

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

November 12, 1964

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NATIONAL SECURITY ACTION MEMORANDUM NO. ~~316~~ <sup>316</sup>

TO : The Secretary of Defense

SUBJECT: Military Exercises

1. The purpose of this memorandum is to set forth the procedures to be followed in informing the President of significant military exercises, and for obtaining policy review and approval of such exercises.

2. The President desires to be informed of exercises deemed significant because they fall in the following categories:

a. Those involving comparatively large-scale participation of US or foreign forces or commands.

b. Those requiring the granting of rights or approval by another nation or representatives thereof, except where such approval is sought by NATO authorities.

c. Those which have particular political significance or implications.

d. Any exercise which is otherwise of such a nature as to receive prominent attention by the press.

e. Other exercises with which you or the Joint Chiefs of Staff feel he should be familiar.

3. In the case of exercises in the above categories, available advanced planning information should be forwarded on a quarterly basis covering the following twelve months to the Secretary of State, the US Information Agency, and this office. This information should include the name of exercise, sponsor, location, date, brief description, purpose and forces. Significant amendments to this

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Authority 79F00059

By inf, NARA, Date 12-8-87

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information should be provided as they become available. In every case, this information should be provided prior to any commitment to foreign governments.

4. It is requested that you forward a more detailed exercise brief, which has been coordinated with the Department of State, and through the Department of State with the US Information Agency, a minimum of seven (7) days (except in unusual circumstances) prior to the critical date for the President to cancel any significant exercise. A statement of the general policy to be followed as to public information -- foreign and domestic, diplomatic information, security restrictions, and propaganda or other unusual elements -- should be included.

5. In the case of exercises which, in your opinion, do not have political implications requiring State Department coordination, the Department of State need only be informed.

6. This National Security Action Memorandum supersedes my memorandum on the same subject, dated 4 October 1961.

*McGeorge Bundy*  
McGeorge Bundy

cc: Secretary of State  
Director, USIA

C. Johnson  
NSC Files  
*Col. Bowman*

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