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E.O. 12958, as amended, Sect 3.5

NSC/ Soubers to Smith 09/06/2002

By Date 02/13/07

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20506

September 2, 1971

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National Security Decision Memorandum 129

TO: The Secretary of State
 The Secretary of Defense

SUBJECT: ROK Force Structure and Modernization Program

The President has approved in principle the five-year Korea Modernization Program prepared by the Under Secretaries Committee. As recommended by the Under Secretaries Committee, the President authorizes:

1. A military assistance and sales program totaling \$1.5 billion in FY 71-75 comprised of a combination of grant military assistance (MAP), excess defense articles, and other U.S. military equipment transferred to the ROK at no cost.
2. A maximum of \$1.25 billion in new obligational authority (NOA), this amount to be reduced to the maximum extent possible through foreign military credit and cash sales, provision of excess defense articles, and other "no cost" U.S. equipment transfers.
3. The annual review of the plans reflecting program changes, new cost factors, resource availabilities, and the situation as it evolves on the Korean peninsula.
4. Program additions or changes shall be considered as offsets to the assistance levels contained within these ceilings unless specifically considered and approved by the President.

Further, the President directs that as set forth in NSDM 48, a five-year Korea memorandum should be developed covering all U.S. activities and programs related to Korea over the next five years and posing, where appropriate, alternative U.S. presence and assistance options. Among other problems, this memorandum should examine:

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-- The North Korean tactical air threat and the alternative ROK and U. S. forces required to cope with it.

-- The alternative means of financing further improvements in the ROK air force within the existing modernization program outlined above.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Henry A. Kissinger". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Henry A. Kissinger

cc: The Director, Office of Management
and Budget
The Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff