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THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

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January 30, 1989

National Security Directive 1

MEMORANDUM FOR THE VICE PRESIDENT  
 THE SECRETARY OF STATE  
 THE SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY  
 THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE  
 THE ATTORNEY GENERAL  
 THE SECRETARY OF COMMERCE  
 THE SECRETARY OF ENERGY  
 THE DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET  
 THE DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE  
 THE CHIEF OF STAFF TO THE PRESIDENT  
 THE ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT FOR NATIONAL  
 SECURITY AFFAIRS  
 THE CHAIRMAN, JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF  
 THE DIRECTOR, UNITED STATES ARMS CONTROL AND  
 DISARMAMENT AGENCY  
 THE DIRECTOR, UNITED STATES INFORMATION AGENCY

SUBJECT: Organization of the National Security Council System (S)

To assist me in carrying out my responsibilities in the area of national security, I hereby direct that the National Security Council system be organized as follows:

A. The National Security Council (NSC)

1. The National Security Council (NSC) shall be the principal forum for consideration of national security policy issues requiring presidential determination. The functions of the NSC shall be as set forth in the National Security Act of 1947, as amended, and this Directive. The NSC shall advise and assist me in integrating all aspects of national security policy as it affects the United States - domestic, foreign, military, intelligence, and economic. Along with its subordinate bodies, the NSC will be my principal means for coordinating Executive departments and agencies in the development and implementation of national security policy. (U)

2. The NSC shall have as its members the President, Vice President, Secretary of State, and Secretary of Defense, as prescribed by statute. The Director of Central Intelligence and

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by D. Van Tassel, National Security Council

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2

the Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff, as statutory advisors to the NSC, shall attend NSC meetings, as will the Chief of Staff to the President and the Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs. The Secretary of the Treasury normally will attend NSC meetings, except that on occasions when the subject matter so indicates, he will be asked not to attend. The Attorney General will be invited to attend meetings pertaining to his jurisdiction, including covert actions. I intend to invite the heads of other Executive departments and agencies, the special statutory advisors to the NSC, and other senior officials to attend meetings of the NSC where appropriate in light of the issues to be discussed. (U)

3. The NSC shall meet regularly at my direction. The Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs shall be responsible, at my direction and in consultation with the Secretaries of State and Defense, for determining the agenda and ensuring that the necessary papers are prepared. (U)

B. The NSC Principals Committee (NSC/PC) (C)

1. An NSC Principals Committee (NSC/PC) is hereby established as the senior interagency forum for consideration of policy issues affecting national security. The NSC/PC shall review, coordinate, and monitor the development and implementation of national security policy. (C)

2. The NSC/PC shall have as its members the Secretary of State, the Secretary of Defense, the Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs (who shall serve as Chairman), the Director of Central Intelligence, and the Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff, as well as the Chief of Staff to the President. Participation of the Secretary of the Treasury and of the Attorney General will be governed by the guidelines in paragraph A.2. above. In consultation with the Secretary of State and the Secretary of Defense, the Assistant to the President may invite the heads of other Executive departments and agencies, the special statutory advisors to the NSC, and other senior officials to attend meetings of the NSC/PC where appropriate in light of the issues to be discussed. (C)

3. The Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs shall be responsible, in consultation with the Secretaries of State and Defense, for calling meetings of the NSC/PC, for determining the agenda, and for ensuring that the necessary papers are prepared. (C)

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3

C. The NSC Deputies Committee (NSC/DC) (C)

1. An NSC Deputies Committee (NSC/DC) is hereby established as the senior sub-Cabinet interagency forum for consideration of policy issues affecting national security. The NSC/DC shall review and monitor the work of the NSC interagency process (including the interagency groups established pursuant to Section D of this Directive) and make recommendations concerning the development and implementation of national security policy. (C)

2. The NSC/DC shall have as its members the Deputy Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs (who shall serve as the Chairman), the Under Secretary of Defense for Policy, the Under Secretary of State for Political Affairs, the Deputy Director of Central Intelligence and the Vice Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff. At the direction of the Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs, and in consultation with the Secretaries of State and Defense, the NSC/DC may convene at the deputy secretary level for the Departments of State and Defense. The Deputy Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs, in consultation with the representatives of the Departments of State and Defense, may invite representatives of other Executive departments and agencies and other senior officials, to attend meetings of the NSC/DC where appropriate in light of the issues to be discussed. When meeting on covert actions, the attendees will include a representative of the Attorney General. (C)

3. The Deputy Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs shall be responsible, in consultation with the representatives of the Departments of State and Defense, for calling meetings of the NSC/DC, for determining the agenda, and for ensuring that the necessary papers are prepared. The NSC/DC shall ensure that all papers to be discussed by the NSC or the NSC/PC fully analyze the issues, fairly and adequately set out the facts, consider a full range of views and options, and satisfactorily assess the prospects, risks, and implications of each. The NSC/DC may task the interagency groups established pursuant to Section D of this Directive. (C)

D. NSC Policy Coordinating Committees (NSC/PCC's) (C)

1. An NSC Policy Coordinating Committee (NSC/PCC) is hereby established for each of the following regional areas; Europe, the Soviet Union, Latin America, East Asia, Africa, and the Near East/South Asia. An NSC/PCC is hereby established in each of the following functional areas; defense, international economics, intelligence, and arms control. Each NSC/PCC shall be

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the principal interagency forum for the development and implementation of national security policy for that regional or functional area. The NSC/PCC shall be responsible for identifying and developing policy issues for consideration by the NSC, including preparation of the necessary papers for such consideration. (C)

2. Each NSC/PCC shall have as its members a representative at the Assistant Secretary level from each of the Executive departments or agencies that have members on the NSC/DC. The NSC/PCC's established pursuant to this Directive shall be chaired by a person of Assistant Secretary rank appointed as follows: for each regional NSC/PCC, by the Secretary of State; for the defense NSC/PCC, by the Secretary of Defense; for the international economics NSC/PCC, by the Secretary of the Treasury; for the intelligence NSC/PCC, by the Director of Central Intelligence; and for the arms control NSC/PCC, by the Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs. (C)

3. An NSC staff member appointed by the Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs shall serve as the Executive Secretary of each NSC/PCC. The Executive Secretary shall assist the Chairman in scheduling the meetings of the NSC/PCC, in determining the agenda, in preparing a brief statement of the actions taken and tasks assigned, in ensuring timely responses to decisions and tasking from more senior NSC interagency groups, and in ensuring timely transmission of papers and recommendations for consideration by the NSC/DC, the NSC/PC, and the NSC. The Chairman of each NSC/PCC, in consultation with the Executive Secretary, may invite representatives of other Executive department and agencies to attend meetings of the NSC/PCC where appropriate in light of the issues to be discussed at the meeting. (C)

4. The Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs, at my direction and in consultation with the Secretaries of State and Defense, may establish additional NSC/PCC's as appropriate. (C)

E. Existing Interagency Groups

1. The National Security Planning Group (NSPG), the Senior Review Group (SRG), the Policy Review Group (PRG), and the Planning and Coordination Group (PCG) are hereby abolished. All other existing NSC interagency groups are hereby abolished effective March 1, 1989, unless specifically reestablished as of that date. Cabinet officers and the heads of other Executive agencies shall advise the Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs of those specific NSC interagency groups chaired

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5

by their respective departments or agencies that are either mandated by statute or are otherwise of sufficient importance and vitality as to warrant being reestablished. In each case the Cabinet officer or agency head should describe the scope of the activities proposed for the interagency group and specify the particular NSC/PCC that should exercise supervision over its work. ~~(U)~~

2. It is my intention that crisis management be handled through the interagency committees established by this Directive rather than through a separate interagency structure. ~~(U)~~

F. Existing Presidential Guidance

This Directive shall take precedence over NSDD 266, NSDD 276, and all other existing presidential guidance on the organization of the National Security Council system. The Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs, in consultation with the Secretaries of State and Defense, shall review and revise such prior guidance as appropriate. (U)

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*C. Bush*

17

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