

~~TOP SECRET~~

MEMORANDUM FOR: Special Assistant to DCI

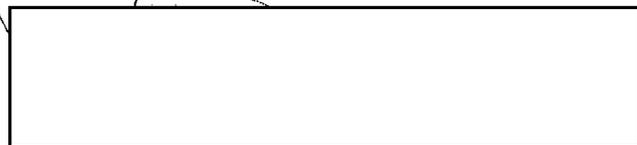
DATE: 4 September 1951

SUBJECT: Standby Presidential Address for Delivery in the Event of a Breakdown in Armistice Negotiations at Kaesong

1. Because the White House draft spilled into a speculative discussion of possible communist moves, I passed the text on to ONE for comment. Those comments (a copy attached) were passed back directly to David Bell at the White House on Saturday morning, September 1st. Not knowing when the big bust might come, we were reluctant to sit on the item over the weekend. Lay's office was advised.

2. I was too preoccupied with an NSC paper to append my own comments. They would, however, have followed this line:

Were this draft mine, I would have leaned more heavily on the implications of further aggression in Korea. For while the Soviets could conceivably have miscalculated our willingness to defend Korea in June of 1950, the parallel does not hold true fifteen months later. Thus it is impossible for the communists to initiate a new offensive without first spitting us deliberately in the eye. This would certainly seem to indicate a willingness to risk an extension of war. For certainly the communists cannot now underestimate our resolution to stand ground in the East. If this be true, then the American people ought to be alerted to the even more present danger that would come with a breakoff at Kaesong.



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Colonel, USAF
Assistant to the Director

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