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Nuclear Weapons

Mr. Matthew Taylor: To ask the Secretary of State for Defence if he will list the dates and locations of the United Kingdom/United States Stocktake meetings to review the co-operation on nuclear weapons under the 1958 US/UK Mutual Defence Agreement which have taken place since 1 January, 1996; how many members of his Department and which United States Government departments took part in each of these stocktake meetings. [117079]

Mr. Spellar: Two UK/US Stocktake meetings have taken place since January 1996. The first was on 18 June 1997, in London, at which a total of nine officials from my Department were present. In addition, five AWE Aldermaston staff attended. The second meeting was held on 10 June 1998, in Albuquerque, New Mexico, at which seven MOD officials and four AWE Aldermaston staff were present. At both meetings, US representation was from the Departments of Defense and Energy.