U.S. POLICY ON THE NEW ZEALAND PORT ACCESS ISSUE

The President has reviewed the measures taken in response to the Government of New Zealand's policies banning access by United States warships and considers that the United States response has been appropriate and effective in demonstrating that New Zealand cannot enjoy the benefits accorded a good ally without complying with the necessary responsibilities. The President considers that, given the absence of movement toward restoring port access, U.S. adjustments in military, intelligence, and other alliance-related cooperation with New Zealand should remain in place, subject to further review as necessary. (S)

In considering the implementation of U.S. policy toward New Zealand, the President has made the following decisions:

- With regard to foreign military sales and commercial export licenses for defense-related equipment, New Zealand should no longer be accorded the "special relationship" of a very close ally. It should be treated in a manner similar to other friendly nations with whom we share important security interests. The Departments of Defense and State will issue guidelines implementing this policy. (C)

- With regard to United States security obligations to New Zealand, this matter should be maintained under review. In the event that New Zealand approves port ban legislation in a manner further disruptive of U.S. interests, the East Asian and Pacific Interdepartmental Group should provide recommendations for possible further action if desirable. (C)