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DEPARTMENT OF STATE
Counselor and Chairman
Policy Planning Council
Washington

December 18, 1963

Dear General Johnson:

I want you to know how much I appreciate your work and that of your staff on the study which has just been completed. You have the misfortune of having no peers; neither I nor anyone can really qualify to sit in judgment on your work, for there is no one who can pretend to have so thoroughly explored the terrain you have mapped out in your report. Before you, no one, either in or out of the Government, had ever examined in such detail the hard alternatives that might arise at major decision points in nuclear war.

I can say that I know of no other study which has so realistically presented the military and political factors which may shape wartime decisions and I have never read a document which so vividly has illustrated that a nuclear war is a national matter, in which rigid divisions of governmental responsibilities can have no place.

You have performed a service which will help all of us in Government to see farther than our vision has heretofore extended. For this I thank you.

Sincerely yours,

Walt

W. W. Rostow

General Leon W. Johnson,
Director, Net Evaluation Subcommittee,
(OJCS),
Room 2E844, Pentagon Building.

State Dept. declassification & release instructions on file

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