The United States should not commit forces to combat overseas unless the particular engagement or occasion is deemed vital to our national interest or that of our allies.

If we decide it is necessary to put combat troops into a given situation, we should do so wholeheartedly and with the clear intention of winning.

If we do decide to commit forces to combat overseas, we should have clearly defined political and military objectives.

The relationship between our objectives and the forces we have committed -- their size, composition, and disposition -- must be continually reassessed and adjusted if necessary.

Before the United States commits combat forces abroad, there must be some reasonable assurance we will have the support of the American people and their elected representatives in Congress.

The commitment of US forces to combat should be a last resort.

Weinberger Doctrine