

DECLASSIFIED

E.O. 12958, as amended, Sect 3.5

*NSC/Soubers to Smith 09/06/2001*

By aph Date 02/14/07

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20506

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

October 31, 1972

National Security Decision Memorandum 196

TO:           The Secretary of State  
              The Secretary of Defense  
              The Secretary of Commerce  
              The Secretary of the Interior

SUBJECT:      Law of the Sea Instructions, 27th Session  
              U.N. General Assembly

With reference to the report and related memoranda forwarded in response to NSDM 177, the President has approved the recommendation that the United States Delegation to the 27th Session of the United Nations General Assembly should support a resolution:

-- fixing a specific date and place for the Law of the Sea Conference, with two substantive sessions in 1974;

-- providing for an opening session of the Conference, devoted primarily to organizational matters, in the fall of 1973;

-- calling for an accelerated schedule of work by the U.N. Seabed Committee during 1973 in preparation for the Conference; and

-- stating that if the U.N. General Assembly, at its 28th Session, determines the progress of the preparatory work by the Seabed Committee to be insufficient, it may decide to postpone the Conference.

The Interagency Law of the Sea Task Force should submit a prompt report for review by the President on actions taken by the 27th U.N. General Assembly together with recommended instructions for the U.S. Delegation to the next meeting of the U.N. Seabed Committee.

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CLASSIFIED BY Henry A. Kissinger  
SUBJECT TO GENERAL DECLASSIFICATION  
SCHEDULE OF EXECUTIVE ORDER 11652  
AUTOMATICALLY DOWNGRADED AT TWO  
YEAR INTERVALS AND DECLASSIFIED ON DEC. 31, 1978

Except as affected by the directives of this memorandum, the contents of NSDM 177 remain valid.



Henry A. Kissinger

cc: The Secretary of Transportation  
The Director of Central Intelligence