



~~TOP SECRET~~

THE JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20301

*File 0*

*D*

CM-1431-77  
5 May 1977

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chief of Staff, US Army *Cy 2*  
Chief of Naval Operations *Cy 3*  
Chief of Staff, US Air Force *Cy 4*  
Commandant of the Marine Corps *Cy 5*

Subject: EXERCISE IVORY ITEM (U)

1. ~~(TS)~~ Exercise IVORY ITEM is a no-notice SIOP execution exercise to test Missile Attack Conference procedures and to be conducted on secure telephone circuits. IVORY ITEM exercises may be initiated by the President, the Secretary of Defense, or Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff, and will involve the Joint Chiefs of Staff or their alternates and the nuclear CINCs or their designated alternates under the provisions of Volume IV, Emergency Action Procedures of the JCS.

2. ~~(C)~~ When directed to initiate the exercise, the Deputy Director for Operations (DDO-NMCC) will convene a nonsecure conference of addressees or their alternates using the following preamble: "THIS IS THE COMMAND CENTER WITH AN EXERCISE IVORY ITEM PREAMBLE FLASH TEST CALL." Upon hearing this preamble, the provisions of para 3c, SM-819-76\* apply. A roll call will be conducted in conjunction with a verification of the secure telephone number at which each conferee can be contacted for the impending IVORY ITEM conference. The NMCC will then release the conference by stating, "STANDBY FOR AN EXERCISE IVORY ITEM CONFERENCE IN \_\_\_ MINUTES. COMMAND CENTER OUT."

3. ~~(C)~~ The non-secure conference will be followed by an NMCC secure telephone conference of all participants. The conference will be convened using the following preamble: "THIS IS THE COMMAND CENTER WITH AN EXERCISE IVORY ITEM FLASH TEST CALL" (repeated at least four times). Principals should be placed on the line immediately and remain silent until a roll call is conducted of the

*385-Exercise - 5 May 77  
(Ivory Item)*

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BY ACW 25723  
ON 24/Annw PER 16E6217*

DECLASSIFIED BY JOINT STAFF  
DATE: SEP 28 2000

COPY NO 1

Classified by Chairman, Joint Staff  
EXEMPT FROM GENERAL DECLASSIFICATION  
SCHEDULE OF EXECUTIVE ORDER 11652  
EXEMPTION CATEGORY (3)  
DECLASSIFY ON DECEMBER 31, 2007

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Authority NND  
72358

*DJSM-835-77*

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Washington Principals and the CINCs. Following the roll call, the individual initiating the exercise will be added to the conference.

4. ~~(S)~~ The DDO will then explain that the purpose of the conference is to simulate a Missile Attack Conference procedure. He will then talk through the response procedures contained in the Decision Handbook.

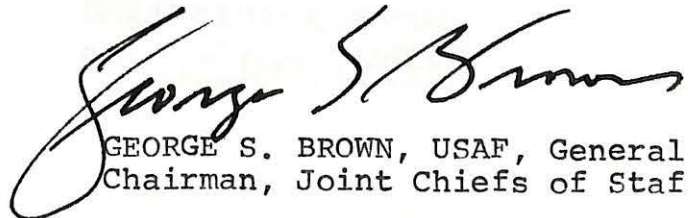
5. ~~(S)~~ The DDO will then request that CINCAD provide a brief general comment on the threat assessment function. With no scenario being played, the remaining CINCs will have no specific input, but are available for consultation as required.

6. (U) Following questions and discussion, the conference will be terminated by the initiator.

7. ~~(S)~~ The vulnerability period for no-notice IVORY ITEM Exercises begins when addressees have acknowledged receipt of these instructions. Daily vulnerability period for the exercise will be during Washington duty hours (1200 - 2100 Z).

8. (U) Addressees are requested to acknowledge receipt of these instructions to the DDO-NMCC, secure 2600.

9. ~~(S)~~ At a later time, this exercise may be expanded to include a threat scenario and discussion of possible recommendations to the President.

  
GEORGE S. BROWN, USAF, General  
Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff

Reference

SM-819-76, Subject: Emergency Telephone Conference  
Instructions, 4 October 1976.

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REGISTER OF PERSONNEL HANDLING CLASSIFIED DOCUMENT

CONTROL NUMBER

1637

DATE RECEIVED

5 May 77

RETURN TO

OFFICE, CHAIRMAN, JCS  
ROOM 2E865, THE PENTAGON

CLASSIFICATION

~~TS~~

DOCUMENT NUMBER

DJSM 835-77

COPY NUMBER

DATE OF DOCUMENT

5 May 77

SUBJECT

Exercise IVORY ITEM (U) (CM to Svc Chiefs)

THE ABOVE-DESCRIBED DOCUMENT HAS BEEN RECEIVED IN THIS OFFICE. CIRCULATION OF THIS DOCUMENT WILL BE LIMITED TO INDIVIDUALS INDICATED BELOW. THE DOCUMENT WILL BE RETURNED TO THE ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE FOR RECORD PRIOR TO DISPATCH TO ANOTHER OFFICE, OR OTHER DISPOSITION. THIS FORM WILL NOT BE REMOVED FROM SUBJECT DOCUMENT.

TO	NAME	INITIAL	REMARKS
	CHAIRMAN, JCS	00	
2	EXECUTIVE	02	
1	THE ASSISTANT TO THE CHAIRMAN	01	H/S
3	ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT	04	
	CHAIRMAN'S STAFF GROUP AIR FORCE MBR	01B	
	CHAIRMAN'S STAFF GROUP NAVY MBR	01C	
	CHAIRMAN'S STAFF GROUP MARINE MBR	01D	
	CHAIRMAN'S STAFF GROUP ARMY MBR	01E	
	LEGAL ADVISOR AND LEGISLATIVE ASST	01F	
	SPECIAL ASSISTANT (SPEECHES)	01G	
	MARINE AIDE	05	
	ARMY AIDE	06	

DECLASSIFIED BY JOINT STAFF  
DATE: 29 Sept 2000

*File  
5 May 77*

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OJCS SUMMARY SHEET

CLASSIFICATION <del>TOP SECRET</del>		FOR USE BY ORIGINATING DIRECTORATE			
THRU: <i>Sitton</i>		DJSM NO. <b>835-77</b>	ODJS SUSPENSE DATE		
DJS		DJSM DATE <b>5 May 77</b>			
SUBJECT:  Exercise IVORY ITEM (U)		ACTION			
		APPROVAL	SIGNATURE	INFORMATION	OTHER
		x	x		

REMARKS

1. Proposed memorandum informs the Joint Chiefs of Staff of procedures to be used in conducting Exercise IVORY ITEM.

2. Recommend approval.

Regraded Unclassified  
when separated from  
Classified enclosure

ACTION OFFICER	COORDINATION/APPROVAL					
	OFFICE	NAME	EXTENSION	OFFICE	NAME	EXTENSION
C.A. STEWART LTC, USA EADIV, J3 X59514	J30	<i>[Signature]</i>				
DATE OF PREPARATION	5May77					

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*DJSM-835-77*

OJCS SUMMARY SHEET

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THRU: DJS	<i>Sitton</i>	DJSM NO. <b>835-77</b>	ODJS SUSPENSE DATE
SUBJECT: Exercise IVORY ITEM (U)		DJSM DATE <b>5 May 77</b>	
		ACTION	
		APPROVAL	SIGNATURE
		INFORMATION	OTHER
		x	x

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IMMEDIATE

JCS WASH DC  
CINCAD PETERSON AFB CO  
CINCSAC OFFUTT AFB NE  
CINCLANT NORFOLK VA  
CINCPAC HONOLULU HI  
USCINCEUR VAHINGEN GERMANY  
DISTR CJCS DJS J3  
~~TOP SECRET~~ SPECAT EXCLUSIVE  
FOR GENERAL JAMES, GENERAL DOUGHERTY, ADMIRAL KIDD, ADMIRAL WEISNER,  
GENERAL HAIG, GENERAL HUYSER  
FROM GENERAL BROWN

CJCS SENDS

DELIVER DURING WAKING HOURS ONLY.

SUBJ: EXERCISE IVORY ITEM (U)

1. ~~(TS)~~ EXERCISE IVORY ITEM IS A NO-NOTICE SIOP EXECUTION EXERCISE TO TEST MISSILE ATTACK CONFERENCE PROCEDURES AND TO BE CONDUCTED ON SECURE TELEPHONE CIRCUITS. IVORY ITEM EXERCISES WILL BE INITIATED BY THE PRESIDENT, THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE, OR THE CJCS, AND WILL INVOLVE THE JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF OR THEIR ALTERNATES AND THE NUCLEAR CINCS OR THEIR DESIGNATED ALTERNATES UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF VOLUME IV, EAP OF THE JCS. IT IS EXPECTED THAT THE DCINC EUCOM OR HIS REPRESENTATIVE WILL REPRESENT USCINCEUR IN THIS EXERCISE.

*385-Exercises - 5 May 77*  
*(Ivory Item)*

2. ~~(C)~~ WHEN DIRECTED TO INITIATE THE EXERCISE, THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR FOR OPERATIONS (DDO-NMCC) WILL IMMEDIATELY CONVENE A NONSECURE CONFERENCE OF THE ADDRESSEES OR THEIR DESIGNATED ALTERNATES USING THE FOLLOWING PREAMBLE: "THIS IS THE COMMAND CENTER WITH AN

*DJSM 834-77*

CLASSIFIED BY CJCS

C. A. STEWART, LTC, USA  
EA DIVISION, J3, X59514

G. S. BROWN  
CHAIRMAN, JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF

~~TOP SECRET~~

*G. S. Brown*

DECLASSIFIED BY JOINT STAFF  
DATE: SEP 28 2000

DECLASSIFIED  
Authority *PLW 25723*  
By *DM/Amw* Date *16 Feb 2017*

EXERCISE IVORY ITEM PREAMBLE FLASH TEST CALL. PLACE YOUR COMMANDER IN CHIEF OR HIS DESIGNATED ALTERNATE ON THE LINE IMMEDIATELY." A ROLL CALL WILL BE CONDUCTED IN CONJUNCTION WITH A VERIFICATION OF THE "IVORY ITEM NUMBER" I.E., THE SECURE TELEPHONE NUMBER AT WHICH EACH CONFEREE CAN BE CONTACTED FOR THE IMPENDING IVORY ITEM CONFERENCE AND THE ESTIMATED TIME REQUIRED TO REACH THAT LOCATION. THE NMCC WILL THEN RELEASE THE CONFERENCE BY STATING, "STANDBY FOR AN EXERCISE IVORY ITEM CONFERENCE IN (XX) MINUTES. COMMAND CENTER OUT."

3. ~~(6)~~ AFTER FOLLOWING THE ABOVE PROCEDURES FOR WASHINGTON PRINCIPALS, THE NONSECURE CONFERENCE WILL BE FOLLOWED BY AN NMCC SECURE TELEPHONE CONFERENCE OF ALL PARTICIPANTS AT THE SPECIFIED TIME. THE CONFERENCE WILL BE CONVENED USING THE FOLLOWING PREAMBLE: "THIS IS THE COMMAND CENTER WITH AN EXERCISE IVORY ITEM FLASH TEST CALL" (REPEATED AT LEAST FOUR TIMES). PRINCIPALS SHOULD BE PLACED ON THE LINE IMMEDIATELY AND REMAIN SILENT UNTIL A ROLL CALL IS CONDUCTED OF THE WASHINGTON PRINCIPALS AND CINCS. FOLLOWING THE ROLL CALL, THE INDIVIDUAL INITIATING THE EXERCISE WILL BE ADDED TO THE CONFERENCE.

4. ~~(5)~~ THE DDO WILL THEN EXPLAIN THAT THE PURPOSE OF THE CONFERENCE IS TO SIMULATE A MISSILE ATTACK CONFERENCE PROCEDURE. HE WILL THEN TALK THROUGH THE RESPONSE PROCEDURES CONTAINED IN THE DECISION

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HANDBOOK.

<sup>1</sup>  
5. ~~(S)~~ THE DDO WILL THEN REQUEST THAT CINCAD PROVIDE BRIEF GENERAL COMMENT ON THE THREAT ASSESSMENT FUNCTION. WITH NO SCENARIO BEING PLAYED, THE REMAINING CINCS WILL HAVE NO SPECIFIC INPUT, BUT ARE AVAILABLE FOR CONSULTATION AS REQUIRED.

<sup>1</sup>  
6. (U) FOLLOWING QUESTIONS AND DISCUSSION, THE CONFERENCE WILL BE TERMINATED BY THE INITIATOR.

<sup>1</sup>  
7. ~~(S)~~ THE VULNERABILITY PERIOD FOR NO-NOTICE IVORY ITEM EXERCISES WILL BEGIN WHEN ADDRESSEES HAVE ACKNOWLEDGED RECEIPT OF THESE INSTRUCTIONS. DAILY VULNERABILITY PERIOD FOR THE EXERCISE WILL BE DURING WASHINGTON DUTY HOURS (1200 - 2100 ZULU).

<sup>1</sup>  
8. (U) ADDRESSEES ARE REQUESTED TO ACKNOWLEDGE RECEIPT OF THESE INSTRUCTIONS TO THE DDO-NMCC, SECURE 2600.

<sup>1</sup>  
9. ~~(S)~~ AT A LATER TIME, THIS EXERCISE MAY BE EXPANDED TO INCLUDE A THREAT SCENARIO AND DISCUSSION OF POSSIBLE RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE PRESIDENT.

WARM REGARDS

XGDS-3

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