National Security Decision Memorandum 262

July 29, 1974

TO: The Secretary of Defense
    The Deputy Secretary of State
    Director, Arms Control and Disarmament Agency

SUBJECT: Use of U.S. Bases in Japan in the Event of Aggression Against South Korea

The President has reviewed the memorandum of the Deputy Secretary of State of April 27, 1974 which proposed a modification in the guidance contained in NSDM 251 concerning extension of the 1961 Kishi Minute on the Use of U.S. Bases in Japan in the Event of Aggression Against South Korea.

The President has approved the recommendation in Option 3 of the memorandum, i.e., with the purpose of retaining at least the effect of the Korean Minute without seeking an explicit, formal extension of the Minute, we should:

   - Not raise the question of the Korean Minute itself directly with the Japanese Government.

   - Rather, during discussion with the Japanese Government on the future of the U.N. Command, take the position that we are confident termination of the U.N. Command will not adversely affect our ability to deter a North Korean attack, even though the U.N. cover and the U.N. SOFA for Japan are terminated, and that no further formal U.S.-Japanese actions are required.

Accordingly, the guidance contained in NSDM 251 is amended in this respect.

Henry A. Kissinger

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