



RECORD OF ACTIONS
by the
NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL
at its
THREE HUNDRED AND NINETY-SIXTH MEETING
held on
February 12, 1959

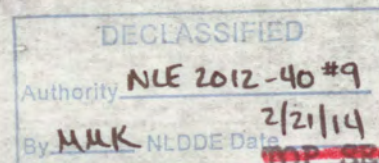
(Approved by the President on February 16, 1959)

The President presided at this meeting. The Secretary of the Treasury and the Director, Bureau of the Budget, participated in the Council actions below. The Secretary of Commerce participated in NSC Action No. 2046. The Chairman, Atomic Energy Commission, and the Director, U. S. Information Agency, attended this meeting.

ACTION
NUMBERSUBJECT

2046. U. S. POLICY TOWARD LATIN AMERICA
(NSC 5902; NSC 5613/1; OCB Report, November 23, 1958,
on NSC 5613/1; NSC Action No. 1930; NIE 80/90-58)
- a. Discussed the draft statement of policy on the subject contained in NSC 5902, and revisions thereto subsequently proposed by the NSC Planning Board; in the light of the views of the Joint Chiefs of Staff thereon, as presented at the meeting, and an oral briefing by the Director of Central Intelligence on current developments in certain Latin American countries.
 - b. Adopted the statement of policy in NSC 5902, subject to the following amendments:
 - (1) Page 8, paragraph 21-a: Place a period after the word "hemisphere" and add the following sentence: "If these measures are not successful, overt unilateral action will be decided by the President if he deems appropriate as a last resort."

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ACTION
NUMBER

SUBJECT

2046. U. S. POLICY TOWARD LATIN AMERICA (Continued)

- (2) Page 8, paragraph 21-b: Revise to read as follows:

"b. In other situations where the peace of the hemisphere or the U. S. national interest is judged to necessitate foreign intervention in the internal affairs of a particular country, place primary emphasis on multilateral action through the inter-American system. If effective multilateral action is not achieved, unilateral action will be decided by the President as he deems appropriate to protect vital U. S. security interests."

- (3) Page 11, paragraph 25-a: Add the following words:

"; seeking positive means of diverting Panamanian attention from the Canal problem to economic development."

- (4) Page 13, paragraph 27-c: Delete the bracketed words and the footnote thereto; and insert in place thereof the words "and under methods and procedures that are prescribed by the Department of State to guide personnel operating in the field,".

- (5) Page 14, paragraph 27-c(7): Add the following sentence: "Within these limitations, normally refrain from discouraging Latin American countries from trading non-strategic surplus commodities to the European Soviet bloc for consumer goods or other products they can use."

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ACTION
NUMBER

SUBJECT

2046. U. S. POLICY TOWARD LATIN AMERICA (Continued)

(6) Page 25, paragraph 45: Add the following sub-paragraph:

"d. In making military equipment and training available to Latin American countries, take into account the provisions of paragraph 22-b relative to the type of Government involved, exercising caution in the provision of such assistance to dictatorships."

(7) Page 27, paragraph 53: Delete the alternative versions of the second sentence and substitute therefor the following: "Seek, as appropriate, new legislative authority to facilitate provision of such training to personnel from all Latin American countries."

c. Requested the Director, Office of Civil and Defense Mobilization, to undertake in coordination with other interested agencies, including the Departments of State and Defense, a special study to identify the potential contribution of Latin American resources, production and skills to U. S. recovery following a nuclear attack; reporting to the Council any policy recommendations found appropriate or necessary.

NOTE: NSC 5902, as amended by the action in b above, subsequently approved by the President; circulated as NSC 5902/1 for implementation by all appropriate Executive departments and agencies of the U. S. Government; and referred to the Operations Coordinating Board as the coordinating agency designated by the President.

The action in c above, as approved by the President, subsequently transmitted to the Director, Office of Civil and Defense Mobilization, for implementation.

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