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E.O. 12958, as amended, Sect 3.5

*NSC/Saubers to Smith 09/06/2002*  
By *GA* Date *02/13/07*

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20506

September 16, 1969

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National Security Decision Memorandum 23

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

SUBJECT:    Vietnam Special Studies Group

In order to more systematically assess the facts upon which Vietnam policy decisions should be based, the President has directed the formation of a Vietnam Special Studies Group.

This group will:

- sponsor and direct on a continuous basis systematic analyses of U. S. programs and activities in Vietnam,
- undertake special analytical studies on a priority basis as required to support broad policy and related program decisions,
- provide a forum for and encourage systematic inter-agency analysis of U. S. programs and activities in Vietnam.

The Group will meet as necessary to initiate and review studies and to supervise the preparations of issues papers for consideration by the President and the National Security Council. The Group will conduct its affairs without prejudice to the existing interdepartmental framework concerned with day-to-day operational matters on Vietnam.

The membership of the Vietnam Special Studies Group shall include:

The Assistant to the President for  
National Security Affairs (Chairman)  
The Under Secretary of State  
The Deputy Secretary of Defense  
The Director of Central Intelligence  
The Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff

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Depending on the issue under consideration, other agencies shall be represented at the discretion of the Chairman.



Henry A. Kissinger

cc: Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff

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