

DECLASSIFIED

E.O. 12958, as amended, Sect 3.5

NSC/Soubers to Smith 09/06/2002

By _____ Date _____

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20506

~~SECRET (GDS)~~

June 5, 1973

National Security Decision Memorandum 221

TO: The Secretary of State
The Acting Secretary of Defense

SUBJECT: U. S. Policy Toward the Bahama Islands

The President has reviewed the issues relating to U. S. Policy Toward the Bahamas as discussed in the response to NSSM 117 and the Bahamas Options Paper prepared by the NSC/IG for Inter-American Affairs dated December 7, 1972. He has also reviewed the positions of the Departments with respect to these issues.

The President has approved the holding of preliminary talks with the British and Bahamian Governments aimed at extending our present agreements (with the U. K.), with the U. S. being prepared to offer a reasonable remuneration for use of the bases. Any agreement worked out in the preliminary talks should be on an ad referendum basis and should be submitted to the President for final approval.

If final agreement is not reached before the date of Bahamian independence (July 10), an interim progress report on the negotiations should be submitted by that date.



Henry A. Kissinger

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

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