

December 2, 1955

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: Discussion at the 268th Meeting
of the National Security Council,
Camp David, Maryland, Thursday,
December 1, 1955

Present at the 268th NSC meeting were the President of the United States, presiding; the Secretary of State; the Secretary of Defense; and the Director, Office of Defense Mobilization. Also present were the Secretary of the Treasury; the Attorney General; the Director, Bureau of the Budget; the Special Assistant to the President on Disarmament; the Chairman, Atomic Energy Commission; the Under Secretary of State; Assistant Secretary of State Bowie; the Deputy Secretary of Defense; the Acting Secretary of the Army; the Secretary of the Navy; the Secretary of the Air Force; the Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff; the Acting Chief of Staff, U. S. Army; the Chief of Naval Operations; the Chief of Staff, U. S. Air Force; the Commandant, U. S. Marine Corps; the Director of Central Intelligence; Special Assistants to the President Anderson and Dodge; the White House Staff Secretary; Mr. Robert C. Sprague, NSC Consultant; the NSC Representative on Internal Security; the Executive Secretary, NSC; and the Deputy Executive Secretary, NSC.

There follows a summary of the discussion at the meeting and the main points taken.

1. SIGNIFICANT WORLD DEVELOPMENTS AFFECTING U. S. SECURITY

The Director of Central Intelligence mentioned first the dangerous situation in Afghanistan, to which the entire intelligence community was alerted. He explained that the quarrel between Afghanistan and Pakistan had resulted in Afghanistan's being cut off from communications by sea. Accordingly, Afghanistan was now largely dependent on routes through the Soviet Union for exports and imports. The Morrison-Knudsen people were experiencing great difficulty in getting in the materials needed for their dam project. The Afghans were attempting to force Morrison-Knudsen to import their necessary materials through the USSR.

Mr. Dulles said that the situation in Afghanistan was now reminiscent of that which had prevailed in Iran not so long ago. In

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