

Adding the Third World to the target pool means upgrading weapon systems. The Navy is installing a new submarine launched ballistic missile (SLBM) Retargeting System (SRS) that will enable Trident submarines "to quickly, accurately, and reliably retarget missiles to targets" and "to allow timely and reliable processing of an increased number of targets."⁹⁴ The operational requirement for the SRS was defined in October 1989 (a month before the fall of the Berlin Wall). The program is being implemented in three phases, with phase III scheduled for completion in the 1998-2002 time frame. The end result will help "reduce overall SIOP processing" time and "support adaptive planning." Trident submarines at sea will have a greater capability to attack fixed and mobile sites.⁹⁵ Although originally conceived to allow Trident submarines to attack dispersed Soviet SS-24 rail-mobile and SS-25 road-mobile ICBMs, these technical improvements also provide new capabilities for dealing with new or mobile targets globally.

94 Adm. John T. Mitchell, US Navy, Director, Strategic Systems Program Office, in US Congress, Senate, Committee on Armed Services, Hearings on Department of Defense Authorization for Appropriations for Fiscal Year 1994 and the Future Years Defense Program, Part 7: Nuclear Deterrence, Arms Control and Defense Intelligence, 103rd Cong., 1st sess., 11 May 1993, p. 17.

95 US Navy, Strategic Systems Project Office, latest briefing on the SRS Program, "SRS Operational Requirement Document, O.R. #254-0289," n.d., partially declassified and released under the Freedom of Information Act on 9 February 1996.