

May 3, 1994

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

MEMORANDUM FOR THE VICE PRESIDENT
THE SECRETARY OF STATE
THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
DIRECTOR OF THE OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET
REPRESENTATIVE OF THE UNITED STATES TO
THE UNITED NATIONS
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

SUBJECT: U.S. POLICY ON REFORMING MULTILATERAL PEACE
OPERATIONS (U)

Serious threats to the security of the United States persist in the post-Cold War era. History suggests that new threats will surface. The United States remains committed to meeting such threats through either unilateral or multilateral action, as our interests dictate. (U)

Circumstances have arisen and will arise in the future in which it will be in our interest to proceed in partnership with others to preserve, maintain or restore the peace. The United Nations (UN) can be an important instrument of such partnerships. (U)

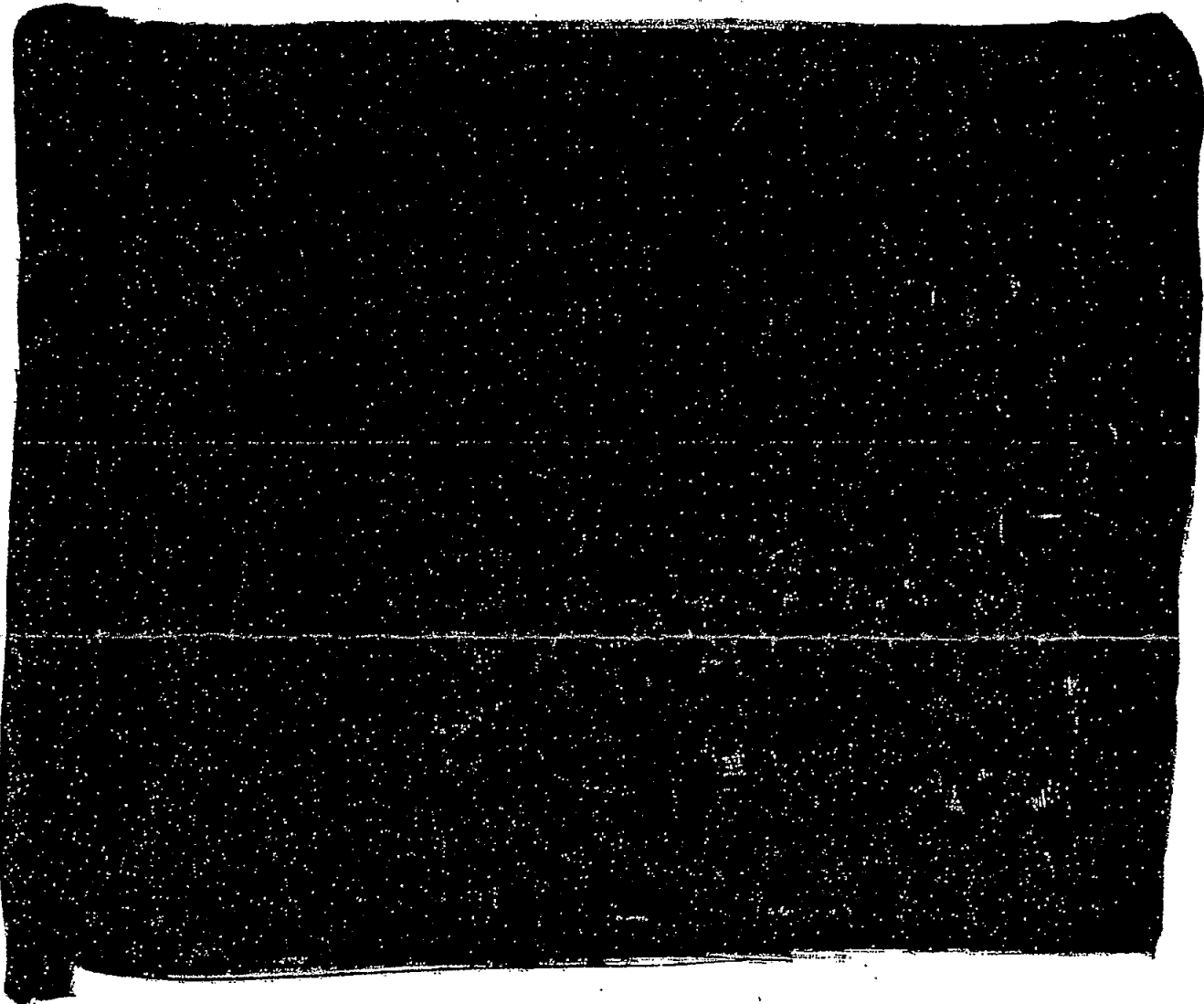
Participation in UN peace operations can never substitute for the necessity of fighting and winning our own wars, nor can we allow it to reduce our capability to meet that imperative. It can, however, serve, in effect, as a "force multiplier" in our efforts to promote peace and stability. (U)

During the Cold War, the United Nations could resort to multilateral peace operations only under the rare circumstances in which the interests of the Soviet Union and the West did not conflict. Such operations can now serve as a cost-effective tool in many cases to advance such American interests as the maintenance of peace in key regions and the relief of suffering abroad. (U)

Since it is in our interest to support or participate in UN peace operations on such occasions, it is also in our interest to seek to strengthen our own and the United Nations' peace operations capabilities. That is the object of the attached "Policy Guidance: U.S. Policy on Reforming Multilateral Peace Operations," which elaborates this Presidential Decision Directive, and which I approve today. (U)

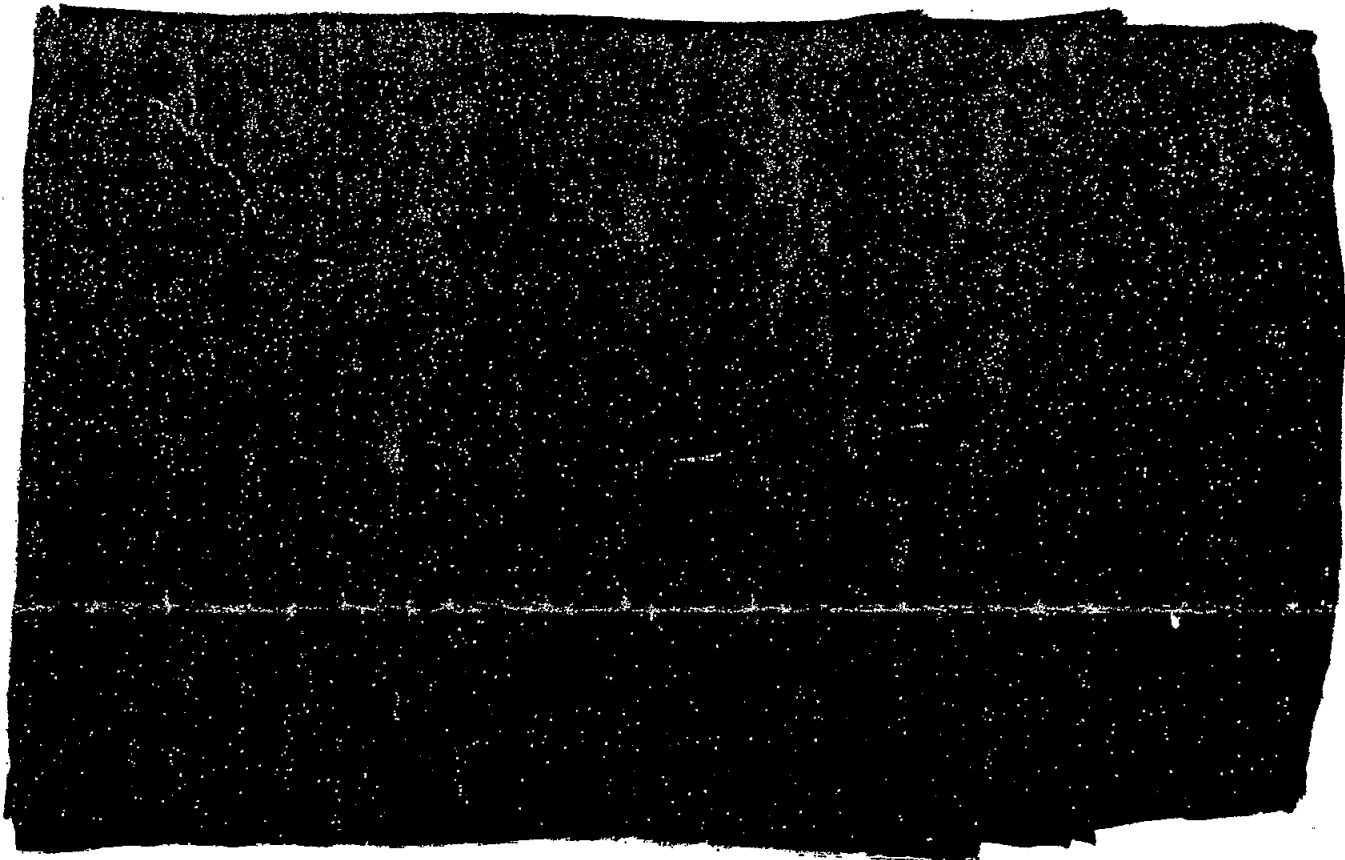
The Role of Peace Operations in U.S. Foreign Policy

Territorial disputes, armed ethnic conflicts, civil wars (many of which spill across international borders), and the total collapse of governmental authority in some states are now among the threats to world peace. The UN has sought to play a constructive role in such situations by mediating disputes and obtaining agreement to cease-fires and political settlements. Where agreements to that effect have been reached, the interposition of neutral forces under UN auspices can help facilitate lasting peace. (U)



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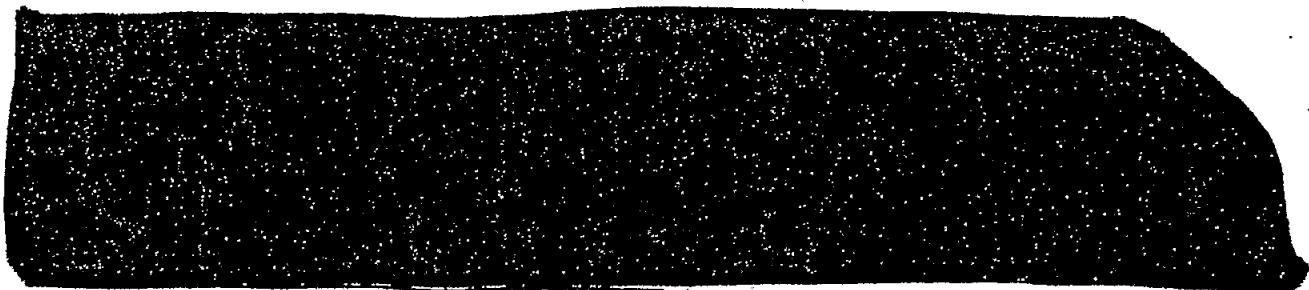


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It is important to build public and Congressional support for UN peace operations, particularly those in which U.S. forces participate. Accordingly, we will take the steps outlined in Annex VIII to ensure Congress is regularly and fully briefed on such operations, and, wherever possible, consulted about the participation of U.S. armed forces in them. (U)

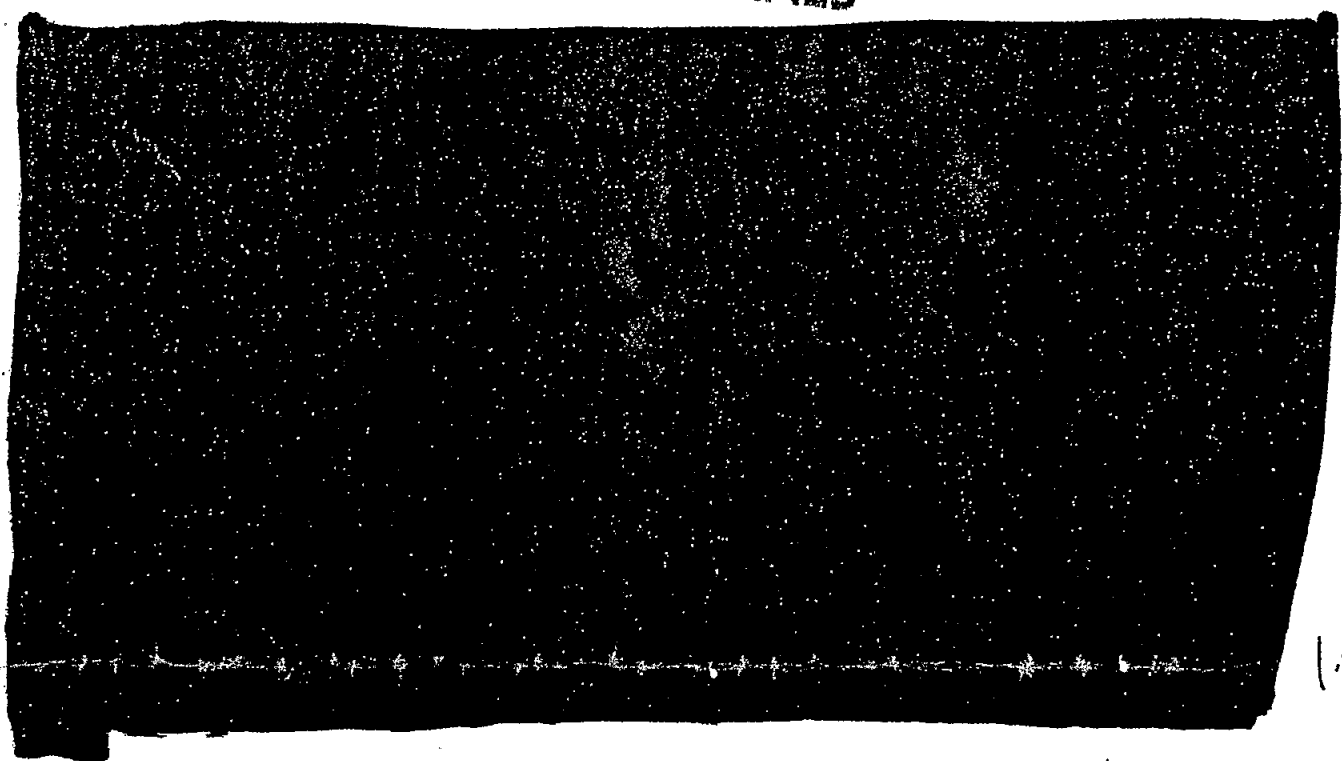
The United States will take a leadership role in obtaining international agreement to enhance the headquarters capabilities of the UN to conduct peace operations effectively, to achieve economies of scale and reap the benefits of past experience. The United States will contribute personnel, technical assistance, equipment, facilities and funding for that enhancement. (U)

While we work with the UN to make its operations more efficient and effective, to reduce UN costs and to ensure our financial assessment is more equitable, the United States will aggressively seek Congressional support to meet its financial obligations for UN peace operations. (U)



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William L. Hunter