

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20506

REFER TO OSD

JCS REVIEWED 29-Nov-2010: NO OBJECTION TO DECLASSIFICATION

May 11, 1974

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DOS REVIEWED 13 DEC 2011 NO OBJECTION TO DECLASSIFICATION

MEMORANDUM FOR:

Brigadier General H. A. Strack (USAF)
Chief, Studies, Analysis, and Gaming Agency
Office of the Joint Chiefs of Staff
Department of Defense

SUBJECT: NSC Suggestions for CY 1975 Politico-
Military Simulations

In reply to your request (SAGA-68-74) for suggestions regarding your CY 1975 interagency politico-military simulation program, the NSC Staff recommends the following topics:

ASIA

1) Oil in very large amounts has been discovered by a Japanese-American joint venture near the Senkaku Islands. Shortly thereafter, the Japanese Foreign Ministry, in an official note, notifies the US that the venture's mixed Japanese-American crew has been seized by an expeditionary force from the People's Republic of China and that it is asserting Chinese sovereignty over the islands. The study would examine the threat to US national interests and the joint moves to be undertaken by the US and Japan.

2) Increasingly violent civil disturbances in Urumchi (in the PRC's Sinkiang Province) precede border skirmishes with the USSR. A Soviet invasion occurs, aimed apparently at Lop Nor. All conventional Chinese defenses fail, and a nuclear exchange ensues. Targets are military, not civilian, and all are near the border regions. The study would examine the possible moves to be taken by the US and others on a global basis.

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3) An examination of the strategic implications of, and potential problems associated with, a nuclear China of the 1980's. It is assumed that the PRC, in the 1980's, will have a strategic nuclear force of several nuclear submarines equipped with intermediate range ballistic missiles; 100-200 ICBMs deployed in hardened silos; a similar number of transportable MRBMs; and a few hundred tactical nuclear weapons. The PRC maintains her public policy of "no first use" of nuclear weapons, but begins to adopt stronger positions on controversial international issues such as supporting wars of liberation, or offshore resources in the China Sea. PRC political positions with the US remain about the same as they are now.

The simulation should:

- a) examine potential adverse international reaction to the emergence of a viable PRC strategic nuclear force (especially the ability to reach CONUS, as with a SLBM system);
- b) examine the rationales the USSR might consider (or feel forced to adopt) for entering into a rapidly escalating conventional conflict with the PRC, e.g., that which might grow out of continued border incidents or other plausible disputes;
- c) think through the internal discussions and considerations which will principally motivate the reactions of non-nuclear neighbors such as Japan and India to the emerging nuclear PRC;
- d) assess contingencies for a confrontation situation developing between the US and the PRC as the result of hostile action against Taiwan or other islands, or sea encounters and air encounters;
- e) include a hypothetical rapidly escalating conventional conflict between the USSR and the PRC and examine the possible influences the US may wish to exercise on such a conflict along with the political and military measures which might be implemented in an attempt to achieve such influence, and plausible counter-reactions or effectiveness of such measures; and
- f) examine ways in which the PRC political leadership might feel their viable strategic posture can best be used to support an intensification of wars of liberation and their influence thereon, and consider possible US responses to such new thrusts.

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4) An examination of the problems associated with covert or overt aggression against South Korea. This would be a replay or reevaluation of KAPPA-I-68 in light of the current situation on the Peninsula.

INDIAN OCEAN/PERSIAN GULF

An examination of US Indian Ocean security assets and interests in the period after the Suez Canal is opened. The Sultan of Oman is overthrown by a radical group with ties to Yemen (Aden) and Iraq. An Iranian intervention to restore the Sultan is mounted despite Soviet naval presence near Muscat and Iraqi attacks in the Shatt al-Arab area. (January, 1975)

EUROPE

An examination of the impact on US national security interest of European redeployments after Congress cuts the defense budget by 20 percent and mandates the return, within one year, of 150,000 US troops and one-half of all tactical nuclear weapons. This might be a replay of EPSILON I under these new conditions.

MIDDLE EAST

During a new Middle East crisis, all bases and ports in Europe (including the Azores) are initially closed to USG use. To resupply Israel and maintain the operational effectiveness of the Sixth Fleet, we seek bunkering, overflight rights, landing rights, and rights to remove stock-piled munitions and arms. The study would examine the variety of pressures and inducements we could use.

AFRICA

A crisis develops in the Horn of Africa as a result of deteriorating conditions in Ethiopia. The simulation would take into account the Ethiopian-Somalia rivalry and the relative military strengths of the two countries, and would also take into account the expanded Soviet presence in the Red Sea area. (This would essentially be a replay of ALPHA I-70.)



Brent Scowcroft

Major General, USAF

Deputy Assistant to the President
for National Security Affairs

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NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

ACTION

May 8, 1974

SECRET ATTACHMENT

MEMORANDUM FOR BUD McFARLANE

FROM: Jeanne W. Davidson

SUBJECT: Revision of Memorandum on
Simulations

I have revised my May 3 memo containing our suggestions for simulations as requested. Steve Low decided to drop the Cuban item on further consideration.

RECOMMENDATION

That General Scowcroft sign the memo at Tab A.

Attachment

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THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

May 4, 1974

Jeanne Davis:

The General reviewed the attached and felt the suggestions to be quite good. With respect to the third recommendation under Asia, there is a need for further definition of a scenario in order to make it suitable for gaming. As written it would be more appropriately addressed to CIA. If Smyser wants it gamed as a crisis/conflict exercise perhaps he can offer a more specific scenario.

The same problem applies to the recommendation on Europe. In this case, however, it might suffice to suggest that a former game on US policy and strategy for Europe (EPSILON I) be rerun under the conditions outlined in the recommendation. Finally, the study suggested for Latin America should also have a more specific scenario proposed.

Could you ask the staff for this input and return it for the General's signature, please.



MEMORANDUM

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

ACTION

May 3, 1974

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MEMORANDUM FOR: GENERAL SCOWCROFT

FROM: Jeanne W. Day *JWD*

SUBJECT: NSC Suggestions for CY 1975 Politico-Military Simulations

The Studies, Analysis, and Gaming Agency of the Office of the Joint Chiefs of staff has asked us for suggested topics for their interagency politico-military simulation program for CY 1975. (Tab B).

The Staff has made a number of suggestions which I have incorporated in a memorandum which, with your approval, I shall forward to the Chief of SAGA.

RECOMMENDATION:

That you approve the suggested simulation topics at Tab A.

Approve *BD* As amended _____

Attachments

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

SAGA-68-74
7 Feb 1974

MEMORANDUM FOR MRS. JEANNE W. DAVIS, STAFF SECRETARY
NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL, OLD EXECUTIVE OFFICE
BUILDING

Subject: CY 1975 Program of Politico-Military
Simulations

1. The Politico-Military Division of SAGA is currently developing its program of interagency, politico-military simulations for CY 1975. As in the past, final selection of simulation topics will be made after extensive research and careful consideration of the specific recommendations of interested Executive Branch departments and agencies.

2. Accordingly, we invite your suggestions for the CY 1975 program. Recommendations may be in outline form and should indicate the region, country, or topical problems most likely to precipitate a future crisis that is of concern to those involved with the formulation and implementation of national security policy. Include in the recommendation, the time frame for the simulation scenario and the major issues that should be explored. Should you desire to submit more than one topic area, please assign a priority to each suggestion.

3. At the attachment is an enumeration of SAGA's regionally-oriented military simulations that have been conducted since 1967, and a list of topic oriented simulations conducted since 1962. The latter list is provided as a convenient reference for respondents who may be involved in studies or analysis of the subject areas concerned. The CY 1973 schedule is not shown as it was preempted by a demanding series of simulations dealing with nuclear options. This, in turn, has prompted an on-going revision of the CY 1974 schedule.

4. It would be greatly appreciated if your suggestions for the CY 1975 program could be forwarded directly to the undersigned by 1 April 1974.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "H. A. Strack".

H. A. STRACK
Brigadier General, USAF
Chief, Studies, Analysis,
and Gaming Agency

Attachment

a/s

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ORGANIZATION OF THE JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF
STUDIES, ANALYSIS, AND GAMING AGENCY
POLITICO-MILITARY DIVISION

CONSOLIDATED LIST OF POLITICO-MILITARY SIMULATIONS

SIMULATION	DATE PLAYED	DESCRIPTION/SIMULATION TIME
<u>REGIONAL</u>		
<u>AFRICA</u>		
ALPHA I-70	Jan 70	Crisis in the Horn of Africa resulting from deteriorating conditions in Ethiopia and expanded Soviet presence in the Red Sea. Spring 73.
<u>ASIA</u>		
KAPPA I-68	Sep 68	An examination of the problems associated with covert/overt aggression against South Korea. Summer 69.
ETA I-68	Nov 68	The threat to US interests "East of Suez" resulting from withdrawal of the UK and potential expansion of communist influence. Spring 71.
TAU I-71	May 71	An examination of the nature and extent of US interests in the Far East in light of national and regional power relations in Asia. Crisis centers on the Taiwan Straits/Yellow Sea off-shore oil rights question. Spring 75.
TAU II-72	Dec 71	Replay of TAU I-71. (Conducted at CINCPAC.) Spring 75.

Classified by CINES, SAGA
EXEMPT FROM GENERAL DECLASSIFICATION
SCHEDULE 1, EXECUTIVE ORDER 11652
EXEMPTION CATEGORY 3

Enclosure

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<u>SIMULATION</u>	<u>DATE PLAYED</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION/SIMULATION TIME</u>
<u>SOUTHEAST ASIA</u>		
SIGMA I-69	Apr 69	An examination of American policies and strategies in Asia after Vietnam. 1970-71.
<u>EUROPE/NATO</u>		
EPSILON I-68	Jan 68	An examination of NATO problems and processes in transition from peace to war. (Conducted in Washington and Wiesbaden (HQ USAFE) simultaneously.) May 69.
EPSILON I-69	Oct 69	An examination of US policy and strategy for Europe in the early '70s. (Conducted in Europe.) Summer 72.
EPSILON II-69	Nov 69	Replay of EPSILON I-69. (Conducted in Washington.) Summer 72.
EPSILON I-70	Oct 70	An examination of an internal NATO crisis -- Cyprus -- and the effect of Soviet penetration in the eastern Mediterranean on NATO interests in Europe and the Middle East. (Conducted in Europe.) Aug 73.
EPSILON II-70	Nov 70	Replay of EPSILON I-70. (Conducted in Washington.) Aug 73.
BETA I-71	Sep 71	A senior-level simulation examining US tactical nuclear strategy and policy for NATO Europe. May 74.

<u>SIMULATION</u>	<u>DATE PLAYED</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION/SIMULATION TIME</u>
EPSILON 72	Nov 72	A senior-level simulation which examined NATO viability. It examined, also, northern tier problems vis-a-vis US/NATO planning. Summer 1976.
<u>LATIN AMERICA</u>		
LAMBDA I-69	Mar 69	An analysis of problems facing the United States in its relations with the countries of Latin America. 1971-72.
LAMBDA I-71	Feb 71	An exploration of US policy and strategy in Latin America with emphasis on the threat posed by Marxist governments and Soviet penetration in the Caribbean. Oct 72.
<u>MIDDLE EAST</u>		
MU I-68	May 68	An examination of the emerging trends and political crises in the Middle East and the impact on US objectives and foreign policy. Spring 69.
MU I-70	Apr 70	An examination of US policy and strategy resulting from radical changes in Middle East balance of power. Apr 71.
<u>INDIAN OCEAN/PERSIAN GULF</u>		
NU I-72	Feb 72	An examination of US-Indian Ocean policy and strategy in the mid-1970s. Crisis centered on Iranian-Iraqi confrontation over Kuwait and radical uprisings in Union of Arab Emirates and Saudi Arabia. Jan 75.

<u>SIMULATION</u>	<u>DATE PLAYED</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION/SIMULATION TIME</u>
<u>STRATEGIC AND WORLDWIDE</u>		
OLYMPIAD I-62	Dec 62	An examination of the problems associated with international conflict, utilizing four separate exercises -- the Middle East, Berlin, ZIP and DAFT (decade after). (Participants were distinguished civilians from labor, industry and the creative arts, plus one DOD representative.) 1963-66.
BETA I & II-67	May 67	An examination of the politico-military ramifications of changes in the strategic balance between the US and the USSR. A look at the ABM issue. (Two simultaneous simulations.) Spring 72.
<u>TOPICAL</u>		
ZIP II-62	May 62	An examination of the issues and problems that might face the US as a consequence of a Disarmament Treaty incorporating the Zonal Inspection Concept. 1962-67.
ZIP III-62	Jul 62	Senior replay of ZIP II-62. 1963-66.
ZIP V & VI-63	Aug 63	An examination of the major characteristics and problems of international disarmament and inspection. Mar 64.
CHI I-63	Oct 63	An examination of the effectiveness and adequacy of counterinsurgency plans, policies and programs applicable to Angola, Indonesia, Iran, and Venezuela. May 64.

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<u>SIMULATION</u>	<u>DATE PLAYED</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION/SIMULATION TIME</u>
IOTA I-64	May 64	An experimental effort to adapt the technique of politico-military simulation to the needs of the intelligence community. Summer 64.
DELTA I-72	Jun 72	An exploratory politico-military simulation in which two teams of negotiators, representing selected US/NATO and Soviet/Warsaw Pact nations, met in face-to-face negotiations to address issues inherent in mutual balanced force reductions (MBFR) in Europe's central region. Nov 73.
SCYLLA	Feb, Feb-Mar, Jun, Sept, Oct-Nov 73	A series of five simulations designed to examine tactical/strategic nuclear options that might be available to planners under a variety of crisis situations. Oriented primarily toward the Middle East and the European Continent. June 1976.