

1

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

February 11, 1964

NATIONAL SECURITY ACTION MEMORANDUM NO. 284

MEMORANDUM FOR THE SECRETARY OF STATE
THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
THE ADMINISTRATOR, AGENCY FOR
INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

SUBJECT: Official Visits to South Vietnam

Official visits by high ranking military and civilian personnel to South Vietnam should be coordinated with the Department of State through the Chairman of the Committee on Policy and Operations in Vietnam.

This is to supersede NSAM 217, dated January 25, 1963.

McGeorge Bundy
McGeorge Bundy

SV Dispatched 2/11/64



DEPARTMENT OF STATE
WASHINGTON

FEB 7 1964

2/10 Mike: Any view on the
need to reissue this NSAM?
State says it is a problem.
BKS

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. McGEORGE BUNDY
THE WHITE HOUSE

Subject: Reissuance of NSAM 217: Official
Visits to South Vietnam

On January 25, 1963 you issued to the Secretaries
of State and Defense and the AID Administrator NSAM No.
217 on Official Visits to South Vietnam. It read as
follows:

"The President has asked what official
visits by high ranking military and civilian
personnel to South Vietnam be coordinated
with Governor Harriman. Accordingly, such
proposed visits should be cleared with his
office."

At that time Governor Harriman was Assistant
Secretary for Far Eastern Affairs. I believe it was
your intention that official visits be coordinated
with the Assistant Secretary for Far Eastern Affairs
and not with Governor Harriman per se.

Purely for clarification, would you reissue this
NSAM to read as follows:

ci "Official visits by high ranking military and
civilian personnel to South Vietnam should be
coordinated with the Department of State through the
office of the Assistant Secretary for Far Eastern
Affairs."

I also believe that it would be valuable for this
NSAM to be reissued as a reminder of the necessity for
coordinating official visits to South Vietnam with the
State Department.

/s/ John A. McKesson

Benjamin H. Read
Executive Secretary

EXTRA COPIES

83

2

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WASHINGTON

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McGeorge Bundy
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**MEMORANDUM FOR THE SECRETARY OF STATE
THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
THE ADMINISTRATOR, AGENCY FOR
INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

SUBJECT: Official Visits to South Vietnam

Official visits by high ranking military and civilian personnel to South Vietnam should be coordinated with the Department of State through the Chairman of the Committee on Policy and Operations in Vietnam.

This is to supersede NSAM 217, dated January 23, 1963.

/s/

McGeorge Bundy

cc:

Mr. Bundy
Mr. Forrestal
Mr. Johnson
NSC Files

Dispatched 2/14/64

4

FILE COPY

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

February 11, 1964

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SUBJECT: Official Visits to South Vietnam

Official visits by high ranking military and civilian personnel to South Vietnam should be coordinated with the Department of State through the Chairman of the Committee on Policy and Operations in Vietnam.

This is to supersede NSAM 217, dated January 25, 1963.

McGeorge Bundy
McGeorge Bundy

cc:

Mr. Bundy
Mr. Forrestal
Mr. Johnson
NSC Files

Clarke 3/12/65

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

5

February 11, 1964

Mac:

If the President signs NSAM 280,
you should send something like this out.

Mike

Mike Forrestal

Done

Mr. Bundy

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

Mr. Foranetal

Mike

Any view on the
need to reissue this
NSAM? State says it
is a problem.
B Smith



S/S 2145

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
WASHINGTON

February 7, 1964

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. McGEORGE BUNDY
THE WHITE HOUSE

Subject: Reissuance of NSAM 217: Official
Visits to South Vietnam

On January 25, 1963 you issued to the Secretaries of State and Defense and the AID Administrator NSAM No. 217 on Official Visits to South Vietnam. It read as follows:

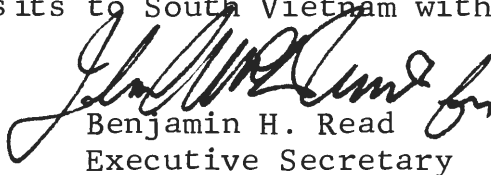
"The President has asked that official visits by high ranking military and civilian personnel to South Vietnam be coordinated with Governor Harriman. Accordingly, such proposed visits should be cleared with his office."

At that time Governor Harriman was Assistant Secretary for Far Eastern Affairs. I believe it was your intention that official visits be coordinated with the Assistant Secretary for Far Eastern Affairs and not with Governor Harriman per se.

Purely for clarification, would you reissue this NSAM to read as follows:

X — ["Official visits by high ranking military and civilian personnel to South Vietnam should be coordinated with the Department of State through the ~~office of the Assistant Secretary for Far Eastern Affairs.~~ Chairman of the Committee on ~~Operations~~ policy and operations in Vietnam

I also believe that it would be valuable for this NSAM to be reissued as a reminder of the necessity for coordinating official visits to South Vietnam with the State Department.


Benjamin H. Read
Executive Secretary