

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20505

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February 20, 1970

National Security Decision Memorandum 44

TO:           The Vice President  
              The Secretary of State  
              The Secretary of Defense  
              The Director, Central Intelligence Agency  
              The Director, Arms Control and Disarmament Agency  
              The Director, Office of Emergency Preparedness  
              The Director, Office of Science and Technology

SUBJECT:     United States Policy on Toxins

Following a review of United States military programs for toxins, the President has decided that:

1. The United States will renounce the production for operational purposes, stockpiling and use in retaliation of toxins produced either by bacteriological or biological processes or by chemical synthesis.
2. The United States military program for toxins will be confined to research and development for defensive purposes only.
3. The Secretary of Defense will submit recommendations concerning the disposal of existing stocks of toxin weapons and/or agents. These recommendations should accompany the recommendations pursuant to National Security Decision Memorandum 35 regarding the disposal of bacteriological/biological weapons.
4. The Under Secretaries Committee's annual review of United States chemical warfare programs and public information policy, as directed by National Security Decision Memorandum 35, will include review of United States military toxins programs.

  
Henry A. Kissinger

cc: Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff

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Date: 18 Sep 1975  
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