

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

February 22, 1974

MEMORANDUM FOR

THE SECRETARY OF STATE  
THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE  
THE DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE  
THE CHAIRMAN, JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF  
THE DIRECTOR, ARMS CONTROL AND  
DISARMAMENT AGENCY

SUBJECT: Clearance of Public Communications on SALT

I wish to reaffirm in the strongest terms my earlier directives that all public statements or press releases concerning the Strategic Arms Limitation Talks with the Soviet Union must be cleared at the White House (the Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs) prior to release. This is necessary to ensure consistency with Presidential policy and proper coordination among the departments and agencies who share responsibility for this important issue.

Divergent or inconsistent public statements on SALT can clearly endanger vital national interests.



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THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

ACTION

February 20, 1974

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MEMORANDUM FOR: THE PRESIDENT  
FROM: HENRY A. KISSINGER *HK*  
SUBJECT: Directive on Clearance of Public  
Communications on SALT

In view of the recent spate of statements and press stories concerning our SALT position, I recommend that you reaffirm your earlier directives requiring White House clearance prior to release of all public statements or press releases on SALT.

RECOMMENDATION:

That you sign the directive at Tab A.

: Attachment

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ACTION

February 6, 1974

CONFIDENTIAL

MEMORANDUM FOR: *Secy Kissinger*  
GENERAL SCOWCROFT —  
FROM: Jeanne W. Davis /sl  
SUBJECT: Draft Directive on Clearance of  
SALT Statements

As requested, I have prepared a memo from Secretary Kissinger to the President (Tab A) enclosing a draft directive for his signature reminding all concerned of the requirement that all public statements on SALT must be cleared by the White House prior to release. An alternative directive for Secretary Kissinger's signature is at Tab B, if he wishes to sign it himself. Jan Lodal concurs.

Previous directives on SALT statements are at Tab C, along with a related memo on clearance of statements concerning nuclear test ban policy and another on clearance of all statements on foreign policy. A "Personal-Eyes Only" letter from the President to Gerry Smith is at Tab D. In addition, each NSDM which has been issued on SALT has contained a paragraph on the necessity for avoiding leaks or unauthorized statements.

RECOMMENDATION:

That Secretary Kissinger sign the memorandum to the President at Tab A.

Alternatively, that the Secretary sign the directive at Tab B.

Attachments

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THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

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October 24, 1973

MEMORANDUM FOR:

THE SECRETARY OF STATE  
THE SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY  
THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE  
THE ATTORNEY GENERAL  
THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR  
THE SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE  
THE SECRETARY OF COMMERCE  
THE SECRETARY OF LABOR  
THE SECRETARY OF HEALTH, EDUCATION,  
AND WELFARE  
THE SECRETARY OF HOUSING AND URBAN  
DEVELOPMENT  
THE SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION

SUBJECT:

Coordination and Clearance of Statements  
Concerning Foreign Policy

In September 1969, I directed that all policy statements by departments and agencies relating to foreign policy should be cleared at the White House (Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs). This policy was intended to insure consistency in our statements on foreign policy and to insure that statements were properly coordinated with those departments and agencies sharing overlapping interests and responsibilities in foreign affairs.

In view of the widening involvement of departments and agencies in matters relating to foreign policy, I wish to restate my desire that all statements containing definite or potential national security implications be cleared at the White House (Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs). Should there be any uncertainty with respect to a

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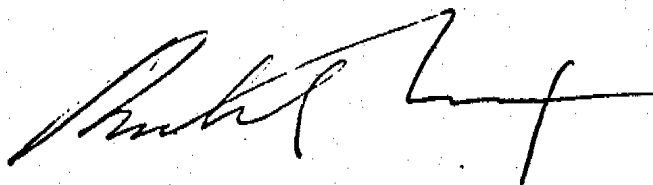
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position or statement, it should be resolved in favor of clearance.  
Only in this way can we assure the orderly development of an effective  
and comprehensive national security policy.



cc: Director, ACTION  
Chairwoman, AEC  
Director, ACDA  
Administrator, NASA  
Director, USIA  
Director, CIA

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THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

February 17, 1972

SECRET

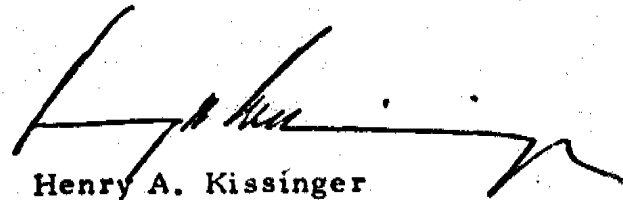
MEMORANDUM FOR:

The Secretary of State  
The Secretary of Defense  
Chairman, Atomic Energy Commission  
Director, Arms Control and Disarmament Agency

SUBJECT: Clearance of Statements Concerning Nuclear Test  
Ban Policy

The President has consistently affirmed United States support for the conclusion of a comprehensive ban on nuclear testing within the context of an adequately verified agreement. This is our current policy position.

The President has directed that official statements concerning our nuclear test ban policy conform to his position. All statements must be approved by the White House prior to release.



Henry A. Kissinger

cc: Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

CONFIDENTIAL

May 23, 1970

MEMORANDUM FOR

The Secretary of State  
The Secretary of Defense  
The Director of Central Intelligence  
Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff  
The Director of Arms Control and Disarmament  
Agency

SUBJECT: Leaks on SALT

Vital national interests are being jeopardized by leaks to the press concerning the strategic arms limitation talks. No one in the Government is authorized to divulge the U.S. or Soviet positions to the press or to speculate concerning US intentions with respect to the negotiations.

The President has directed that immediate steps be taken to ensure that standing directives concerning leaks are adhered to without exception by personnel under your jurisdiction. Prompt and severe disciplinary action is to be taken in the event of violations.

Those in the Congress as well as any consultants who have been briefed concerning SALT should be firmly reminded that there must be no leaks to the press. Allied Governments should be similarly reminded.

The President has directed this office be informed by memorandum, due on May 27, 1970, concerning steps that have been taken to stop leaks concerning SALT.

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Henry A. Kissinger

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THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

CONFIDENTIAL

October 31, 1969

MEMORANDUM FOR

THE SECRETARY OF STATE

SUBJECT: Avoidance of Leaks on SALT

I strongly concur in your proposal to establish procedures that will avoid unauthorized disclosures of our SALT planning. In my directive issued from Colorado Springs on September 13, 1969, I established general procedures for coordination and clearance of Public Statements and Press Releases on matters of known or potential Presidential interest. These procedures will of course be particularly applicable to SALT. In addition, on the more routine and purely operational aspects of SALT, public and back-ground statements should be coordinated and cleared by the backstopping machinery which I asked to be established and which was dealt with in Henry Kissinger's memorandum to the Under Secretary of State of September 6, 1969.

By these means we will ensure that the views of all interested department and agency heads as well as the White House will be taken account of, and I will be enabled to exercise control over our public posture on SALT.

The attached directive reflects these considerations.

*Richard Nixon*

Attachment

CONFIDENTIAL

*Kathleen*

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SECRET EYES ONLY

SENT 5:12 P.M.

MONDAY

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1 SEP 69

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DE WTE17 0020 (COLORADO SPRINGS)

FROM THE PRESIDENT  
TO SECRETARY OF STATE  
SECRETARY OF DEFENSE  
THE DIRECTOR OF THE CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
CITE CSMH90020

S E C R E T/EYES ONLY/NODIS

I HAVE BEEN DISTURBED IN RECENT DAYS BY THE LACK OF TEAMWORK IN THE CONDUCT OF NATIONAL SECURITY AFFAIRS. CONSEQUENTLY, I AM REAFFIRMING MY POLICIES WITH RESPECT TO THIS MATTER.

1. PUBLIC STATEMENTS AND PRESS RELEASES: PRIOR TO RELEASE, ALL PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS ON MATTERS OF KNOWN OR POTENTIAL PRESIDENTIAL INTEREST MUST BE CAREFULLY CLEARED BY THE WHITE HOUSE (ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT FOR NATIONAL SECURITY) FOR CONSISTENCY WITH PRESIDENTIAL POLICY AND FOR COORDINATION WITH THE DEPARTMENTS AND AGENCIES WHO SHARE OVERLAPPING INTERESTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES. SHOULD THERE BE ANY UNCERTAINTY AS TO PRESIDENTIAL OR INTER-DEPARTMENTAL INTEREST, IT WILL BE RESOLVED IN FAVOR OF CLEARANCE.

2. OFFICIAL COMMUNICATIONS: ALL OFFICIAL COMMUNICATIONS WITH POLICY IMPLICATIONS MUST BE CLEARED BY THE WHITE HOUSE. WHEN IN DOUBT, THE RULE IS THAT MESSAGES WILL BE SO CLEARED. THIS PROCEDURE REQUIRES CLOSE AND CONFIDENTIAL STAFF RELATIONSHIPS AT ALL LEVELS BETWEEN THE WHITE HOUSE AND YOUR DEPARTMENT AS WELL AS AMONG DEPARTMENTS.

/S/ RICHARD NIXON

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THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

CONFIDENTIAL

October 31, 1969

MEMORANDUM FOR

THE SECRETARY OF STATE  
THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE  
THE DIRECTOR, CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
THE CHAIRMAN, JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF  
THE DIRECTOR, ARMS CONTROL AND DISARMAMENT  
AGENCY  
THE DIRECTOR, UNITED STATES INFORMATION AGENCY  
THE CHAIRMAN, ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION

SUBJECT: Avoidance of Leaks on SALT

As we enter SALT, it is of first importance that the security of our plans be maintained and that all in the Government speak with one voice.

The basic procedure for ensuring this was established in my directive of September 14, 1969, issued at Colorado Springs. The operative parts of this directive follow:

- "1. Public Statements and Press Releases: Prior to release, all public communications on matters of known or potential Presidential interest must be carefully cleared by the White House (Assistant to the President for National Security) for consistency with Presidential policy and for coordination with the departments and agencies who share overlapping interests and responsibilities. Should there be any uncertainty as to Presidential or inter-departmental interest, it will be resolved in favor of clearance.
- "2. Official communications: All official communications with policy implications must be cleared by the White House. When in doubt, the rule is that messages will be so cleared. This procedure requires close and confidential staff relationships at all levels between the White House and your department as well as among departments."

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In addition, for routine and purely operational matters relating to SALT, public and background statements and guidance for such statements, should be dealt with by the backstopping machinery which was established at my direction in Henry Kissinger's memorandum to the Under Secretary of State on September 6, 1969.

Leaks about SALT planning and divergent statements to the public, Congress or foreign governments can clearly endanger the national interest and security. Special precautions should therefore be taken to avoid unauthorized disclosures or renditions of the Administration's views that have not been approved by the procedures referred to above.



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TAB D ATTACHED TO ORIGINAL ONLY