

~~TOP SECRET~~

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By MMK NLDDE Date 8/23/11

Notes on Conference in President's Office

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Present: J. F. Dulles, Smith, Bowie, Wilson, Kyes, Ridgway, Ludecke, Strauss, Cutler, Lay.

The President started off by saying that the U.S. had 3 things to consider:



- a. The U.S. would consider nuclear weapons available for use,
- b. but the U.S. must also consider the need for allies, and
- c. favorable world opinion.

The President did not think that any advance decision could be made which would govern what would happen in a future war. All wars turn out to be different than the plans which are made.

The President indicated that there was no question in his mind about the

[REDACTED]

Mr. Dulles re-stated the question before the meeting as follows: Does paragraph 38b of NSC 162/2 mean that

[REDACTED]

The President pointed out that

[REDACTED]

The Secretary of State ^{said} that he had tried to develop the U.S. view with respect to atomic weapons with Eden at Bermuda, and also at the NATO meeting. He had tried to make clear to them that we must be

[REDACTED] The other people at the NATO meeting acquiesced to the extent that all should move forward so as to have a mechanism in being to reach the necessary decisions immediately.

The President said that the U.S. had come to a point where it could not back away from atomic weapons. Both the U.S. and the other side are in too deep; He re-emphasized that in the event of

[REDACTED]

Mr. Kyes modified the position earlier taken by the Defense Establishment

12/27/53

12/22/53

to say that the insight which had now been given into the President's mind would enable the Defense Establishment to go ahead. Although the President had not spoken his [REDACTED]

The President suggested that if the necessary statements could be included in the war plans, he would initial such war plans to show the position which he would expect to take.

R. C.

