

DECLASSIFIED

E.O. 12958, as amended, Sect 3.5

NSA/Soubers to Smith 07/06/2002

By Date 06/27/07

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20506

~~SECRET~~

March 27, 1973

National Security Decision Memorandum 209

TO: The Secretary of State
 The Secretary of Defense
 The Secretary of the Treasury
 The Secretary of Commerce
 The Secretary of Agriculture
 The Director of Central Intelligence

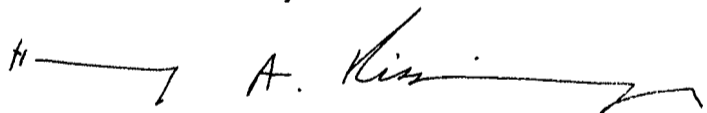
SUBJECT: U. S. Policy Toward the Philippines

The President has considered the interdepartmental response to NSSM 155 of June 30, 1972, and the views expressed by the NSC Senior Review Group in its meeting on this subject on November 30, 1972. He has approved the following as tenets of U. S. policy toward the Philippines:

-- The United States Government will continue to deal with the Marcos Administration as the effective Government of the Philippines. Assuming that the Marcos Administration will continue to be the effective Government and given the U. S. interests in improved long-term stability in the Philippines, the U. S. Government will continue security and economic assistance to the Philippines on the basis of continued cooperation from the Marcos Administration in our pursuit of fundamental U. S. interests in the Philippines and of implementation by the Marcos Administration of measures aimed at long-term stability for the Philippines.

-- The U. S. will not seek an extension of the Laurel-Langley Agreement beyond its expiration in 1974.

-- We should endeavor to avoid establishment of direct linkage between U. S. military assistance and continued effective access to U. S. military bases in the Philippines. Military assistance should be provided, however, in an amount which, in conjunction with other U. S. programs including other forms of assistance, will assure the desired continued effective access to the bases. In this context military assistance should be planned and requested in the amount of \$20-\$25 million annually.



Henry A. Kissinger

cc: The Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff
 The Assistant to the President for
 International Economic Affairs

~~SECRET~~ XGDS-3 BY AUTH Henry A. Kissinger