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42a notes	<del>NSC meeting, 7/13/67      Secret      3 p.</del> <del>[sanitized - placed in open file on 4/25/86]</del> open 3/4/02 NLS/RAC 99-160	7/13/67	A

**LOCATION**

Tom Johnson's Notes of Meeting

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JULY 13, 1967 - 12:08 p.m.

NATIONAL SECURITY  
COUNCIL

Sec. McNamara  
Under Sec. Katzenbach  
Gen. Wheeler  
CIA Dir. Helms  
USIA Dir. Marks  
OEP Dir. Bryant

Bromley Smith  
Geo. Christian  
Ed Hamilton  
Asst Sec. of State  
Joseph Palmer  
Tom Johnson

MEMORANDUM

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THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

f

~~TOP SECRET~~

LITERALLY EYES ONLY

July 13, 1967  
5:30 p.m.

MEMORANDUM TO THE PRESIDENT

FROM: **Tom**  
Tom Johnson

Attached are the notes taken during the President's meeting with the National Security Council Staff.

Attending the meeting:

The President  
Secretary McNamara  
Under Secretary Katzenbach  
General Wheeler  
CIA Director Helms  
USIA Director Marks  
OEP Director Farris Bryant  
Bromley Smith  
George Christian  
Ed Hamilton  
Assistant Secretary of State Joseph Palmer  
Tom Johnson

The meeting began at 12:08 p.m. The meeting ended at 12:46 p.m.

DECLASSIFIED  
Authority NLS 82-43  
By ica, NARS, Date 11-8-83

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EYES ONLY

NOTES OF THE PRESIDENT'S MEETING  
WITH THE  
NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL  
STAFF

Secretary Katzenbach reported that many African nations believe the U. S. has no policy which is independent of the British in Africa. He questioned whether we could recognize a settlement which would be free of majority rule stipulations. He said the Southwest African problem seems insoluble and that a U. N. resolution does no good.

The Secretary touched on a number of African areas, pointing out that the Chinese are making a big effort to exert their influence.

On current crisis problems, the Secretary reported:

- In Nigeria the government appears to be breaking up.
- The policy of neutrality in Nigeria appears to be wise.
- Despite large U. S. aid programs under way, a neutrality position makes sense.
- There is still hope in Nigeria short of a complete governmental break-up. There may be a looser confederation.
- AID programs have not been failures. He recommended that we should question the Peace Corps in there.

On matters affecting the Congo, Secretary Katzenbach reported:

- There is no local competence.
- Despite this Communist influence, U. S. policy has been successful.
- There is no alternative to the current government. Mobutu is "the end of the line." There is no better alternative.

DECLASSIFIED

E.O. 12958, Sec. 3.5

NSC Memo, 1/30/95, State Dept. Guidelines

By pc, NARA, Date 2-19-02

EYES ONLY

[1 of 3]

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- Since World War II there has been considerable evidence that the U. S. will not intervene against whites. We did recently, supporting Mobutu against the White Mercenaries. Katzenbach said he thought this would have a substantial pay-off in Africa.
- The Secretary reported a Red Cross Plane (C-130) was bringing out a mixture of Congolese soldiers and white Americans.
- The use of the U. S. air craft is important in protecting and rescuing the whites who are in danger.

General Wheeler reported to the President on the military aspects of the Congolese operation. His report follows:

- Today's airlift was a diversion of a communications plane.
- There were no Mercenaries found in the town according to a report received at 6 a.m. today.
- There were 300 wounded refugees and hostages, including some Americans.
- The Mercenaries had taken off with 27 truck loads including 300 troops and an unconfirmed report of 20 American women held as hostages.
- Mobutu has asked for U. S. air surveillance to try to find the units. For the time being, the government was asked to use its own planes by the U. S. Ambassador.
- The President asked for a full report on this situation, particularly how many women hostages were being held, from CIA Director Richard Helms. Helms said he would get the report to the President as soon as prepared.

The President then asked for an appraisal of the political situation on Capitol Hill in relation to U. S. actions in the Congo. The President

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- 3 -

said he believed that the Administration had lost some good will, particularly with the Foreign Relations Committee in the Senate.

He asked, was it true that the House Foreign Relations Committee had applauded Secretary Rusk when the Secretary testified before that committee yesterday. Secretary Katzenbach said that was true.

Secretary Katzenbach said there seems to be a lack of understanding of the Congolese situation by Congressional members. He said some of the criticism has been a result of racial prejudice and a hesitancy to get into any action anywhere in the world because of what is happening in Vietnam.

The President said that a general effort should be made to keep the Congress better advised on anticipated actions.

# # #

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