Presidential Review Memorandum/NSC-41

TO: The Vice President
The Secretary of State

ALSO: The Secretary of Defense
The Secretary of Treasury
The Attorney General
The Secretary of Agriculture
The Secretary of Labor
The Secretary of Commerce
The Secretary of Energy
The Director, Office of Management and Budget
The United States Representative to the United Nations
The Special Trade Representative
Assistant to the President for Domestic Affairs
Administrator, Agency for International Development
Director of Central Intelligence
The Director, Office of Science and Technology Policy

SUBJECT: Review of U.S. Policies Toward Mexico (U)

The President has directed that the Policy Review Committee of the National Security Council undertake a review of U.S. relations with Mexico. The central objective of the review is to develop a coordinated and well integrated approach to our relations with Mexico. To do so, we need to improve our understanding of the interrelationships of the issues which concern our two countries.

The Secretary of State should chair the PRC, and the paper should be prepared and coordinated by an interagency committee organized at the assistant secretary level. The review should provide the basis for a Policy Review Committee meeting by November 1.
The paper to be prepared for the Policy Review Committee meeting should not exceed 20 pages exclusive of appendices, and should concentrate on the longer term prospects for cooperation on the central issues in U.S.-Mexican relations, including immigration, energy (oil, gas, and nuclear), trade (agricultural and industrial), and their impact on overall U.S.-Mexican relations.

Attention should be given to the impact of different bilateral and multilateral policies on patterns of Mexican economic development and on domestic U.S. policies. Reference should also be made to the impact of different policies on specific interest groups in the U.S., and on regional concerns of the United States.

In addressing each major issue, the paper should describe the status of policies, and explicitly consider alternative U.S. approaches, to the extent possible estimating the costs and benefits of each for both the U.S. and Mexico. It should relate the issues in U.S.-Mexican relations to each other, identify potential trade-offs between issues, and suggest options, which in effect would represent packages of policies relating to these issues. These options would provide a choice among comprehensive strategies for approaching U.S.-Mexican relations.

Appendices may be used to give more complete information on each issue.

Zbigniew Brzezinski