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THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

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March 30, 1983

NATIONAL SECURITY DECISION
DIRECTIVE 88

BASE NEGOTIATIONS POLICY (U)

Under the direction of the Senior Interagency Group-Foreign Policy, the Base Negotiations Interagency Group conducted a study of recent US base negotiations with Turkey, Greece, Spain, Portugal, and the Philippines and their implications for future negotiations. The study was published as the Final Report of SIG Number 27, The Base Negotiations Study, January 25, 1983. This directive approves the recommendations of the study and provides implementing instructions. (X)

An effective negotiation, with results supportive of our national interests and satisfactory to all interested elements of the US Government, depends upon full and continuing interagency consultation on the negotiating objectives and the strategy, tactics, and a dedicated commitment for pursuing them. Even though no single prescription will apply to all base negotiations, a common framework for preparing for negotiations and establishing clear lines of coordination and communication for all phases of the negotiating process is essential. The policies contained in this directive provide this framework. (X)

The Circular 175 action memorandum will continue to be the document which sets forth the basic goals and strategies, and the legal authority for all negotiating proposals. However, prior to submission of the memorandum for approval, the following actions will be taken for all significant base negotiations:

- An Interagency Group (IG) under the direction of the Foreign Policy SIG will be established on a continuing basis for the pre-negotiation phase and for the duration of the negotiation. Under State chairmanship, membership on the IG will include, as a minimum, OSD, JCS, Treasury, OMB, CIA, AID, and the NSC staff. (X)

Declassified/Released on 8/22/90
under provisions of E.O. 12356
by S. Tiley, National Security Council

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- ° Each IG will complete a study comprised of the following elements: (1) Identification of US interests and objectives in terms of US defense and international security objectives and in terms of the role of the bases and facilities in our overall bilateral relationship with that country. (2) Identification of our military activities in the host country and a determination of the value of the bases and facilities in relation to our worldwide, regional, and alliance operational requirements. This survey of our basing needs will include the availability of funds, to include alternative approaches, and attendant recommendations. (3) Examination of our negotiating strategies and recommendations, and to the degree feasible, our optimum, basic, and minimum positions. (4) Analysis of whether the resident Ambassador or a special negotiator should head the negotiating team. (5) Development of a Congressional coordination plan. (X)
- ° The Circular 175 action memorandum will be based on the results of this study. (X)

Once the Circular 175 memorandum is agreed to by the agencies represented in the negotiations and approved, it will serve as the basic guidance for the negotiator and his team. (X)

During the negotiations, the IG chairman will be responsible for maintaining effective coordination within the Executive Branch and, through the appropriate agencies, with the Congress. This requires use of the IG/SIG/NSC process to identify and solve contentious interagency issues and develop acceptable solutions. This process will ensure that all instructions to the negotiator reflect either consensus or the full resolution of differences. Additionally, the IG will prepare periodic reports in order that senior levels of the Executive Branch are kept fully abreast on the progress of the negotiations and are aware of developing interdepartmental differences. (X)

For those base negotiations not requiring the establishment of an IG, the lead agency will ensure appropriate interagency coordination. (X)

The Staff Secretary of the NSC will be informed of the establishment of each base negotiation IG. (X)

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