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Tom Johnson's Notes of Meetings, Box 3

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JUNE 19, 1968 - 12 noon

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

The President
Vice President
Secretary Clifford
Under Sec. Katzenbach
Sec. Fowler
General Wheeler
Under Sec. Nitze
Ed Freid

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Bromley Smith
CIA Director Helms
Walt Rostow
Leonard Marks
John Leddy
Tom Johnson

Mr. President:

Here are the notes of your National Security Council Meeting.

(3)

Tom Johnson
June 19, 1968
6:30 p.m.



NSC PRIMARY INTEREST

NOTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PRESIDENT WITH THE

SANITUZE

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

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NU 83-/73

By MARA, Date 6-1

Attending the meeting were:

The President The Vice President Secretary Clifford Undersecretary Katzenbach Secretary Fowler General Wheeler Undersecretary Nitze Ed Freid

Bromley Smith CIA Director Helms Walt Rostow Leonard Marks John Leddy Tom Johnson

Mr. Katzenbach: The Ministerial meeting is being held against an unhappy background: Paris problems, tension in Berlin.

Mr. Leddy: NATO is in better health than most people thought it would be. NATO group was helpful in hammering out NPT. Picture of NATO is changing. Mutual force reduction talks will add to this change. Berlin will consume most of talks in first meeting. We hope for statements by some countries on NPT. For the future, the most serious problems

- -- force levels
- -- burden sharing
- -- balance of payments.

The Germans would like to discuss Rusk visiting Bonn.

Secretary Clifford: Berlin is a problem.

The reaction to

high-level U.S. officials visiting Germany (West Berlin) would be good. There is a question about Germans signing NPT. We hope they will.

Soviets have fleet in Mediterranean. Their presence there must be watched very closely. A joint NATO Naval exercise there might be useful.

The Germans want stern language on mutual force reduction. The Germans want no unilateral reductions. We do not know what will come out of it.

Halder: W. Tromas Johnson

TOP SECRET

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Next item: NPT treaty outlasts NATO treaty. NPT is for 25 years. What if NATO collapses in five years? We have language which recommits us to NATO.

Greece: Should we resume military aid to Greece? From Defense standpoint we recommend resumption of military aid to Greece.

Secretary Fowler: The sooner we get to a NATO consideration of how we can reduce our military costs the better. Negotiations with Denmark, Italy, The Netherlands are going well. We will have a shortfall, slight, this year.

Secretary Clifford; Germans want fighter planes. They want to jointly manufacture planes with us.

Undersecretary Nitze: Northop has a plan for plane better than MIG-21. This would be an answer to F-104 replacement. Market is for 3,000 planes at \$2 million each. Main market is Germany.

The President: Explore that.

Secretary Clifford: We are.

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