

handwritten memorandum¹
Archive of A.A.M. van Agt, box 41, TNF file, Catholic Documentation Center,
University Nijmegen
translation from the Dutch and footnotes: Ruud van Dijk, University of Amsterdam

Draft conclusions from the discussions in Washington on December 7, 1979²

From the Dutch side, the following has been put forward:

The Dutch government declares itself willing to decide in December 1981 to deploy GLCMs on Dutch territory, if the Dutch government at that time would, in consultation with the allies, come to the conclusion that the disarmament negotiations with the Soviet Union have yielded no or insufficient results.

This position means that next Wednesday, the Netherlands will not oppose NATO's plans, but only postpone its own decision.

The Dutch side will still express some reservations about the scope of the TNF modernization program and once again underline the connection between this program and the ratification of SALT II.

Finally the Dutch side will once again emphasize the urgency of reducing the current number of nuclear tasks of the Dutch military, an issue where a large measure of agreement has been reached between the defense ministers involved .

From the American side, the following response has been made:

If, because of the position the Second Chamber has taken, the Dutch government feels compelled to postpone the decision for two years, it should limit itself to this announcement and refrain from any further commentary on the nature and the scope of the TNF-modernization program. The US in this case will assume that the number of GLCMs possibly to be stationed in the Netherlands will also remain open for the time being.

A reference to the relationship between TNF and Salt II ratification is then also considered superfluous, and for the US even undesirable.

The Dutch proposals regarding the cancellation of certain nuclear tasks are acceptable in principle for the US, also separate from the position taken by the Netherlands in the matter of TNF-modernization.

The Dutch position will be mentioned in the communique of the special session of this coming Wednesday, Dec. 12.

¹ By Van Agt's top adviser, J. P. M. H. Merckelbach.

² See Documents 11 and 12.