

DECLASSIFIED

E.O. 12958, as amended, Sect 3.5

NSC/Southern to Smith 09/06/2002

By WPC Date 06/27/09

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

~~SECRET~~

October 2, 1973

National Security Decision Memorandum 234

TO: The Secretary of State
The Secretary of Defense
The Chairman, NSC Under Secretaries Committee

SUBJECT: US-Icelandic Defense Negotiations

The President has considered the review of U.S. Relations with Iceland forwarded by the Chairman, NSC Under Secretaries Committee on September 20, 1973.

The President has approved negotiations with Iceland relating to the US-Icelandic Defense Agreement as recommended by the Under Secretaries Committee, with the understanding that the following guidelines will shape the U.S. position:

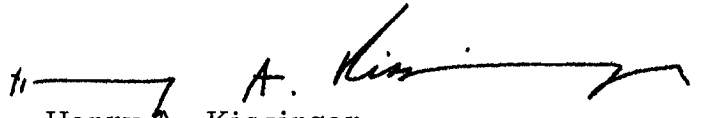
- There should be no formal modifications to the US-Icelandic Defense Agreement of 1951.
- The United States will undertake to phase out certain military personnel in the manner recommended by the Under Secretaries Committee.
- The United States will undertake to have all U.S. IDF personnel housed on base within the next three years.
- The United States will undertake other practical modifications, including the separation of the military and civilian air terminals and the increased contracting of Icelandic services.
- The United States will keep the Keflavik base television signal out of Reykjavik should the Government of Iceland so request.

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-- The United States will press the Government of Iceland to ease or eliminate current restrictions applying to U.S. personnel.

In approving the U.S. position for these negotiations, the President again emphasizes the importance of retaining Iceland in NATO and retaining US-manned NATO facilities in Iceland.

The President has directed that the senior U.S. Negotiator should submit a report on the results of these negotiations, including such ad referendum agreements as may be developed, for his review as soon as possible.


Henry A. Kissinger

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