National Security Decision Memorandum 202

January 22, 1973

TO: The Secretary of State
    The Secretary of Defense
    The Secretary of Interior
    The Secretary of Commerce
    The Secretary of Transportation
    The Director, National Science Foundation
    The Chairman, Council on Environmental Quality

SUBJECT: Arctic Program Review and Recommendations

The President has reviewed the report and recommendations of the Interagency Arctic Policy Group forwarded by the Chairman of the NSC Under Secretaries Committee on July 21, 1972 pursuant to NSDM 144.

The President has noted the progress by the Interagency Arctic Policy Group and has reaffirmed his desire that the United States actively develop and pursue programs for increasing bilateral and multilateral cooperation in the Arctic, particularly in the areas of scientific research, resource development, and environmental protection.

The President does not desire, however, that the United States undertake discussions at this time with the Soviet Union, Canada, and other countries with Arctic interests with the aim of promoting the establishment of a multinational Northlands and Arctic Cooperation Compact and the convening of an international conference to this end.

Henry A. Kissinger

cc: Secretary, Health, Education and Welfare
    Director of Central Intelligence
    Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency
    Director, Office of Management and Budget
    President's Science Advisor

CONFIDENTIAL/GDS