National Security Decision Memorandum 146

TO: The Secretary of State
The Secretary of Defense
The Secretary of the Treasury
The Secretary of Commerce
The Attorney General
The Secretary of Transportation

SUBJECT: U.S.-Soviet Maritime Talks

The President has considered the issues discussed by the Senior Review Group at its meeting of December 22 together with the recommended negotiating position prepared by the Interagency Working Group on U.S.-Soviet Maritime Talks.

The President has approved the suggested agenda for the talks as set forth in the interagency paper, and he has directed that the Under Secretaries Committee be responsible for backstopping the talks. In this connection, the Under Secretaries Committee is requested to prepare the detailed negotiating instructions for the talks based on the suggested agenda. In preparing these instructions, the Under Secretaries Committee should take into account that:

-- named U.S. ports open for calls by Soviet vessels should be open on the basis of 96-hours advance notification;

-- the U.S. objective at the talks should be the development of ad-referendum understandings based on discussion of the issues contained in the proposed U.S. agenda.

The Under Secretaries Committee is requested to forward the detailed negotiating instructions for review by the President no later than January 10, 1972.

Henry A. Kissinger

cc: Director, Central Intelligence Agency
Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff