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NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20506

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April 8, 1975

National Security Decision Memorandum 291

TO: The Secretary of Defense
The Deputy Secretary of State
The Director of Central Intelligence

SUBJECT: U. S. Security Policy Toward Greece

The President has considered the response to NSSM 215 on U. S. security policy toward Greece submitted by the Under Secretary of State for Political Affairs on February 8, together with the formal agency comments and recommendations relating thereto.

The President has confirmed that negotiations should proceed with Greece relating to U. S. bases and facilities in Greece and the bilateral Status of Forces Agreements, with the understanding that the following guidelines will shape the U. S. position:

-- The principal U. S. objective in the negotiations is to preserve to the extent possible the existing U. S. security arrangements with Greece while encouraging Greece's return to full participation in NATO. The United States should seek to regain full effective use of those U. S. facilities considered most important to U. S. security interests. If concessions are necessary to obtain Greek agreement to these U. S. principal objectives, the United States may agree to consolidation or reduction of facilities considered least essential to retain.



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by J. Saunders, National Security Council



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By lit NLF Date 4/7/97

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-- In response to Greek initiative and in return for Greek support of principal U.S. objectives, the United States may agree to the termination of homeporting.

-- The United States considers the NATO Status of Forces Agreement (SOFA) as the limiting framework for any agreement on the alteration of the status, privileges and immunities of U.S. forces in Greece.

In approving the U.S. position for these negotiations, the President recognizes the interconnection between US-Greek security relations and Greece's NATO ties, and again emphasizes the importance attached to full Greek participation in NATO.

The President has directed that the senior U.S. negotiator should submit a report on the results of these negotiations, including such ad referendum agreements as may be developed, for his review as soon as possible.



Henry A. Kissinger

cc: Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff

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