

issued this memorandum --- July 14, 1954. The Administration Series in Eisenhower's Papers as President contains Cutler's memorandum and report to the President upon his return from the trip. The memorandum is dated July 20, 1954 and refers to Cutler's visits to installations in Europe and North Africa between July 3 and 15. Also, within the NSC Staff Papers is a memorandum dated July 3, 1954, from Cutler to his two subordinates, James S. Lay and J. Patrick Coyne, explaining how they should handle NSC administrative matters during his absence; one would assume that if the memorandum to Twining were genuine, Lay or Coyne would have signed it."

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*STF note: Paper is
clearly old-type
matches other classified
items from James Lay*

Some comments by S.T. Friedman Sept. 1, 1987

1. It should be stressed that the above comments do NOT deal in any way with the Eisenhower briefing which includes the Truman Forrestal memo.
2. The references to NSC meetings are irrelevant since the 4 sentence Cutler Twining memo does NOT refer to an NSC meeting only to "the already scheduled White House Meeting of July 16". A briefing might only take a few minutes as we know from the number of briefers at the 45 minute Ike briefing at the Pentagon on Nov. 18, 1952. Ike and Twining could have excused themselves from any meeting for just a few minutes.
3. The memo from Cutler to J.Lay and J.P. Coyne states "d. Keep things moving out of my basket." and also has no signature and no "White House" at the top. *(see over)*
4. 1954 was the year when the Atomic Energy Act was passed and the new designations Secret Res.D. and Top Secret Restricted Data came in to use. Twining had already indicated a nuclear aspect to Flying Dists in his Sept. 23, 1947 memo. Much of the NSC info from this era was very highly classified and related to nuclear testing with which Twining had a long association. Surely there is room for a quick effort by Lay or Coyne to let Twining know of a slight change in plans in a memo that surely would have gone in the courier bag to the Pentagon.
5. The Ike Library received about 250,000 pages of NSC materials from the Archives several years ago. Most is still classified and unreviewed. Who knows how many more items lurk there?
6. Considering the W. Smith memo of 1950 indicating that Flying Saucers was the most classified subject in the US even more so than the H bomb, and that the briefing is labelled one of one, and that EYES ONLY material may still be at the White House it is not surprising that no other TS MAJIC material has been found. Black programs can be kept CLASSIFIED... and hidden.
7. We found 2 other Cutler memos in the Twining files at the Manuscript Div. of the LC. One was Top Secret, one Top Secret Eyes Only (both summer of 1953). Neither had a registration number. One had a signature the other didn't. One had White House, Washington DC at the top the other did not. Neither was found at the Ike Library. Nor was a TS memo from Donald Menzel to NSA (and then Ike) found. ABSENCE OF EVIDENCE IS NOT EVIDENCE FOR ABSENCE.
8. It would be useful indeed if White House Staff persons from the 1953-1954 era could be found to describe normal procedures, occasional procedures etc. There are substantial holdings of Twining and Vandenberg papers at Maxwell Air Force Base and at the Library of Congress which it might be useful to review. I will try the latter.
9. A coordinated scholarly effort seems indicated even if not likely to review a mass of material. Anybody know a foundation?

STF