

Staff General Collins' calendar (he was one of the people present).

According to the New York Times, which got its information from a Pentagon spokesman, those present were Admiral Fechteler, the Navy Chief of Staff; General Sheppard, the Marine Corps Chief of Staff; Robert Lovett, the Secretary of Defense; General Omar Bradley, Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, and none other than General Nathan F. Twining, the Vice Chief of Staff for the Air Force. Hoyt Vandenberg was USAF Chief of Staff at the time. In any event, we know that the meeting took place. The Eisenhower Library has detailed information about who was in which car, what hotel people stayed at, what the order of the cars was, the detailed schedule for the day, which included this briefing at the Pentagon. And yet, in President Eisenhower's book "Mandate for Change" there is no mention of that meeting at the Pentagon although the meeting with Truman is mentioned. In five other books about Eisenhower there is no mention of the briefing in the vault at the Pentagon though all mention the earlier meeting with Truman. Obviously we cannot say it did not take place.

Klass has argued that since there is no mention of meeting with Ike or about MJ-12 on Twining's or Ike's calendars for July 16, 1954, and that since the all-day NSC meeting at the White House on July 16, 1953 is noted in Twining's calendar, that surely must mean that Twining was not involved in any such meeting. I would point out that the entry in his calendar is indeed for an all-day White House meeting of the NSC but says nothing about Project Solarium. The Air Force Chief of Staff could hardly be out of touch with his people for an entire day. Considering that the total time for a briefing of Ike by his various military leaders on November 18, 1952, at the Pentagon was only 43 minutes, such an NSC MJ-12 briefing could have been done briefly and in secret with word being left, for example, at the JCS meeting if it was to be short one. One possible reason for a meeting could be to select a replacement for Vandenberg... perhaps Allen Dulles of the CIA??

Another comment that must be made is that it is very difficult, indeed, to accept the notion that the sentence about concurrence was seen in a very obscure memo which would mean that a forger was aware of both the security markings on that memo and the signature on the other TS memo in the same box and the "/s/" and could conjure up the rubber stamps for the Truman memo, but would not have worried about using the typed unusual marking TSR SI ... makes no sense.

We have proven through other sources that the meeting did take place. One would expect that would be much more difficult for a highly classified briefing on a highly classified "black" program.

Overall Approach to Validation of Documents

Ideally, one should be able to take a document that is questionable to a professional document examiner to test the paper. He would test the ink; he would compare the signature with other signatures by the same person, compare the type faces with those from typewriters known to have been used in that person's office, and a decision could be reached on those bases alone, for