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## **SUBMARINE LAUNCHED CRUISE MISSILE**

### **PLAN OF ACTION**

RJVolluz

1. A great deal of technical effort is devoted to configuration-oriented tactical missile studies which assess anticipated state-of-the-art advances and demonstrations thereof, in related technological disciplines to establish HOW future weapon capabilities can be improved over those currently available. Although such studies are essential in many respects, the proposed weapon system frequently runs into delays, re-direction, or outright cancellation before it can be implemented, because the justification (the WHAT and the WHY) for the operational requirement was considered inadequate. In view of the 20 or more possible courses of action which have been discussed or thought of by various current investigators, there is little reason to believe that the SLCM will be an exception.

2. Furthermore, there appears to be no supportable basis either within or without the U.S. Navy to select which technology, let alone what technical demonstration, is most urgently in need of funding from the \$10 million that is purportedly available. Each of several offices within the Navy can visualize technical questions that they will be required to answer and substantiate if there is to be such an SLCM system. They are naturally eager to receive proposals from anyone, industry included, that can be "sold" to their respective superiors and justify spending at least a share of the moneys available and, just incidentally, keeping their organization busy.

3. A significant amount of industry effort can be, and some certainly should be, put into "psyching out" just what demonstration or study to propose - with some reasonably high probability of picking the wrong horse(s) in the race. This approach by itself could be unprofitable since there are many concepts and apparently no one seems to know what problem should be

attacked forthwith. Therefore, it is recommended that the Naval Surface Combat Study be extended as needed to examine the Requirements FOR and ON the SCLM with the intent of initiating a sustained dialogue with the operational requirements personnel in the Navy.