

CHAPTER V

Conclusion

The foreign policy decision making process according to Graham T. Allison Bureaucratic Politic Model is the result from compromise, coalition, competition, and confusion among government officials who see different faces of an issue. There are two branches in U.S. government that influence the foreign policy, those are Executive and Legislative Branch. From many bodies within the Executive Branch, the most dominant players are the President, National Security Advisor, Secretary of State and Defense, and Central Intelligence Agency. Meanwhile in the Legislative Branch, there are the House of Representative and the Senate. It consists of many committees, but the House Foreign Affairs, Senate Foreign Relations, Armed Services on both chambers, and Budget on both chambers are considered as the most influential committee in the foreign policy decision making process.

The foreign policy decision making process also determine which instruments that will be used to pursue the interests. It is found there are two main instruments that U.S. usually use in conducting its foreign policy, those are military and economic power. Military power is divided into military intervention, military assistance, and military sanction. Meanwhile, economic power is divided into economic assistance and economic sanction. It reflects the U.S. status as the military and economic superpower.

United States already used those instruments in its bilateral relations with Vietnam which is very dynamic. In the Vietnam War, U.S. used military intervention to win against the North Vietnam government. After U.S. lost in Vietnam War, the relations got worsened because both states stop all kind of relationship. It then followed by military and economic sanction after Vietnam War. After several events, there were several efforts to re-establish formal relationship, it is followed by military and economic assistance. Even though the military relationship is already existed, but it was only limited to the assistance, cooperation, and dialogue only.

The writer found that the lobbying group, Podesta Group, and a think tank, Center for Strategic and International Studies, were involved in this decision making. Both influences the Executive and Legislative Branch to amend the regulation that become the barrier for arms export to Vietnam. The Executive Branch which was influenced was the Department of State, while on the Legislative Branch was the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

The notification was sent by the Department of State by sending Executive Communication EC7774 and EC7100 to the President of the Senate and then referred the Senate Foreign Relations Committee. The Senate Foreign Relations Committee is a committee in the Senate which concern on the relations with other states.

In writing this undergraduate thesis, the writer did not found any significant obstacles because the U.S. government is very transparent in publishing the legislation from the process and the text in the websites, so the

writer could easily access it to gather the data. The writer expect that this undergraduate thesis would contribute to International Relations study in U.S. Global Politics and Comparative Foreign Policy Theory subjects. The writer recommend that should be a continuity in researching the bilateral relations between U.S. and Vietnam in military relations. The military relations will continue. However, it would be highly influenced by some factors. For example, the changing of leadership in both states, the changing environment condition, and the changing attitudes of both states.