February 11, 1988

NATIONAL SECURITY DECISION
DIRECTIVE NUMBER 300

U.S. POLICY TOWARD MEXICO (U)

NSDD-291 (December 16, 1987), concerning U.S. policy toward Mexico, is hereby amended by the substitution of the following in lieu of paragraphs 4 and 5 thereof:

4. To strengthen U.S.-Mexican trade and investment ties and support Mexico's economic recovery, the Economic Policy Council will examine prospects for building upon the U.S.-Mexico Framework Agreement toward a special trade and investment relationship with Mexico. This examination will include the impact of developments in trade and investment along the U.S.-Mexico border on the overall bilateral economic relationship. The Council will report to the President any significant recommendations for further action. The Executive Secretary of the Council will keep the IG apprised of developments on this issue. (S)

5. The Secretary of the Treasury will continue actively to implement the long-term strategy for helping Mexico overcome its external debt problems while achieving sustainable economic growth. This strategy includes external financial support linked to progress on Mexican economic reforms, with financing from multilateral development banks and private direct investment to supplement lending by private commercial banks. Refinements to the strategy will be made as needed over time and will be implemented in consultation with other appropriate USG agencies. It should be understood that Mexican efforts to frustrate U.S. policy in Central America will also affect the U.S. attitude toward the debt strategy. (S)