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UK EYES A
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g. Para 31, First Sentence.

Accept, in the light of discussion at d. above. ✓

h. Para 32, Line 4.

Accept. An internal ND matter on which views are changing rather fast. The amendments are welcome. ✓

i. Para 34.

Discuss. This touches on the most critical of all the questions facing the COS and you may wish to ask PUS and ACDS(Pol) to contribute the latest information culled from discussions on DP16. If indeed VCNS is correct then there is no objection to the deletion he seeks, but it would be prudent to round off the paragraph with:

"Although the cost of the Successor System could be accommodated within the planning guidelines provided by S of S, some of the necessary adjustments could have a distorting effect on other major elements. ?"

j.(1) Para 35, Line 11.

Accept. The UK's dependence is, after all, broadly based. Alternatively, if some of your colleagues think the amendment is too broadening, "nuclear" could be deleted from the present text. ✓

(2) Para 35, Line 15.

Reject. VCNS's rewording is trying to explain, in shorthand, a very complex calculation concerning Chevaline decoys, Polaris Re-entry bodies, MIRVs and ABM, which has led Duff-Mason to recommend a very large increase in warheads for the Successor over Chevaline. But this fact cannot be ducked. In any case, the rewording would be hard for Ministers to understand; the text is reasonably simple. X

k. Para 37.

Reject. VCNS's rewording is altogether too bland. Our experience over Chevaline alone suggests that "formidable" is an accurate word to describe the challenges we face.

Convincable.

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