

THE WHITE HOUSE

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WASHINGTON April 1, 1986

National Security Decision Directive Number 219

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE PRESIDENT'S COMMISSION ON DEFENSE MANAGEMENT (U)

This directive outlines the steps I have approved for the implementation of the initial recommendations of the Commission on Defense Management. I expect the Commission to make additional recommendations which I will evaluate in due course and to elaborate on those it has already made, as required. We must, however, be especially mindful of the need to move quickly and decisively to implement those changes that the Secretary of Defense and I have approved to date. (U)

I. National Security Planning and Budgeting (U)

The current Department of Defense planning, programming, and budgeting system (PPBS) is a sophisticated and effective process for the allocation of defense resources. Effective planning is a key element of PPBS. In striving to achieve the objectives of our five-year defense program within a constrained resource environment, the requirement for stable and effective planning is becoming even more important. The planning process requires that we consider the entire scope of national policies and priorities. (U)

In this regard, I have determined that defense planning should convey the initial guidance from senior civilian and military officials to those required to implement such guidance by:

1) the NSC reviewing our national security strategy to determine if changes are required; 2) strengthening the process through which I provide policy and fiscal guidance to the Department of Defense; and 3) enhancing the role of the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff in the resource allocation process. (U)

NSDD-32 and supporting documents will be reviewed by the National Security Council to assess the need for any appropriate and necessary modifications. This review will begin as soon as possible and extend no more than 60 days beyond the date of this directive. The NSC will then report to me on the need for any adjustments to current national security strategy.

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