

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

CONFIDENTIAL

December 10, 1973

MEMORANDUM FOR:

Major General John A. Wickham
Military Assistant to the Secretary
Department of Defense

SUBJECT: Schedule of Significant Military
Exercises for the Next Twelve Months

The proposed schedule of significant exercises has been reviewed by the NSC staff and we have no objections to it. However, the following qualifications should be noted:

-- The following restrictions should apply to SMPO PX-49:

* The ships and aircraft involved, including those of other participating SEATO nations, should at no time approach closer than 100 miles from the southern coast of the People's Republic of China, including Hainan Island. In addition, the SEATO forces should maintain a distance of at least 100 miles away from the Paracel Islands, and at least 50 miles away from Macclesfield Bank and the Spratley Islands, all of which are claimed by the PRC. These stipulations are without prejudice to the US position on the conflicting claims to these islands and atolls.

* All publicity concerning the exercise disseminated by US Government agencies should be confined to a minimum of brief factual press releases and responses to press inquiries; no direct or indirect reference should be made to the PRC in connection with this exercise; and the cooperation of other SEATO participants should be sought in these respects.

-- FLY-A-WAY FY-74, we understand, was postponed until January 27-February 9, 1974, because of the current debate of the Korean question in the U.N. General Assembly. This exercise should be carefully examined by State and Defense in terms of the possible impact

OSD REVIEWED 15-Mar-2011: NO OBJECTION TO DECLASSIFICATION

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upon the South-North Korean talks. This precaution should also apply to exercises FOAL EAGLE, FREEDOM TORCH and CAPTIVE LIGHTNING. State and Defense recommendations for the ROK exercises should be submitted for White House approval at least six weeks prior to the critical date for Presidential cancellation.


-- FOOD CHAIN V should be subject to the same restrictions that applied to the earlier exercises in this FOOD CHAIN series.

-- PHIBRAIDEX TTPI/QUICK JAB should be carefully examined by State, Defense and the Office of Micronesian Status Negotiations for its possible impact on our status negotiations with the TTPI.

-- BLACK HAWK III was discussed separately in my November 19 memorandum to you.

-- Cancellation of POOPDECK 1-74 was requested in my October 30 memorandum.

Of course, we will wish to review all of the exercises prior to implementation within the context of prevailing conditions.


Brent Scowcroft
Major General, U. S. Air Force
Deputy Assistant to the President
for National Security Affairs

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MEMORANDUM

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

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November 28, 1973

MEMORANDUM FOR: General Scowcroft

FROM: Jeanne W. Davy

SUBJECT: Approval of Significant Military Exercises for the Next Twelve Months

The NSC Staff has reviewed the attached (Tab C) schedule of significant military exercises for the next twelve months. In principle, we have no objections with the exceptions as noted in the self-explanatory memo to General Wickham at Tab A.

Please note at Tab B, the decisions for exercises BLACK HAWK III and POOPDECK 1-74.

RECOMMENDATION:

That you sign the memorandum to General Wickham at Tab A.

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November 19, 1973

MEMORANDUM FOR

Major General John A. Wickham, Jr., USA
Military Assistant to the Secretary
Department of Defense

SUBJECT: Significant Military Exercise
BLACK HAWK III.

Your memorandum of October 15 requesting reconsideration of the cancellation of military exercise BLACK HAWK III has been reviewed. It is requested that planning for the exercise go forward. Final approval of the exercise is withheld, however, subject to an assessment of prevailing political circumstances nearer to the required date of commitment.



Brent Scowcroft
Major General, USAF
Deputy Assistant to the President
for National Security Affairs

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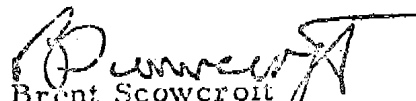
October 30, 1973

MEMORANDUM FOR

Major General John A. Wickham, Jr., USA
Military Assistant to the Secretary of Defense

SUBJECT: Significant Military Exercise POOPDECK 1-74

With reference to your memorandum of October 20, the Department of Defense is requested to cancel significant military exercise POOPDECK 1-74.



Brent Scowcroft
Major General, USAF
Deputy Assistant to the President
for National Security Affairs



OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20301

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29 OCT 1973

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DEPUTY ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT FOR NATIONAL SECURITY
AFFAIRS

SUBJECT: Significant Military Exercises

The attached schedules of significant military exercises for the next twelve months are forwarded pursuant to NSAM 316.

We are requesting the views of the State Department and the US Information Agency regarding the planned exercises. We would appreciate any comments or suggestions which you may have by 8 November 1973, in order that timely guidance may be provided to the commanders involved.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "JAWickham, Jr.", written over a typed name.

JOHN A. WICKHAM, JR.
MAJOR GENERAL, USA
MILITARY ASSISTANT

Attachments
Schedules of Exercises (8 cys)