

DECLASSIFIED

E.O. 12958, as amended, Sect 3.5

N.S.C. / Sources to Smith 09/06/2002

By EAZ Date 02/13/67

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20506

May 28, 1969

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National Security Decision Memorandum 15

TO: The Secretary of State
 The Secretary of Defense
 The Secretary of the Treasury
 The Secretary of Commerce
 The Secretary of Labor
 The Secretary of Agriculture

SUBJECT: East-West Trade

The President has made the following decisions with regard to the issues discussed at the National Security Council meeting on May 21, 1969:

1. Present legislation provides an adequate basis for U. S. trade policy toward the USSR and the Communist countries of Eastern Europe at this time, in view of the status of our overall relations with them. There is thus no current need for the Administration to make any proposals, or support proposals of others, to change the Export Control Act or provide authority for the President to extend most-favored-nation treatment to these countries. Neither is there a need to try to facilitate sales by amendment of the regulations governing shipment to them of agricultural commodities.
2. In view of overall U. S. -USSR relations, we should not now issue licenses for the proposed sales of U. S. equipment and data for a semi-automated oil system and a truck engine foundry.
3. We should be prepared to move generously to liberalize our trade policy toward the Soviet Union and the other Eastern European countries whenever there is sufficient improvement in our overall relations with them.
4. The United States should continue to liberalize its export control list, within the framework of present legislation. As soon as possible, we should align our controls to the list agreed internationally

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by COCOM except where the United States can maintain effective unilateral control because the items are not available from non-U.S. sources. The United States should not place pressure on other countries not to pursue trade policies toward Eastern Europe more liberal than our own.



Henry A. Kissinger

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