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## Gov't Formulating Plans For Nuclear Survival

(Special)  
WELLINGTON  
Cabinet has already started to formulate contingency plans for surviving nuclear war, but is likely to authorize public submissions and a second report on New Zealand's survival prospects before it makes final decisions.

The out-going Minister of the Environment, Mr Goff, says the urgings of the Planning Council's report

on New Zealand's nuclear winter chances for comprehensive contingency planning will be met, but probably not before public consultation and a more detailed "Phase II" study.

Cabinet's domestic and external security committee has been reviewing emergency regulations and existing national disaster planning, and is likely to have the guiding hand in the ultimate contingency blueprint.

Mr Goff yesterday commended the Planning Council's report, and trumpeted the Government's courage

in instigating its funding.

"The reason why there has never been a report like this before is because no Government that wanted to associate New Zealand in a nuclear alliance, and depend on the so-called nuclear umbrella to defend it, could afford to allow the public of New Zealand to appreciate the consequences of nuclear war."

However, he said the report's various suggestions of making New Zealand self-sufficient or stockpiling essential commodities were unlikely to be adopted extensively.

Stockpiling was expensive, and unsuitable for goods that deteriorated.

"I think more realistically we need to ... look at whether there are substitutes available in New Zealand; whether, even at some expense, we could convert our redundant industries into producing the pharmaceutical and other goods we would need.

"We would need to look at how we might go about re-establishing trade in the Southern Hemisphere ... We need to look at alternative forms of medicine.

"But I would not predict

that we would make an immediate decision to start moving New Zealand towards self-sufficiency now, simply given the prospect of a nuclear war being possible."