March 2, 1976

National Security Decision Memorandum 319

TO: The Secretary of State
The Secretary of Defense
The Director, Arms Control and Disarmament Agency
The Director of Central Intelligence
The Administrator, Energy Research and Development Administration

SUBJECT: Underground Nuclear Test Program for the Second Half of FY 1976 and the Transition Quarter (ANVIL II)

Subject to the availability of funds, the President has approved the detailed underground nuclear test program for the second half of FY 76 and the transition quarter (ANVIL II), as recommended by the NSC Under Secretaries Committee. He has also approved in principle the testing policy set forth in the February 9, 1976 memorandum of the Under Secretaries Committee. However, in view of the importance of ensuring compliance with our treaty commitments, this policy should be supplemented in the next semi-annual review by submission to the President of procedures for the conduct of future tests beyond ANVIL II of nuclear devices with design yields of 150 kt. These guidelines are to include recommended measures to reduce the probability of yields in excess of the Threshold Test Ban treaty, should this treaty come into force.

Brent Scowcroft

cc: The Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff
The Chairman, NSC Under Secretaries Committee

SECRET - XGDS

NSC LHR, 4/1/76
ID:

N.F. Dye, 5/4/76