

10 September 1958

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Resume of OCB Luncheon Meeting, 10 September 1958

PRESENT: Mr. Allen, Gen. Cabell, Mr. Dillon (State), Adm. Foster,
Mr. Smith, Mr. Sprague, Mr. Staats

1. Implications of Possible Nuclear Test in French Sahara

The group discussed in general terms the paper that had been circulated on the above subject. It was generally agreed that it would be much better from our point of view for the French not to conduct such a test than for them to do so. On the other hand it was recognized that it would be in the French interest to emphasize the fact that the device was developed with French resources and technical knowledge, and not to associate it with the U. S. The Board agreed that it would be inadvisable for the U. S. to issue any public statement in advance of an anticipated French nuclear test, but that State and USIA should prepare necessary guidance for missions abroad.

2. Sudan

Mr. Dillon gave a brief summary of actions which had been taken in the Department following the recent OCB and NSC discussions of our proposed programs in the Sudan. Mr. Dillon indicated that firm proposals had not yet been arrived at, but are expected within the next week to ten days.

3. Contingency Planning in Case of Moon Shot by the USSR

Mr. Staats suggested that the Board consider once more the possibility that the Soviets may launch successfully a moon satellite or a lunar probe in the near future. It was pointed out that a contingency paper on this subject had been approved on March 21, 1958 and that this provided guidance and suggested statements to

NSC review(s) completed.

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be issued by the President and other officials. It was agreed that the Working Group concerned should review this paper to see if any updating or revision is required.

4. Special Working Group on Public Opinion Implications of Taiwan Strait Situation

Mr. Staats reported that the special working group which had been set up following the first meeting of the ad hoc interagency group convened under the chairmanship of Mr. Robertson, had been looking into the possibilities for actions which the U. S. might take to mitigate the effects on public opinion abroad of present and future U. S. actions. Gen. Cabell suggested that the working group keep in mind the fact that they should not attempt to draft an intelligence estimate but should confine themselves to their primary purpose of assessing effects on world opinion and recommending actions to offset unfavorable effects.

5. Wheelus-Tripoli Road

Mr. Dillon reported on difficulties which had developed, particularly with Congress, in getting approval for funds to build the road from Wheelus Field to Tripoli. He said that a similar proposal in Bermuda had run into a great deal of trouble in Congress and he foresaw a difficult struggle in getting that body's approval in this case. It was agreed that this matter is of concern primarily to State and Defense and that those departments should continue to seek a solution, but that the item should be dropped from the agenda of the OCB.

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7. Business Council for International Understanding

Mr. Allen gave a summary report on the activity of a group of business leaders who had been convened by the President as the

Business Council for International Understanding. He said that most of the members of this group seemed to feel that it was both desirable and feasible for government and business leaders to cooperate in advancing the national interests of the U.S. abroad.

8. New Position for Executive Officer

Mr. Staats reported that at the end of this month he is leaving his present job and returning to the Bureau of the Budget. The group expressed its thanks to him for his efficient performance of his duties with the OCB over the past five years.



C. P. CABELL
General, USAF
Acting Director

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