NATIONAL ARCHIVES AND RECORDS ADMINISTRATION Presidential Libraries Withdrawal Sheet

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MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

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MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION

PARTICIPANTS:

The President Senator John Pastore (D-R.I.) Senator Baker (R-Tenn.) Representative Murphy () Ambassador Donald Rumsfeld, Assistant to President Lt. Gen. Brent Scowcroft, Deputy Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs

DATE AND TIME:

Thursday, February 6, 1975 5:00 p.m.

PLACE:

The Oval Office

SUBJECT:

Security of U.S. Nuclear Weapons in Europe

<u>Pastore</u>: After Munich in '72 we became alarmed. I sent George to look and he came back with a critical report. So we went over the same route and got the same result. As a result they transferred one location and closed down another. The defense against intruders is good, but not against terrorism. They did put more Marines on them.

Baker: When I read the Murphy report, it dawned on me that we had thousands of weapons in Europe and

On each base I asked the security officer and they said how they could have penetrated.

It is a real problem and we need to deal with it.

Pastore: Some of these things are close to the border, and it would together. What are we doing?

Baker: If someone asked me what our recommendations are, I would be hard pressed. But something has to be done.

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President: I have read the report.

We have looked at our weapons in Europe very carefully. Especially in connection with MBFR. We had an NSC meeting about two weeks ago to consider what we could do to move the negotiations forward.

What we want from the Soviet Union is a tank army in return. Verification of units is easier than individuals.

We recognize that we don't need these but are trying to get a quid pro quo for them.

Baker: Can we keep them safe while we negotiate? That might take three years.

President:	We might get a first step by this summer.	
		But

there is a psychological aspect to it and is it wise to take drastic action right now with the situation like it is?

Pastore: What we are saying is you should take a good hard look at it. We're not asking for your answer.

<u>President:</u> [pointing to map] What are these bases where they are stored? [Murphy gives a long briefing.]

<u>Pastore</u>: We have done our job -- we have told you the problem. Now it is your job.



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