

DECLASSIFIED

E.O. 12958, as amended, Sect 3.5

NSC/Southern to Smith 09/06/2002

By Date 01/31/07

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20506

~~SECRET~~

July 12, 1969

NATIONAL SECURITY STUDY MEMORANDUM 66

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

SUBJECT: Policy Toward the Persian Gulf

The President has directed a study of U.S. policy in the Persian Gulf which would include the following:

1. Discussion of the problems created by withdrawal from the Gulf of the British presence in its present form, including the possibility of an Arab-Iranian confrontation in the region.
2. Discussion of our choices in setting a general U.S. posture toward the various political entities in the Gulf area -- our political relationships, diplomatic representation, arms aid policy.
3. Description of the specific decision to be made regarding continued U.S. naval activity in the region after the British withdrawal and a discussion of the merits of each of the significant courses of action open to us.

The President has directed that this study be prepared by the NSC Interdepartmental Group for Near East and South Asia and be forwarded to the NSC Review Group by September 30.



cc: Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff

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