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February 13, 1989



National Security Directive 3

MEMORANDUM FOR THE VICE PRESIDENT

THE SECRETARY OF STATE  
THE SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY  
THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE  
THE ATTORNEY GENERAL  
THE DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET  
THE DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE  
THE ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT FOR NATIONAL  
SECURITY AFFAIRS  
THE CHAIRMAN, JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF

SUBJECT: U. S. Policy Toward Afghanistan ~~(S)~~

1. The withdrawal of Soviet forces from Afghanistan marks the victory of a decade-long struggle by Afghans to recapture their country from a foreign invader. U. S. policy throughout has been to assist, with Pakistan and others, in the achievement of that objective. (U)

2. With the departure of Soviet forces, the United States should encourage the establishment of a stable Afghan government, representative of and responsive to the Afghan people. We should support a peaceful political succession that will promote the reconstruction and recovery of Afghanistan and the return of Afghan refugees from neighboring countries. (U)

3. To achieve these objectives, I direct the following actions:

-- Working in concert with Pakistan, the United States should use its influence and resources to (1) promote Resistance cohesion; (2) promote a peaceful political succession, rather than support any individual or faction; (3) avoid a civil war and (4) prevent the emergence of a new Afghan government that is pro-Soviet, pro-Iranian or messianic-Islamic. ~~(S)~~

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- The United States should make clear to the Soviet Union that the bombing of targets in Afghanistan after 15 February would be regarded as a serious violation of the Geneva Accords with consequences for the broader U.S.-Soviet relationship. ~~(S)~~
- In the event of Soviet initiatives aimed at bringing about a cutoff of U. S. assistance to the Resistance or cooperation in arranging a political succession, the United States should be prepared to engage in discussions but should take no action limiting U. S. options prior to the fall of the Soviet imposed government of Afghanistan. At the same time, the Soviet Union should be assured that the United States seeks a neutral, non-aligned government in Afghanistan and not one hostile to the Soviet Union. ~~(S)~~
- Humanitarian programs overseen by AID or other U. S. government agencies in cooperation with Pakistan and the Resistance should continue. The United States should support the UN humanitarian effort to bring food into Afghanistan so long as that effort is nationwide and is carried out with the cooperation or acquiescence of the Resistance. ~~(S)~~

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- The Secretary of State, in coordination with the DCI and the Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs should inform the appropriate committees and members of Congress on the strategy and policies directed herein, as well as develop a statement of this policy for public use.

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*Ly Bunk*

cc: The Chief of Staff to The President

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