
- Feb 27, 1963 The Deputy Secretary of Defense clarified the President's authorization/denial of December 26, 1962. He permitted the additional dispersal of [redacted] weapons over the January 16, 1961 (FY 61) authorization to areas under full US control.
- Jun 16, 1964 NSAM 305 approved the FY 64 NWDCP. It authorized DoD to obtain custody of [redacted] nuclear weapons and components. It continued the requirements of NSAMs 143, 160 and 197.
- May 17, 1965 The Secretary of Defense, Mr. McNamara, imposed a ceiling of [redacted] ADMs which could be dispersed to Europe.
- Jun 1, 1965 NSAM 334 approved the NWDCP for FY 65 and FY 66. DoD was authorized custody of [redacted] nuclear weapons. No additional ADMs could be dispersed to Europe. A ceiling of [redacted] weapons was imposed on NATO Europe. NSAM 143 and NSAM 197 actions were continued.
- Feb 10, 1967 The President authorized the transfer to DoD of all finished nuclear weapons in the stockpile.

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Aug 4, 1967 NSAM 364 authorized DoD to disperse weapons for FY 67 and FY 68. The ceilings of [redacted] weapons for NATO Europe and [redacted] ADMs for Europe was continued.

Jan 26, 1968 The Deputy Secretary of Defense notified the JCS that no additional dispersals would be made to NATO Europe and that he intended to hold the number of weapons in NATO Europe at [redacted] and afloat in the Atlantic [redacted] and Pacific [redacted] at the numbers actually deployed as of December 31, 1967. He allowed a 10% overage for weapons afloat. Any dispersals over these limits had to be approved by the Secretary of Defense.

Jan 26, 1968 The actual number of weapons in NATO Europe [was [redacted]]

Apr 6, 1968 The Deputy Secretary of Defense authorized an increase of [redacted] weapons to his ceiling of [redacted] weapons for the Atlantic Fleet.

Jun 11, 1968 NSAM 370 approved the NWDCP for FY 69. The ceilings of [redacted] for NATO Europe and [redacted] for ADMs in Europe were continued in effect. NSAM 143 was modified to permit "case by case" dispersals to be authorized by the annual NWDCP. A ceiling of [redacted] weapons was set for dispersals outside of CONUS.

Jun 25, 1968 The Deputy Secretary of Defense established a new ceiling of [redacted] weapons afloat less Polaris warheads.

Aug 6, 1968 The Deputy Secretary of Defense established a ceiling of [redacted] weapons for NATO Europe and a total of [redacted] weapons afloat excluding strategic offensive missiles.

Jan 18, 1969 NSAM 372 authorized the FY 70 NWDCP. The ceilings of [redacted] and [redacted] for total weapons in NATO Europe and ADMs in Europe was continued. The maximum number of weapons outside CONUS was set at [redacted]

May 9, 1970 NSDM 60 authorized the FY70 NWDCP. The President desired revised NATO and ADM tables. Revised tables as approved established NATO Europe ceiling at [redacted] the ADM ceiling for Europe at [redacted]. The maximum number of weapons outside CONUS was set at [redacted]

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- Nov 20, 1970 The Deputy Secretary of Defense delegated authority to the JCS to increase approved deployment levels in NATO Europe when specified conditional deployments were made and to increase specified deployments in any theater up to 10% when necessary to meet contingencies.
- Jul 20, 1971 NSDM 121 authorized the FY72 NWDCP. The President approved ceilings of [redacted] to NATO Europe and [redacted] for ADMs in Europe. He denied an increase of [redacted] weapons [redacted]. A ceiling of [redacted] was set for dispersals outside of CONUS.
- Jul 18, 1972 NSDM 178 authorized the FY73 NWDCP. The President approved ceilings of [redacted] to NATO Europe and a European ADM ceiling of [redacted]. A ceiling of [redacted] was set for weapons dispersed outside of CONUS.
- Jul 18, 1973 NSDM 226 authorized the FY74 NWDCP. The President established ceilings of [redacted] for NATO Europe and [redacted] for ADMs in Europe. The total authorized for dispersal outside CONUS was [redacted].
- Jun 20, 1974 The President, by NSDM 258, approved a change to the nuclear weapon yield constraint imposed by NSAMs 143 and 199. The yield shall now not exceed [redacted] kt (accommodating B61-2 and B61-3 nuclear bomb support of non-US NATO forces).
- Oct 8, 1974 NSDM 274 authorized the FY75 NWDCP. The President established ceilings of [redacted] for NATO Europe and [redacted] for ADMs in Europe. A ceiling of [redacted] was set for dispersals outside CONUS.
- Apr 30, 1975 General Scowcroft, Deputy Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs, notified General Wickham, Military Assistant to the Secretary of Defense, that the President had directed there would be no withdrawal of US forces or nuclear weapons from overseas areas without his expressed approval.

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**NUCLEAR WEAPONS
AUTHORIZATIONS AND DISPENSALS BY
LOCATION
FY 1947 through FY 1975
(continued)**

	FY 56		FY 57		FY 58		FY 59		FY 60		FY 61		FY 62		FY 63		FY 64		FY 65		
	Auth	Disp	Auth	Disp	Auth	Disp	Auth	Disp	Auth	Disp	Auth	Disp	Auth	Disp	Auth	Disp	Auth	Disp	Auth	Disp	
WESTERN EUROPE																					
[REDACTED]																					
United Kingdom																					
West Germany																					
SubTotal																					
TOTAL - EUROPE																					
ATLANTIC																					
[REDACTED]																					
Guantanamo																					
SubTotal																					
TOTAL - ATLANTIC																					
PACIFIC																					
Alaska (c)																					
Guam																					
Hawaii (d)																					
[REDACTED]																					
Kwajalein (e)																					
Midway																					
[REDACTED]																					
TOTAL-PACIFIC																					
AFLAOT																					
TOTAL OUTSIDE US																					
TOTAL IN US - DoD																					
TOTAL US STOCKPILE	3620	3620	3628	3628	7400	7402	14746	12305	20000	18763	24660	22229	25428	23992	23014	28201	30162	29773	31150	31026	

- (a) - [REDACTED] were transferred from AEC to General Vandenberg in April 1951 and were then deployed to Guam.
- (b) - Although authorized, weapons were never deployed to these countries.
- (c) - Alaska included in U.S. totals commencing 1958.
- (d) - Hawaii included in U.S. totals commencing 1961.
- (e) - Not included in totals commencing 1960.

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NUCLEAR WEAPONS
AUTHORIZATIONS AND DISPERSALS BY
LOCATION

FY 1947 through FY 1975
(Continued)

	<u>FY 66</u>		<u>FY 67</u>		<u>FY 68</u>		<u>FY 69</u>		<u>FY 70</u>		<u>FY 71</u>		<u>FY 72</u>		<u>FY 73</u>		<u>FY 74</u>		<u>FY 75</u>		
	<u>Auth</u>	<u>Disp</u>	<u>Auth</u>	<u>Disp</u>	<u>Auth</u>	<u>Disp</u>	<u>Auth</u>	<u>Disp</u>	<u>Auth</u>	<u>Disp</u>	<u>Auth</u>	<u>Disp</u>	<u>Auth</u>	<u>Disp</u>	<u>Auth</u>	<u>Disp</u>	<u>Auth</u>	<u>Disp</u>	<u>Auth</u>	<u>Disp</u>	
<u>WESTERN EUROPE</u>																					
[REDACTED]																					
United Kingdom																					
West Germany																					
SubTotal																					
<u>TOTAL - EUROPE</u>																					
<u>ATLANTIC</u>																					
[REDACTED]																					
Puerto Rico																					
<u>TOTAL-ATLANTIC</u>																					
<u>PACIFIC</u>																					
[REDACTED]																					
Guam																					
Hawaii (d)																					
Johnston Id.																					
[REDACTED]																					
<u>TOTAL-PACIFIC</u>																					
<u>AFLOAT</u>																					
<u>TOTAL OUTSIDE US</u>																					
<u>TOTAL IN US-DoD</u>																					
<u>-AEC</u>																					
<u>TOTAL US STOCKPILE</u>	31350	31678	31874	31723	30040	30067															

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NUCLEAR WEAPONS

AUTHORIZATIONS AND DISPERSALS

BY LOCATION

FY 76

FY 77

FY 78

Auth

Disp

Auth

Disp

Auth

Disp

WESTERN EUROPE

[REDACTED]

United Kingdom
West Germany
Subtotal

[REDACTED]

TOTAL EUROPE

ATLANTIC

[REDACTED]

TOTAL ATLANTIC

PACIFIC

Guam
Hawaii (d)

[REDACTED]

TOTAL PACIFIC

AFLOAT

TOTAL OUTSIDE US

TOTAL IN US-DOD

-ERDA

TOTAL US STOCKPILE

[REDACTED]

(f)

- (f) [REDACTED] warheads in excess to European requirements being retained in-theater for MBFR purposes.
- (g) [REDACTED] additional warheads were deployed to [REDACTED] Government request and US Presidential approval.

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