

DECLASSIFIED

E.O. 12958, as amended, Sect 3.5

NSC/Soubers to Smith 09/06/2002
By 662 Date 62/08/07

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20506

SECRET

March 13, 1973

National Security Study Memorandum 176

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

SUBJECT: Review of US-Soviet Bilateral Issues

The President has requested the Chairman, NSC Under Secretaries Committee, to conduct a review of all bilateral issues that are presently the subject of discussion or negotiations with the Soviet Union. Additionally, as part of this review, he has requested a canvass of all agencies to identify possible new areas for bilateral agreement as well as areas for augmentation of existing US-Soviet agreements.

The review should include a description of each issue, its current status, the prospects for agreement, and the possible interrelationship with other questions being discussed with the Soviet Union. Additionally, the review should identify any problems anticipated in negotiating an agreement on each issue as well as the anticipated timeframe for successful negotiations.

The review should address the advantages and disadvantages relating to possible renegotiation of the two-year Cultural Exchanges Agreement as a long-term, general agreement.

In keeping with the President's directive, those issues being considered as possible future sub-agreements within the work of the US-USSR Joint Commission on Scientific and Technical Cooperation -- i.e., agricultural research, transportation and oceanography -- should be included in the review. While these issues may be discussed by the science and technology commission, no final agreements or understandings should be concluded on these subjects at the forthcoming meeting of the commission.

The review should not include such issues as SALT, CSCE and MBFR; nor should it include any issues relating to the US-Soviet Trade Agreement and the work of the US-USSR Joint Commercial Commission.

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The Chairman, NSC Under Secretaries Committee, is requested to submit the review no later than March 26, 1973, for consideration by the NSC Senior Review Group. The President has directed that no agreements with the Soviet Union be initialled or otherwise concluded without his approval.


Henry A. Kissinger

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

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