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June 25, 1953

MEMORANDUM FOR THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE:

1. The President has asked me to send to you the following directions relative to certain National Security Council matters.

2. It is now planned to hold (a) a special meeting of the Council at 12 o'clock on Tuesday, July 14, to consider budgetary matters relating to Fiscal Year 1955, and (b) an extraordinary all-day meeting of the Council on Thursday, July 16, relative to Project Solarium.

3. The President directs that there be in attendance at both of these meetings the newly-appointed Joint Chiefs of Staff, whether or not all have formally taken office, and the Secretaries of the Army, the Navy, and the Air Force.

4. It is the President's intention, prior to the July 14 meeting, to deliver to the newly-appointed Joint Chiefs of Staff a directive relative to matters to which he wishes them to give urgent and full-time consideration for such period, prior to their undertaking their new responsibilities, as may be necessary (presumably not less than a month).

5. The President further directs that you arrange the duties of these officers so that, beginning in early July and prior to undertaking their new responsibilities, they can for the above-mentioned period together give full-time, uninterrupted attention to the matters covered in the above mentioned directive. It is the President's express wish that during this period these officers be freed from all other duties.

Note: (18) ROBERT CUTLER
JTF Special Assistant
to the President

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