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Ed 62-5339
ER

J. F. Kennedy

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

In view of the possible resumption of Soviet nuclear tests at any time, I have asked the members of the United States Intelligence Board to alert all appropriate facilities so as to obtain the most complete information possible whenever such tests occur.

I have also cautioned the Board members to take all feasible steps to prevent the unauthorized disclosure of intelligence information regarding any Soviet nuclear tests, in order to provide essential ILLEGIB protection of the intelligence sources and methods used in obtaining this information. Controls on the dissemination of information regarding foreign nuclear explosions are established by a Directive of Central Intelligence Directive No. 1/6 (copy attached). This directive specifically provides that no public release of information relating to the occurrence of foreign nuclear weapons tests will be made, except as directed by the President or the National Security Council.

In view of the great importance of safeguarding intelligence sources and methods used in detecting such foreign nuclear tests, however, I recommend with the concurrence of the United States Intelligence Board that you issue a Presidential directive reaffirming that no public release of information relating to the occurrence of foreign nuclear weapons tests will be made except as authorized by the President. A suggested draft is attached.

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The distribution of such a directive should include, in addition to the departments and agencies represented on the National Security Council and the United States Intelligence Board, the United States Information Agency, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, the Public Health Service and the Weather Bureau, all of whom receive information regarding these tests.

(Signed) JOHN A. McCONE

John A. McCone
Director

Attachments

(25 Jul 62)

Distribution:

- 0 & 1 - Addressee w/atts.
- 1 - DCI w/draft dir.
- 2 - DDCI w/draft dir.
- 1 - ER w/draft dir.
- 1 - w/draft dir.
- 1 - Chairman, JAEIC w/draft dir.
- 1 - USIB Sec w/draft dir.
- 2 - AC/DCI - 7-E-22

- Col. Grayson

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DRAFT PRESIDENTIAL DIRECTIVE

In view of the possible resumption of Soviet nuclear tests at any time, I caution all recipients of classified intelligence information regarding such tests to take all feasible steps to prevent its unauthorized disclosure. Such action is essential to safeguard intelligence sources and methods used in obtaining this information.

I also hereby reaffirm existing directives that no public release of information relating to the occurrence of foreign nuclear weapons tests will be made except as specifically authorized by the President.

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Remarks:			
<p>The attached memo is submitted pursuant to a discussion at the USIB meeting this morning.</p> <p>A copy of this memo has been coordinated with Dr. Reichardt of AEC and the Acting Chairman, JAETC.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">STAT</p>			
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