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E.O. 12958, as amended, Sect 3.5

N.S.C./Soubers to Smith 09/06/2002
By WJR Date 02/14/07

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20506

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October 24, 1972

National Security Decision Memorandum 193

TO: The Secretary of State
The Secretary of Defense

SUBJECT: RVNAF Force Structure

The President has reviewed the study on RVNAF national reserve units. He has decided that the need for additional national mobile reserves is a matter which should be discussed promptly with the GVN. The following are among the points which should be made:

-- The U. S. believes RVNAF need more mobile reserve units recruited on a national basis and capable of deployment outside of their military regions;

-- We are prepared to provide the additional equipment and to support such units;

-- We believe development of additional national reserves will reduce requirements for other forces and only a temporary increase of RVNAF strength above 1,100,000 would be required;


-- Planning for at least the first phase of national reserve expansion should be completed as rapidly as possible so that the forces can be combat ready by the end of 1973;

-- Various options can be examined for creating such forces; we would welcome GVN views on how best to proceed.

Parallel with the development of a short-term plan for 1972-3, DOD and State should analyze alternative force structures for SVN over the next seven years taking into account economic problems as well as various levels of threat.

The President requested a progress report by November 27, 1972.

CLASSIFIED BY Henry A. Kissinger
SUBJECT TO GENERAL DECLASSIFICATION
SCHEDULE OF EXECUTIVE ORDER 11652
AUTOMATICALLY DOWNGRADED AT TWO
YEAR INTERVALS AND DECLASSIFIED ON DEC. 31, 1980


Henry A. Kissinger

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