

~~SECRET - EYES ONLY~~

18 June 1958

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Resume of OCB Luncheon Meeting, 18 June 1958

PRESENT: Mr. Cutler, Mr. Dulles, Adm. Foster, Mr. Gray,
Mr. Harr, Mr. Herter, Mr. Smith, Mr. Sprague,
Mr. Washburn, Mr. Staats

1. Execution of Nagy

A lengthy discussion took place on the implications of the recently-announced execution of Nagy, Maleter and other Hungarians. It was recognized that, apart from the sense of shock at the Soviet-inspired action, this situation provides an opportunity for effective propaganda on the part of the U. S. and the free world. A number of suggestions were made for specific exploitation, including the possibility of a memorial stamp honoring the Hungarian Freedom Fighters, and the observance of the tenth anniversary of the Yugoslavs' withdrawal from the Cominform.

2. Inflatable Satellite

Mr. Sprague reported that the Defense Department has now scheduled the launching of a 12-foot inflatable satellite for October. A satellite of 100-foot diameter is set for launching in March 1959.

3. Space Program

A discussion then ensued on the general subject of the sort of program for outer space exploration that the U. S. should mount. Among the topics covered was the question of whether the launching of a man into outer space (probably preceded in earlier experiments

NSC review(s) completed.

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by a chimpanzee or a similar anthropoid) would serve a useful psychological purpose. There was some difference of opinion expressed on this point. It was recognized that in any case the Soviets would very probably be able to launch a human being into outer space before the U. S. could do so, particularly since they would be more willing than we to take risks with human life in order to accomplish the experiment.

It was agreed that Dr. Killian and Roy Johnson, of the Defense space agency, should be asked to outline for the OCB the type of activity they believe would be most useful in a space program.

4. Nuclear Weapons Demonstration

The idea of a demonstration of a normally-conventional missile equipped with a nuclear warhead, which was discussed at the 4 June meeting, came up again.

It was reiterated that this aspect of the Hardtack series is not easily adaptable to the regular testing grounds and that for technical reasons the range at Eglin Air Force Base in Florida seems to be the most practicable. However, it was stated that the matter had been taken up with the Secretary of State and he had expressed the opinion that it would be unwise to make an announcement that this kind of test is to be conducted. In view of this, there was general agreement that the possibility of an alternate site should be explored further, since it would be risky to fire a missile of this kind at Eglin without acknowledging that fact publicly.


ALLEN W. DULLES
Director

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