

Proposed list wording:

The United States federal government should substantially change its nuclear posture in one or more of the following ways:

- Ratify and implement the Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty
- Adopt a substantial change in its nuclear declaratory policy restricting the use of nuclear weapons
- Implement substantial reductions of its nuclear weapons
- Negotiate an international treaty committed to prohibiting the further production of fissile material for nuclear weapons, and implement any agreement arising from these negotiations consistent with the initial proposal
- Negotiate a bilateral agreement with Russia, including offering a substantial reduction in nuclear weapons, and implement any agreement arising from these negotiations consistent with its initial offer
- Remove its nuclear weapons from high alert status

Affs that should be topical

| | |
|---|-----------------------------------|
| Unilateral cuts (including to zero) | Yes |
| Targeting doctrine | Only as a result of other changes |
| Declaratory policy (NFU, Retaliation) | Yes |
| De-alerting | Yes |
| CTBT ratification | Yes |
| START follow on agreement | Yes |
| Fissile Material Cutoff Treaty (FMCT) | Yes |
| Nuclear weapons complex – the science of making weapons (testing could be part) | No |

One quick note

I agree with Galloway and Seth that “good faith” means what they think it means. I hesitate to put it in the wording because I fear that it has such a precise meaning that affs will be forced to put it in their plan texts – and for obvious K-related reasons, they can’t put that phrase in their plan texts. I am open to being convinced otherwise.

FYI: Four Types of Nuclear Weapons Policy

Natural Resources Defense Council, *The Internet and the Bomb: A Research guide to Policy and Information about Nuclear Weapons, 1997*, <http://www.nrdc.org/nuclear/nuguide/nwipoli.asp>

CHAPTER SIX: NUCLEAR WEAPONS ISSUES

Nuclear Weapons Policy

There are four categories of nuclear weapons policy: declaratory, acquisition, employment and deployment.

- **Declaratory policy are the public statements that address such questions as why the United States possesses nuclear weapons** (deterrence), **how they might be used** ("massive retaliation," "flexible response," "first use"), **and what proposals there are to decrease their danger (arms control treaties, hot lines)**. This type of policy is intentionally public and is addressed to several audiences. It may send warning signals to adversaries or try and calm restive allies or domestic publics. Many of the documents, speeches and reports in this chapter fall into that category as expressed by the President, and officials of the State, Defense, and Energy Departments, as well as of NATO. Appendix E supplements the coverage here by providing a chronological bibliography of major government statements, speeches, and briefings from 1995 to the present.
- **Acquisition policy is the mostly public discussion of the nuts and bolts of researching, developing, and producing nuclear weapon systems.** Much of what Congress deals with in its annual budget cycle has to do with the acquisition process. The questions include such things as, the overall size of the military and the percentages for each service, the kinds of weapon systems and the numbers in which they should be bought, and what technologies should be underwritten for tomorrow. Influencing and shaping these issues and policies are the corporations, laboratories, lobbyists, trade press, the vast sub-bureaucracies of the Pentagon that deal with this process, and the Congressional committees that listen to and act upon their requests. A portion of the process is classified and has to do with new technologies ("stealth") or secret programs (the B-2 bomber), or covert operations. The section of this chapter dealing with spending and contracting covers some aspects of acquisition policy.
- **Employment policy has to do with how nuclear weapons would actually be used.** The details of this policy are incorporated in highly classified war plans, guidance documents and directives. The Single Integrated Operational Plan (SIOP) is the central U.S. nuclear war plan specifying the options the President could order should he decide to authorize their use. The SIOP is prepared by Strategic Command at Offutt AFB, Nebraska. Employment policy interacts with the other three policies by influencing what types of weapons are bought, where they are deployed, and to a limited extent, what can be said publicly about how they would be employed. Some declaratory statements hint at the real employment plans. To take one example it was said that, deterrence was enhanced because our targeting policy held "at risk Soviet war-making capabilities" . . . and "[p]laces at risk those political entities the Soviet leadership values most: the mechanisms for ensuring survival of the Communist party and its leadership cadres, and for retention of the party's control over the Soviet and Soviet-bloc peoples." (*National Security Strategy of the United States*, January 1988, p. 14.)
- **Deployment policy is closely entwined with employment policy and has to do with where the nuclear forces are based.** Officially the Pentagon is silent on the locations of nuclear weapons but it is widely known where the bulk of them are. From the 1950s through the 1980s the U.S. had an enormous base structure that spanned the globe and nuclear weapons were located at hundreds of sites. Since the end of the Cold War there has been a huge consolidation to fewer sites, almost all--save a dozen air force bases in Europe-- within the continental United States. We cover the current deployment of U.S. nuclear forces in several Tables in the Nuclear Forces and Weapons section.

Presidential and National Policy

Current U.S. nuclear weapons policy -- acquisition, employment, and deployment -- was set as a result of the 1993-1994 Nuclear Posture Review conducted by the Pentagon and approved by the President. The results of the review were reported in the form of a number of briefings prepared by the various task forces. A public briefing (in the form of overhead projector slides) outlines the barest minimum of force structure decisions. A synopsis of the Review is contained in the Secretary of Defense's report to Congress for 1995 (online at <http://www.dtic.mil/execsec/adr95/npr.html>).

Declaratory Policy = how we retaliate

RAND report, 1995, http://www.rand.org/pubs/monograph_reports/2007/MR596.pdf

The principal function of declaratory policy is to suggest the circumstances under which the United States will consider specific retaliatory options. Put another way, it signals U.S. perceptions of the gravity of specific acts by announcing those retaliatory options the United States might exercise. Declaratory policy should be consistent with strategy. For the United States to threaten to do what it is not prepared to do carries substantial risk because subsequent threats carry less weight once U.S. resolve is tested and the United States is caught bluffing.

Definitions of “Adopt”

Adopt requires implementation.

Merriam Webster’s (<http://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/adopt>)

Main Entry:

adopt

Pronunciation:

\ə- dɔpt

Function:

verb

Etymology:

Middle English, from Middle French or Latin; Middle French *adopter*, from Latin *adoptare*, from *ad-* + *optare* to choose

Date:

1500

*transitive verb*1: to take by choice into a relationship ; *especially* : to take voluntarily (a child of other parents) as one's own child2: to take up and practice or use <adopted a moderate tone>3: **to accept formally and put into effect** <adopt a constitutional amendment>4: to choose (a textbook) for required study in a course

Adopt requires a vote?

Free Dictionary (<http://www.thefreedictionary.com/adopt>)

a·dopt (ə-dɔpt ')

tr. v. a-dopt-ed, a-dopt-ing, a-dopts

1. To take into one's family through legal means and raise as one's own child.
2.
 - a. To take and follow (a course of action, for example) by choice or assent: adopt a new technique.
 - b. To take up and make one's own: adopt a new idea.
3. To take on or assume: adopted an air of importance.
4. **To vote to accept**: adopt a resolution.
5. To choose as standard or required in a course: adopt a new line of English textbooks.

Alert Status = Commonly Used Phrase

See, for example, <http://www.armscontrol.org/print/2699>

Rhetoric that supports the wording in the list:

UN General Assembly (<http://www.un.org/News/Press/docs/2007/gadis3357.doc.htm>)

According to the draft resolution on Decreasing the operational readiness of nuclear weapons systems (document A/C.1/62/L.29), the Assembly, concerned that, notwithstanding the end of the cold war, several thousand nuclear weapons remain on high alert, ready to be launched within minutes, would call for the taking of further practical steps to decrease the operational readiness of nuclear weapons systems, with a view to ensuring that all **nuclear weapons are removed from high alert status.**

Definition of the FMCT

Federation of American Scientists (<http://www.fas.org/nuke/control/fmct/>)

A Fissile Material Cut-off Treaty [FMCT] would strengthen nuclear non-proliferation norms by adding a binding international commitment to existing constraints on nuclear weapons-usable fissile material. **The proposed treaty would ban the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices. It would not apply to plutonium and HEU for non-explosive purposes.** It would also not apply to non-fissile materials, like tritium, and it would not address existing stockpiles.