National Security Study Memorandum 83

November 21, 1969

TO: The Secretary of State
    The Secretary of Defense

SUBJECT: U.S. Approach to Current Issues of European Security

In connection with developments in the field of European security, the President wishes to have a meeting of the National Security Council early in the New Year. At that time he wishes to consider the status of our own and NATO actions on this subject and the range of options open to us in the light of East-West diplomatic exchanges and of pertinent strategic issues. As a result of the identification and discussion of the major issues involved, the President will provide guidance for further U.S. actions.

A paper providing the basis for this NSC meeting should be prepared by the Interdepartmental Group for Europe and should be submitted for consideration by the NSC Review Group by January 15, 1970.

In the interim, the President's approach to the proposal for a European Security Conference remains as stated in the directive of April 9, 1969. Pending the NSC meeting, the President wishes to have specific U.S. negotiating proposals in this area held in abeyance.

Henry A. Kissinger

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