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April 4, 1984

NATIONAL SECURITY STUDY
DIRECTIVE NUMBER 2-84

UNITED STATES POLICY IN SOUTHEAST ASIA
(THE KAMPUCHEAN PROBLEM) (U)

This review will focus on the question of United States strategy toward the continuing Kampuchean problem, and its relationship to United States policy toward other regional actors such as China, ASEAN, Vietnam, Laos and to a lesser extent Australia and Japan. At a minimum, the review will cover the following topics:

- United States interests affected by the situation in Kampuchea, including the United States relationships with ASEAN, China, Vietnam, Laos, regional security and the diminution of Soviet influence, and resolution of the problem of Khmer refugees;
- The specific objectives of United States policy in Kampuchea;
- External factors affecting those goals and interests, including the role and interests of Thailand, the role and interests of ASEAN, the role and interests of China, Vietnam, Laos and the role and interests of Japan and Australia;
- Vietnamese and Soviet policy and objectives, coincidences and divergencies;
- A description of the key elements of the current situation in Kampuchea, and of variables which are likely to affect the future course of events there; with particular focus on the growing strength of the Khmer Rouge.
- A formulation of the different components of current United States policy toward Kampuchea;
- A discussion of possible alternative approaches to addressing the problem; and
- Concrete policy recommendations which should be implemented to further our objectives. (S) 4

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By J. Saunders, National Security Council

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The study will be conducted on an interagency basis, under the direction of the Department of State. Policy recommendations resulting from the study to be promulgated in a National Security Decision Directive will be provided to the Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs by May 21, 1984. (U)

Ronald Reagan