

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

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April 25, 1964

NATIONAL SECURITY ACTION MEMORANDUM NO. 296

TO: Secretary of State
Secretary of Defense

SUBJECT: Interdepartmental organization for Panamanian affairs

The President has approved the following organizational arrangements relating to the formulation and execution of U. S. policy in Panama.

1. Panama Review Group

a. The Panama Review Group, composed of the Secretary of the Army, the Assistant Secretary of State for Inter-American Affairs, the Special Representative, a White House representative, and chaired by the Assistant Secretary of State for Inter-American Affairs, will be the principal point of focus below the President for the formulation and execution of policy with regard to Panama. The Executive Secretary of the Panama Review Group will be designated by the Department of State.

b. The Panama Review Group will work closely with the officers supporting the Special Representative in exercising control over actions which might affect the treaty discussions, publicity, and security.

2. Panama Review Committee

A Committee composed of the Ambassador to Panama, CINCSO, and the Governor of the Panama Canal Zone, and chaired by the Ambassador, will be established and will meet periodically at the call of any member to discuss conditions in Panama and the Zone and exchange reports and proposals on actions to be undertaken in the interests of the United States and better U. S. /Panamanian relations. The President expects that the members of this Committee will share their concern fully and frankly with each other, and will work together

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By isf, NARA, Date 12-4-87

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closely in discharging their respective responsibilities. Any differences which may arise will be referred to the Panama Review Group located in Washington. Any action agreed upon by the Panama Review Committee will be reported to Washington by the Ambassador before this action is taken, whenever such action could affect the work of the Special Representative. The Special Representative will be notified through Washington of such proposed action.

McGeorge Bundy

McGeorge Bundy

cc:

Mr. Bundy

Mr. Dungan

Mr. Chase (*acct. cy to Collins*)

Mr. Johnson

NSC Files

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