

DECLASSIFIED

E.O. 12958, as amended, Sect 3.5

NSC/Soubers to Smith 09/06/2002

By 682 Date 02/13/07

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20506

~~SECRET~~

October 13, 1971

National Security Decision Memorandum 137

TO: The Secretary of State
The Secretary of Defense

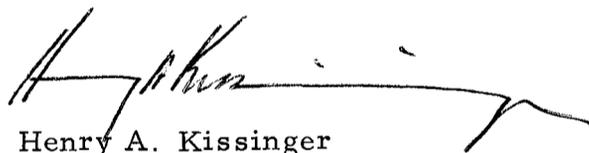
SUBJECT: Policy Toward Iceland

The President has considered the issues raised in the response to NSSM 134 and discussed by the Senior Review Group concerning US policy toward Iceland.

The President has decided that retention of US military presence in Iceland shall continue as a primary US policy objective. The United States should conduct operations at the Keflavik Base and elsewhere in a normal manner and refrain from pressing the Icelandic Government to reverse its announced policy on withdrawal of US forces from Iceland. The United States should also continue to educate the Icelandic Government on the vital role played by the US-manned base in the defense of Iceland and the entire North Atlantic area.

The Under Secretaries Committee is directed to monitor developments in Iceland and to begin preparations for talks with the Icelanders on the US military presence issue. The President will wish to review the US position prior to commencement of the talks.

The President has further decided that the United States should refrain from pressing the Icelandic Government to reverse its announced intentions to extend Iceland's fishing limits and establish a pollution control zone, while at the same time ensuring that US oceans policy objectives are clearly understood. Further the United States should avoid direct involvement in Iceland's fisheries dispute with the United Kingdom, Federal Republic of Germany and other distant-water fisheries countries. The Department of State is requested to bring US oceans policy objectives to the attention of the Icelandic Government in a manner consistent with this policy.


Henry A. Kissinger

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

~~SECRET~~