

**Memorandum on the Proposed
Amendment to the United States/
United Kingdom Agreement for
Cooperation on the Use of Atomic
Energy for Mutual Defense Purposes**

June 14, 2004

*Memorandum for the Secretary of Defense,
the Secretary of Energy*

Subject: Proposed Amendment to the United States/United Kingdom Agreement for Cooperation on the Use of Atomic Energy for Mutual Defense Purposes

I have reviewed and concur in the recommendations in your letter of June 7, 2004, recommending approval of a proposed amendment to the Agreement Between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland for Cooperation on the Uses of Atomic Energy for Mutual Defense Purposes. I note from your joint recommendation and concur with your assessment that the United Kingdom, by participating with the United States pursuant to an international agreement, is making substantial and material contributions to the mutual defense and security. The proposed Amendment will permit cooperation that will further improve our mutual defense posture and support our interests under the North Atlantic Treaty Organization. I hereby:

- approve the proposed Amendment to the 1958 Agreement;
- determine that performance under the proposed Amendment will promote and will not constitute an unreasonable risk to the common defense and security;
- approve the program outlined in this Amendment and determine that such program will promote and will not constitute an unreasonable risk to the mutual defense and security; and
- authorize the execution of the proposed Amendment for the Government of the United States in a manner specified by the Secretary of State.

George W. Bush

**Message to the Congress
Transmitting an Amendment to the
United Kingdom-United States
Agreement for Cooperation on the
Uses of Atomic Energy for Mutual
Defense Purposes**

June 14, 2004

To the Congress of the United States:

I am pleased to transmit to the Congress, pursuant to section 123d. of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended, the text of an amendment to the Agreement Between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland for Cooperation on the Uses of Atomic Energy for Mutual Defense Purposes of July 3, 1958, as amended, and my written approval, authorization, and determination concerning the agreement. The joint unclassified letter submitted to me by the Secretaries of Energy and Defense that provides a summary position on the Amendment is also enclosed.

The Amendment extends for 10 years (until December 31, 2014) provisions that permit the transfer of nonnuclear parts, source, byproduct, special nuclear materials, and other material and technology for nuclear weapons and military reactors, and revises text, principally in the Security Annex, to be consistent with current policies and practices relating to personnel and physical security.

In my judgment, the proposed Amendment meets all statutory requirements. The United Kingdom intends to continue to maintain viable nuclear forces. In light of our previous close cooperation and the fact that the United Kingdom has committed its nuclear forces to the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, I have concluded that it is in our interest to continue to assist them in maintaining a credible nuclear force.

I have approved the Amendment, authorized its execution, and urge that the Congress give it favorable consideration.

George W. Bush

The White House,
June 14, 2004.

NOTE: An original was not available for verification of the content of this message.