/etc/resolv.conf is not autogenerated by the resolv.conf service

see:

https://manpages.debian.org/buster/resolvconf/resolvconf.8.en.html

As it is a service it is controlled by systemctl:

systemctl status resolvconf.service

systemctl restart resolvconf.service

….

As noted at the bottom of the man page the service has configuration files in:

/etc/resolvconf/resolv.conf.d

The three files: head, base, and tail.   
  
Comments placed in head will end up at the top of the /etc/resolv.conf. This comment is usually '# do not edit this file' which is confusing as head is the correct file to edit. However that comment will end up in resolv.conf, which should not be edited.

The magic google nameserver line will appear in /etc/resolv.conf after what appears in the head config file.  
  
In contrast to head, comments placed in base are not copied to /etc/resolv.conf. However nameserver lines will be.

If IPv6 style nameserver addresses are placed in head, they will appear in /etc/resolv.conf. However, if IPv6 style nameserver addresses are placed in base, they are stripped out (like the comments).

If the head config file does not end in a new line, the first line in base continues the last line in head.

Now, we had a problem where we had placed 9.9.9.9 into head, and it appeared as the first nameserver in /etc/resolv.conf, and it went down one day. DNS did not move on to the second nameserver! It just failed translations. I just ran an experiment 35.194.71.194 in head, and indeed DNS hangs and does not move on. 35.194.71.194 does not have DNS service, so it should time out and go to the next one. I installed tcpdump and went to document the misbehavior, and then after the restart the cascading started working. .. it can't know that I installed tcpdump ... I will have to experiment with this again.

We also had problems with 149.112.112.112 as the first nameserver. When it gave timeouts,

DNS issued errors about the translation being temporarily unavailable. Though unlike when 9.9.9.9 was down hard, it did not hang the system waiting for translations.