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OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

WASHINGTON D C 20301



8 DEC 1983

MEMORANDUM FOR DEPUTY ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT FOR NATIONAL SECURITY AFFAIRS

SUBJECT: Significant Military Exercise NIGHT TRAIN 84

(U) The attached brief on the subject exercise is forwarded. This exercise has been coordinated with the Department of State.

~~(S)~~ Please note that the critical cancellation date is 9 March 1984.

COLIN L. POWELL
Major General, USA
Military Assistant to the
Secretary of Defense

Attachment 1
a/s (3 copies)

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REGRADED CONFIDENTIAL UPON
REMOVAL OF ENCLOSURES

DECLASSIFIED

NO M 97-003 #12

BY AM WARA, DATE 5/8/00

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SEC DEF CONTR No. X28353

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THE JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF

BRIEF OF A SIGNIFICANT MILITARY EXERCISE

1. (U) Exercise Name. NIGHT TRAIN 84.
2. (U) Geographic Area. United States and Canada.
3. (S) Dates. 5-13 April 1984.
4. (S) Type. Worldwide procedural nuclear war command post exercise (CPX).
5. (U) Aims
 - a. (S) Exercise and evaluate selected procedures for controlling, implementing, and processing nuclear actions.
 - b. (S) Evaluate effectiveness of installed and deployed command and control equipment during a post nuclear exchange environment.
 - c. (S) Evaluate military capability to reconstitute and redirect the military forces of the nation after a nuclear attack.
 - d. (S) Exercise tactical warning/attack assessment.
 - e. (S) Evaluate the capability of surviving command nodes to provide a residual capability assessment.
 - f. (S) Evaluate degraded strategic communications connectivity in a non-HEMP environment to include the capability to perform force management and receipt of force report back/strike assessments.
 - g. (S) Evaluate the National Military Command System (NMCS), including the National Emergency Airborne Command Post (NEACP) and other surviving elements of the NMCS.
 - h. (S) Exercise and evaluate space assets and warning capabilities.
 - i. (S) Evaluate residual threat assessment and national reconnaissance capabilities.

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j. (S) Evaluate logistic and personnel plans, policies and procedures to support military/civil requirements immediately prior to, during, and following a nuclear attack on CONUS.

k. (S) Evaluate DOD procedures in resource claimancy and emergency management of resources.

l. (S) Evaluate telecommunications reconstitution, frequency management, economy, policy, and communication security practices.

m. (S) Evaluate operations security posture of the exercise to include operational and administrative procedures and practices.

n. (S) Evaluate the WIN in support of NCA, NMCS, commanders of unified and specified commands, and the Services, during pre-, trans-, and the post-nuclear attack periods.

o. (S) Evaluate military assistance to civilian authorities and military support of civil defense during the pre-, trans-, and post-nuclear attack periods.

p. (S) Evaluate the capabilities of alternate NMCS Command Centers to direct military forces worldwide and maintain necessary coordination with state and Federal agencies involved in national recovery and reconstitution activities.

q. (S) Exercise portions of appropriate OPLANS.

6. (S) Critical Cancellation Date. 9 March 1984.

7. (U) Critical Approval Date. Not required.

8. (S) Political Implications. Conduct of a worldwide nuclear exercise could show strength of purpose. On the other hand, it could be perceived as showing an intent for use of nuclear weapons. It could have the potential to affect US/USSR strategic arms reduction negotiations or bilateral US/USSR summit preparations should either of these be in progress.

9. (S) Politico-Military Scenario Summary. The scenario will be based upon a simulated crisis situation in which the Soviet Union invades Central Europe and Turkish Thrace. This scenario also depicts threats of conflict in Korea, Iran, and the Caribbean Basin. Execution of non-SIOP options will be required, as well as consideration and possible employment of chemical weapons. A subsequent strategic nuclear strike against selected targets in

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North America will result in US SIOP execution. Integral to this will be the live fly portion of SAC's Exercise GLOBAL SHIELD, live launch of a Navy C3 Poseidon missile, and the live fire portion of NORAD'S Exercise AMALGAM CHIEF all specifically scheduled to coincide with Exercise NIGHT TRAIN 84 (see para 15). Following a 24-hour administrative break, the exercise will continue at a time 16 days into the postattack period. This portion of the exercise assumes that a cease-fire exists and will concentrate on reconstitution and redirection of military forces and civil government, military support to the civil population after a nuclear attack, and FEMA's continuity of government activities.

10. (X) Directing Headquarters. This exercise is being conducted by the Organization of the Joint Chiefs of Staff with a major contribution by FEMA and its Exercise REX 84 A during the post-attack period.

11. (U) Participating Commands, Headquarters, and Forces

a. (X) United States

Office of the Secretary of Defense
Organization of the Joint Chiefs of Staff
United States Army
United States Navy
United States Air Force
United States Marine Corps
United States Coast Guard
Aerospace Defense Command
North American Air Defense Command
Atlantic Command
US European Command
Military Airlift Command
Pacific Command
US Central Command
US Readiness Command
US Southern Command
Strategic Air Command
Military Traffic Management Command
Military Sealift Command
Joint Task Force Alaska
Defense Logistics Agency
Defense Intelligence Agency
Defense Communications Agency
National Security Agency
Defense Mapping Agency
Defense Nuclear Agency

b. (X) Allied. Canada National Defence Headquarters (NNDHQ)

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c. (U) Total approximate number of US personnel participating cannot be determined at this time.

12. (U) Scope of Anticipated Participation

a. (U) Other Unified and Specified Commands. N/A.

b. (U) Unassigned Forces of the US Military Services. N/A.

c. (U) US Federal Agencies or Departments (affiliated with REX 84 A)

Federal Emergency Management Agency
Department of State
Department of Commerce
Department of Interior
Department of Justice
Department of Health and Human Services
Department of Agriculture
Department of Energy
Department of Housing and Urban Development
Department of Labor
Department of Transportation
Department of Treasury
Federal Reserve System
Veteran's Administration
General Services Administration
National Communications Systems

13. ~~(S)~~ Simulated use of Nuclear Weapons. Escalatory exchanges of thermonuclear weapons are programmed only in the initial phase of the exercise and will culminate in a major strategic nuclear exchange between the USSR and the United States. The second phase of the exercise deals with the aftermath of the nuclear attack and will assume a cease fire condition between the two superpowers.

14. (U) Coordination Effected With Other Unified, Specified, or Service Commands, Government Departments, Agencies, or Representatives thereof. Full coordination has been and will continue to be effected with FEMA effecting coordination with anticipated participating civil agencies (REX 84 A), and JCS effecting coordination with participating military commands and headquarters as well as overall coordination between OJCS, FEMA, and Department of State.

15. (U) Recommended Public Affairs Policy

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a. (S) A passive public information policy is recommended for Exercise NIGHT TRAIN 84 with an initial exercise news release date of 2 April 1984. SAC's Exercise GLOBAL SHIELD will have an active public information policy for its exercise as will NORAD's Exercise AMALGAM CHIEF. The public information policy for these exercises will be promulgated in their significant military exercise briefs. Although GLOBAL SHIELD and AMALGAM CHIEF will be conducted in the same time-frame as NIGHT TRAIN 84, they are separate and distinct exercises conducted and controlled by the respective commands.

b. (S) It is requested that OASD(PA) post the following Memorandum for Correspondents regarding Exercise NIGHT TRAIN 84 three days prior to commencement of the Exercise:

"Exercise NIGHT TRAIN 84, a routine worldwide command post exercise (CPX) will be conducted by the Organization of the Joint Chiefs of Staff between 5 and 13 April 1984. The exercise is part of the JCS-sponsored CPX program which is routinely conducted locally and worldwide to test command and control procedures. The scenario for "NIGHT TRAIN 84" is a fictitious series of worldwide events leading to increased tension and conflict. This provides headquarters staffs of the unified and specified commands with the opportunity to test planning and procedures in that fictitious environment.

A part of the exercise activities will include movement of some exercise participants from their normal headquarters, including the Pentagon, to alternate command posts for a short period. "NIGHT TRAIN 84" does not involve movement of forces.

The overall objective for the exercise is to test command and control procedures. Another key objective is to view the interaction of civil and military plans in the simulated crisis environment."

c. (U) The following list of questions and answers is provided in anticipation of media queries:

(1) (U) Q. Is this exercise being conducted in response to Soviet provocations?

(U) A. No, the exercise is part of the JCS-sponsored command post exercise program which is routinely conducted locally and worldwide to test command and control procedures.

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(2) (U) Q. When was this exercise scheduled?

(U) A. This exercise was officially scheduled by the Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff in 1979 as a result of the exercise scheduling conference held that year.

(3) (U) Q. Was this exercise approved by the President?

(U) A. Interagency approval was obtained, as is routinely done for these exercises.

(4) (U) Q. Will there be any worldwide movement of aircraft or other forces as a result of this exercise?

(U) A. There will be no force movement in NIGHT TRAIN 84.

(5) (U) Q. When will the movement to the Alternate Command Post take place, and how long will the personnel be there?

(U) A. Movement to Alternate Command Posts will take place in reaction to the exercise scenario. Personnel will be at these locations for approximately three days.

(6) (U) Q. How will the movement to Alternate Command Posts be accomplished?

(U) A. The movement will be accomplished by air and ground transport.

(7) (U) Q. Will any field training take place as a result of the exercise?

(U) A. No. The movement of staffs to alternate headquarters is not considered "field training."

(8) (U) Q. What level of participation will the exercise include? Can you provide any names?

(U) A. General and flag officers, and senior department and agency officials may participate, although their identities have not yet been determined.

(9) (U) Q. What do you mean by worldwide participation in the exercises?

(U) A. Headquarters of the unified and specified commands will participate.

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(10) (U) Q. Will nuclear command and control procedures be exercised?

(U) A. Details of the exercise are not discussed for security reasons. A broad range of command and control procedures will be exercised.

(11) (U) Q. Will any weapons of any kind be fired or launched? What kind?

(U) A. I can confirm that training firings will be part of the exercise. Due to security considerations, no details are available.

(12) (U) Q. What is the general scenario of the exercise?

(U) A. The scenario is a fictitious series of worldwide events leading to increased tension and conflicts, thus providing staffs with the opportunity to test planning and procedures in the fictitious crisis environment.

(13) (U) Q. What are the specific objectives of the exercise?

(U) A. The overall objective of the exercise is to test command and control procedures. Another objective is to view the interaction of civil and military plans and policies in the simulated crisis environment.

(14) (U) Q. Approximately how many people and aircraft will participate in the exercise?

(U) A. The role of each activity is different, and real-world requirements vary, but we expect that a few people from every unified and specified command, as well as from several government agencies and departments, will participate.

(15) (U) Q. Are any allies or friendly nations participating in the exercises?

(U) A. Yes, Canada.

(16) (U) Q. Can you provide a list of the participating commands, headquarters, and forces? If not, why?

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(U) A. The headquarters elements of the unified and specified commands and Services, as well as that of the OJCS, will participate.

(17) (U) Q. Are any agencies other than military participating in the exercise?

(U) A. Yes.

(18) (U) Q. Can you provide a list of them?

(U) A. Several Government departments and agencies, such as the Departments of State and Defense and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), will participate. FEMA can provide the complete list.

(19) (U) Q. When was the last time this exercise or a similar one conducted, which involved worldwide participation?

(U) A. March 1982 was the last exercise in this series.

c. (U) Media queries beyond the scope of the announcement and Q's and A's in subparagraph b and c above will be accepted and forwarded to OASD(PA) for resolution on a case-by-case basis. No media interviews will be granted and photography of CPX activities will not be permitted.

d. (U) No final report of the success (degree thereof) or problem areas will be made available to the public.

16. (U) General policy concerning:

a. (U) Diplomatic information. Not applicable.

c. ~~(S)~~ Security restrictions. Information concerning the continuity of government exercise is sensitive and will be treated accordingly. Requests for information on this portion of the exercise will be routed to FEMA for final determination.

c. (U) Psychological elements. Not applicable.

17. ~~(S)~~ Assessment of Perception of US and Allied Strategy and Military Capability. The exercise will demonstrate a resolve to test and confirm both military and nonmilitary procedures to be used prior to and after a catastrophic event. Military

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capabilities and strategy assessments derived from the exercise will remain in classified channels.

18. (U) Additional Remarks. None.

Prepared by: Colonel G. M. Houser, USA
Joint Exercise Division
J-3, OJCS
Extension 53089

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