

No. 71

S/S-NSC files, lot 63 D 351, "NSC 129 Memoranda"

*Statement of Policy Proposed by the National Security Council*¹TOP SECRET
NSC 129/1

[WASHINGTON, April 24, 1952.]

UNITED STATES OBJECTIVES AND POLICIES WITH RESPECT TO THE
ARAB STATES* AND ISRAEL

OBJECTIVES

1. The objectives of the United States with respect to the area comprising the Arab States and Israel are:
 - a. To overcome or prevent instability within these countries which threatens Western interests.
 - b. To prevent the extension of Soviet influence and at the same time to strengthen Western influence.
 - c. To insure that the resources of the area are available to the United States and its allies for use in strengthening the free world.
 - d. To strengthen the will and ability of these countries to resist possible future aggression by the Soviet Union.
 - e. To establish within the community of nations a new relationship with the states of the area that recognizes their desire to achieve status and respect for their sovereign equality.

GENERAL CONSIDERATIONS

2. The area comprising the Arab States and Israel is of great political and strategic importance because of its geographic position, its natural defensive barriers, its sites for military bases, its position with respect to transportation routes, its petroleum resources and installations, the fact that it is a center for powerful world-

¹ NSC 129/1 also includes a memorandum for the NSC by the Executive Secretary; notes to the NSC by the Executive Secretary; a Statement by the United States, United Kingdom, France, and Turkey on the Middle East Command, dated Nov. 10, 1951; and an NSC Staff Study on "United States Objectives and Policies With Respect to the Arab States and Israel"; none printed.

The Statement of Policy printed here was adopted by the National Security Council, together with the Acting Secretary of the Treasury, in NSC Action No. 629, at the 115th meeting of the NSC on Apr. 23, 1952, with the President presiding. The President approved it on Apr. 24, 1952, and ordered its implementation by all appropriate executive departments and agencies of the U.S. Government under the coordination of the Secretary of State. (S/S-NSC files, lot 63 D 351, "NSC 129 Memoranda"; S/S-NSC (Miscellaneous) files, lot 66 D 95, "Policies of the Government of the United States of America Relating to the National Security, vol. V, 1952")

* For the purposes of this paper, the Arab States include Egypt, Yemen, Jordan, Saudi Arabia, Lebanon, Syria and Iraq. United States Policy toward Iran will be covered in a separate report constituting a revision of NSC 107/2. [Footnote in the source text. NSC 107/2 and its revision are scheduled for publication in volume x.]