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July 24, 1968

THE SECRETARY

Your Luncheon Meeting with the President Today1. Consultation with FRG on Nuclear Weapons Release

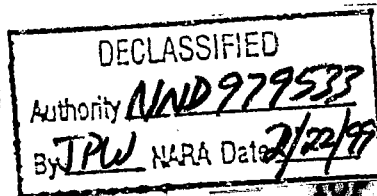
On July 19 Katzenbach and Nitze recommended to the President an exchange of letters with Kiesinger stating that (1) no special bilateral consultative arrangements are desirable regarding general release of nuclear weapons; but (2) the USG and FRG have agreed to "consult directly with each other" before selective release of nuclear weapons by the US for use from or on FRG territory; (3) the USG undertakes not to make selective release for use by German armed forces if the FRG objects; and (4) a secure government to government teletype be established between Bonn and Washington. The JCS favor "government to government" exchanged on these points rather than letters between LBJ and Kiesinger, but State and DOD concur that a highest level letter exchange is the only acceptable form for a subject of this importance. If you concur, Rostow will recommend to the President that he advise Schroeder of these decisions when he sees him this afternoon at 5:30. Memo to President and draft letters attached (TAB A).

2. Czech/Soviet Crisis (For you to discuss)Latest Sitreps attached (TAB B).3. Vietnam - Honolulu Follow-up (For you to discuss)

(a) Paris Talks - At the tea break today Vy told Habib that the DRV was "seriously considering" the Vance proposals, and after their side completed its examination of the Honolulu communique "we (the DRV) will be seeing you again".

(b) Significance of Lull - Helms will complete tomorrow the paper responsive to Harriman's request examining this question.
NOTE: US weekly KIA casualties to be announced tomorrow (157) constitute a new low for the year.

(c) Walt Rostow may propose that Vance point out to the DRV



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at the next private meeting that Thieu has softened his formulation on VC "full participation" in the political life of SVN and suggest that their side take a step towards the GVN. Leonhart thinks we should let the GVN take the lead on this and not inject new issues into the private discussions until the DRV responds to the Vance proposals.

4. Belgian Tanks for Pakistan (For you to raise)

NEA, Oehlert and DOD recommend that you obtain Presidential approval for us to try to clinch the Belgian sale of 100 M-47 tanks to Pakistan. Draft cable to Brussels attached with cover memo (TAB C).

5. (a) US Position at ENDS on Comprehensive test ban with on-site inspection and (b) Cut-off of fissionable weapons material production (For you to discuss)

The draft memo from you to the President attached requests authority for the US delegation to reaffirm previous US positions on these two areas (TAB D).

6. Syngston Amendment (Clifford will discuss)

7. Other

(a) Latvian Ethnic Youth Berlin Meeting (July 26-30) - Efforts to discourage the meeting have failed. We must decide whether to ban the meeting or not. EUR recommends banning but I suggested you might wish to discuss this issue at lunch because 100 American citizens are involved and there are obvious right wing US political implications. The FRG, the Berlin Senat, the UK and the French want an Allied ban. Memo (TAB E).

(b) George Mahon and AID - Gaud requests you to advise the President that George Mahon is being quoted by his colleagues and responsible newsmen as favoring an additional \$400 million aid cut from the \$1.9 billion authorization level. Mahon denies this but continues to be quoted as mentioned.

Benjamin H. Read

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