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#1 memo	Bundy to SecState, SecDef S 2 p <i>Open 6/95</i>	12/18/61	A
#2 memo	Duplicate of #1		
#3 memo	Bell to Bundy C 1 p <i>Open 6-17-96 NLS 95-130</i>	6/26/--	A

FILE LOCATION

NSF, NSAM, NSAM 119--Civic Action

Box 1

RESTRICTION CODES

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THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

SECRET

December 18, 1961

NATIONAL SECURITY ACTION MEMORANDUM NO. 119,

TO: The Secretary of State
The Secretary of Defense

SUBJECT: Civic Action

The President is concerned that we may be missing an opportunity this year to develop methods for supporting whatever contribution military forces can make to economic and social development in less-developed countries. While recognizing that civic action is not universally applicable, he hopes we will take full advantage of its contribution in crisis areas as well as in those where the threat of subversion is more remote.

By civic action we mean using military forces on projects useful to the populace at all levels in such fields as training, public works, agriculture, transportation, communication, health, sanitation, and others helpful to economic development.

In countries fighting active campaigns against internal subversion, we should encourage local forces to undertake civic action projects as an indispensable means of strengthening their society's economic base and establishing a link between army and populace. In countries threatened by external aggression, local forces should participate in civic action projects which do not materially impair performance of the primary military mission. In countries where subversion or attack is less imminent, selected military forces can contribute substantially to economic and social development, and we should make such a contribution a major function of these forces.

The President hopes that we can include civic action projects in existing and future military and economic assistance programs wherever practicable and in guidance that will affect future planning. He realizes we will have to develop new procedures for supporting this sort of project but feels that the benefits to be gained in some countries warrant considerable effort on our part. In an emergency, we should also consider using U.S. training teams as catalysts for a more rapid or substantial reorientation.

DECLASSIFIED

Authority NLK 87-48
By gdske, NARA. Date 6/6/95

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We must coordinate civic action with other programs directed at the same goals. A number of programs--economic and military assistance, political reform, paramilitary activities, police training, Peace Corps, and others--have common goals, but each can make a unique contribution. The President hopes that you might include civic action in any comprehensive study made in connection with NSAM No. 114 or in any regional study such as that requested in NSAM No. 118.

I would appreciate very much your looking into our efforts to implement this policy and giving special attention to any interdepartmental or procedural problems which may be slowing our program. Would you be so kind as to let me know by 31 March what programs we have built into our FY 62 program and by 1 September what projects of this sort the FY 63 program includes.

/s/

McGeorge Bundy

Information Copies to:

The Attorney General
The Director, Bureau of the Budget
The Director of Central Intelligence
General Maxwell D. Taylor

cc: ~~Mr. Evelyn Lincoln~~
Mr. McG. Bundy
B. Smith/C. Johnson
NSC Files

SECRET

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cc: MFB: Evelyn Lincoln
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(Confidential when Appendix A is detached)

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF
THE ADMINISTRATOR

NSAM 119

6/26
Mr. Foster
Sp. Int. Service
Group (CI)
Business
B. Smith

MEMORANDUM FOR: The Honorable McGeorge Bundy
The White House

SUBJECT: U.S.-Supported Civic Action Programs

REFERENCE: National Security Action Memorandum 119,
December 18, 1961

This memorandum is in response to NSAM 119 and provides an assessment of civic action activities over the past three years by the Agency for International Development and the Departments of Defense and State. We have given particular attention to the strengths and weaknesses of civic action as an instrument of U.S. foreign policy. Conclusions and a recommendation are found on pages 10 through 12. The Defense and State Departments and USIA concur.

David E. Bell

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E.O. 12356, Sec. 3.4
NEJ 95-130
By 48, NARA, Date 5-22-96

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