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DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
FACT SHEET
Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty

The central limits set by START on deployed systems are:

1,600 strategic offensive nuclear delivery systems.

6,000 warheads with sublimits of:

- 4,900 warheads on deployed ICBMs and SLBMs.
- 1,540 warheads on deployed 154 heavy ICBMs.
- 1,100 warheads on deployed mobile ICBMs.

54 percent of current Soviet ballistic missile throwweight.

ALCM Heavy Bomber counting rules:

- 150 US heavy bombers equipped with long-range nuclear ALCMs count as 10 each, the rest would count at their actual long-range nuclear ALCM equipage.
- 180 Soviet heavy bombers equipped with long range nuclear ALCMs count as 8 each, the rest would count at their actual long-range nuclear ALCM equipage.

Seven-year draw down period in three phases (3-2-2).

Fifteen-year treaty duration can be extended by mutual agreement in 5-year increments.

Ballistic Missile Downloading:

- Maximum of 4 RVs per missile can be downloaded
- Permitted for a maximum aggregate of 1,250 warheads per side.
- Currently involving two existing systems, the MINUTEMAN III (US) and SS-N-18 (USSR).
- Sublimit of 500 warheads may be downloaded on two additional systems.

Destruction under START

The START Treaty requires elimination of ICBM launchers, SLBM launchers, and heavy bombers through agreed procedures. There is no requirement to eliminate ballistic missiles themselves, except for mobile ICBMs in excess of the limit on non-deployed mobile ICBMs. There is no requirement in START for destruction of reentry vehicles, bomber armaments, or nuclear warheads themselves. The logic behind this is that (a) once the launchers and bombers are destroyed the weapons cannot be delivered; and (b) it makes little sense to require destruction of systems that are not subject to numerical limits in START, and whose production is not prohibited.

Verification for the President's initiative

Once the START treaty is ratified and enters into force, it will provide the basic provisions for verifying reductions in strategic forces. These include the use of national technical means and on-site inspection, as well as a large number of specific rules which state how and in what fashion systems are to be destroyed. We would envision using both national technical means and on-site inspections to verify that the accelerated eliminations and additional cuts in the ICBM force proposed by the President were made in accordance with the START destruction and dismantlement provisions.

With regard to the SNF and naval systems, we do not envision any formal verification regime, although we are willing to discuss possible confidence building measures with the Soviets. It will also be very important to use the increased openness that currently exists between the U.S. and the new Soviet leadership to further enhance the transparency of both sides' actions.

Submitting the START agreement for ratification

The START Treaty should be submitted for ratification as soon as necessary preparations are complete. The process of preparing the analysis and other documents required to be submitted with the Treaty is proceeding within the US government, and we will be ready to submit the START Treaty for ratification in the near future. Prompt ratification will serve both sides' interests in promoting nuclear stability and would complement the President's initiative. Moreover, the reporting and inspection regimes provided for in the Treaty would substantially improve the sides' confidence in their ability to monitor what the other side is doing.

Implementation of START

To meet our total reductions under the Treaty the U.S. plans to retire the following:

<u>SYSTEM</u>	<u>NUMBER</u>
MM-II	450 Silos
Poseidon C3 SSBNs	11 Ships
Poseidon C4 SSBNs	12 Ships
B-52, older models	346 Airplanes (over 250 of which are hulks)

The President has proposed acceleration of land based ICBM reductions under START. Rapid implementation entails compressing the elimination of Minuteman II that has been planned over a 7 year period into a shorter timeframe.

The Department has already accelerated elimination of other systems planned for reduction under START. This includes accelerated retirement of B-52G bombers and Poseidon C-3 and C-4 submarines. In fact, the last of the Poseidon C-3 submarines will cease operational patrols on October 1, 1991.

Eliminating MIRVed ICBMs

As the President stated, we would seek to establish a mutually agreeable timetable with the Soviets on the elimination of all land based MIRVed ICBMs. The President's speech calls upon Secretary Baker to meet with his Soviet counterpart to establish the timetable for the drawdown.