

21 March 1951

NOTES ON [] DRAFT (draft for President - []

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The over-all effect, the tone, and most of the language of this draft is excellent. The following comments are offered for consideration:

1. Nowhere in the draft do we specifically deny the allegations that we have used EW. I would take out the last 2½ lines of Introduction No. 1 and substitute a flat unmistakable, categorical denial.
2. In the first line of Introduction No. 1, I would include the Communist leaders in Czechoslovakia.
3. In the paragraph in the middle of page 2, Introduction No. 1, I would add some such sentence as this:

"We Americans well know about these epidemics because during the years of peace we sent many of our best men and millions and millions of dollars to fight them and to bring relief to their sad victims."
4. In the main text, I would tighten up the beginning. I think there would be no loss in eliminating everything after the first paragraph and before the second sentence of the second paragraph on page 4, substituting a short connecting sentence.
5. I think the reference to "common penny" ending the paragraph at the top of page 5 is an unfortunate figure and would eliminate this sentence.
6. I would eliminate the short paragraph in the middle of page 6.
7. I would suggest "millions" instead of "12,000,000" at the bottom of page 10.
8. I would eliminate the second sentence in the last paragraph on page 11.
9. On page 13 in the second full paragraph, I would change "remotely approached" to "exceeded."
10. In several places instead of the expression "we and our allies", I would consider saying "we of the United Nations."
11. I question the wisdom of outlining specific courses of action on pages 19 and 20. If we must be specific, I would change No. 4 and No. 5 as they are too broad. I would prefer to substitute for the entire list an appeal to the people of

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Russia to throw off the evil gang which has enslaved them. The weakness of a list is that it ties your hands or commits you to too much. By trying to avoid overcommitting yourself, you necessarily omit obvious things such as the defense of the people still free in Asia, which may be interpreted as meaning that you will not intercede and as an invitation to further aggression.

12. The paper is much stronger if it is ended at the bottom of page 22 before the last sentence. Certainly the sentence beginning in the fifth line from the end of page 23, which is particularly inappropriate today, and all the material on page 23 weakens the punch of page 22.

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