## UNGERGETED

SYSTEM II 90223

## THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

April 16, 1982

SECRET

National Security Decision Directive Number 31

> UNITED STATES POLICY ON MUTUAL AND BALANCED FORCE REDUCTIONS

This directive approves a new approach to mutual and balanced force reductions in Europe (MBFR).

The United States will propose a single comprehensive MBFR agreement to include a binding commitment by the participants of the North Atlantic Alliance and the Warsaw Pact to achieve equality of conventional forces in Europe at lower levels through substantial, militarily significant and verifiable reductions of forces. This proposal will contain the following elements:

- -- A single agreement binding all participants to reductions in stages to a common collective ceiling for each side of about 700,000 ground force personnel and about 900,000 ground and air force personnel combined;
- -- Separate subceilings for United States and Soviet ground force personnel only within the combined collective ceiling;
- -- First stage reductions by the United States and the Soviet Union of 13,000 and 30,000 ground force personnel, respectively;
- -- United States reductions in the first stage occurring twothirds in units and sub-units and one-third in individuals and Soviet reductions in the first stage occurring in divisions;
- -- Verification of reductions and residual ceilings at each stage of reductions;
- -- Associated stabilization and verification measures applying to all participants prior to or at the time of the first United States and Soviet reductions as an integral part of the agreement; and
- -- Agreement on current data and counting criteria for the forces of both sides prior to signature of the agreement.

DECLASSIFIED ON <u>211/01</u> by NARA on the recommendation of the NSC under provisions of E.O. 12958

## SECT

Review April 16, 2002 Classified and Extended by William P. Clark Reason for Extension: NSC 1.13(e)





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In support of United States policy on mutual and balanced force reductions, the Government is directed to:

- -- Seek the concurrence of the North Atlantic Alliance to the new approach;
- -- Submit recommendations on the timing of the presentation of the new approach at the MBFR talks in Vienna; and
- -- Submit recommendations on the proposal of the Federal Republic of Germany to modify the current approach of the North Atlantic Alliance to data and verification.

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