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THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

October 5, 1989

NATIONAL SECURITY DIRECTIVE 28

MEMORANDUM FOR THE VICE PRESIDENT
 THE SECRETARY OF STATE
 THE SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY
 THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
 THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
 THE SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE
 THE SECRETARY OF COMMERCE
 THE SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION
 DIRECTOR OF THE OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET
 UNITED STATES TRADE REPRESENTATIVE
 THE CHIEF OF STAFF TO THE PRESIDENT
 ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT FOR NATIONAL
 SECURITY AFFAIRS
 DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE
 CHAIRMAN OF THE JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF
 DIRECTOR OF FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY

SUBJECT: National Security Directive on Sealift (U)

Sealift is essential both to executing this country's forward defense strategy and to maintaining a wartime economy. The United States' national sealift objective is to ensure that sufficient military and civil maritime resources will be available to meet defense deployment, and essential economic requirements in support of our national security strategy. The broad purpose of this directive is to ensure that the US maintains the capability to meet sealift requirements in the event of crisis or war. Toward this end, the following policy guidelines are established:

1. The US-owned commercial ocean carrier industry, to the extent it is capable, will be relied upon to provide sealift in peace, crisis, and war. This capability will be augmented during crisis and war by reserve fleets comprised of ships with national defense features that are not available in sufficient numbers or types in the active US-owned commercial industry. The Department of Transportation is responsible for determining whether adequate manpower is available to support the operation of reserve ships during a crisis. In peacetime, the Department of Defense will

5-10-95
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 under provisions of E.O. 12958
 by D. Van Tassel, National Security Council
 F89-191

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