

February 28, 1957



CONFERENCE IN PRESIDENT'S OFFICE

Present: The President, Admiral Strauss, Gen. Goodpastor, Gen. Cutler

1. Cutler referred to Murray's testimony before the Joint Atomic Committee on January 31; stated that copies of this testimony had been sent to Cutler, Shanley, Radford, AEC Commissioners, etc; that the testimony gave (by reference to a separate key) a tabulation at Jan 1/57, July 1/57, July 1/58, July 1/59; that the tabulation showed increase over 2 1/2 years in the stockpile of nuclear weapons, as follows: -

[Redacted area]

that Commissioner Murray's thesis was that this tabulation... Cutler said that he thought the President should know of Murray's testimony, in order that he might not be surprised by a reference to it, and at the same time hear from Admiral Strauss constructive views relative to such testimony.

2. Admiral Strauss then made a statement relative to Commissioner Murray's testimony, pointing out, among other things, the following:

- that [Redacted]
- that "small" weapons had been developed and would be developed over the years in phasing with the carriers therefor;
- that Murray's argument that larger weapons, being "cheaper," were stockpiled because of budgetary compulsions was erroneous;
- that he could not understand Murray's view that large weapons were "immoral" and small weapons "moral," the fact being that small weapons were "dirtier";
- that General Starbird had given Murray the true facts as to the stockpile, but he had not used them;
- that Murray had spoken of a U.S. requirement for a 60-megaton weapon in his testimony, which was not true and had been denied;
- that stockpile requirements were unanimously agreed to by DoD, JCS, AEC, before being submitted to the President;
- that Radford had sent Strauss a communication critical of Murray's testimony and his basic positions.

DECLASSIFIED
E.O. 12356, SEC. 3.4 (b)

PORTIONS EXEMPTED
E.O. 12356, SEC. 1.3 (a)(2) 46-201
DDE 5/19/82, NUC 9/30/82
NIE DATE 11/15/82

MR 82-224 #2
BY DJH DATE 11/15/82

3. Gen. Goodpaster commented on that portion of Murray's testimony relating to the U.S. having enough large weapons, but not enough small weapons to use in a "small conflict."

4. The President inquired when Mr. Murray's term would expire. When it was said there might be pressure to reappoint him, he asked "from whom" and gave me the impression he would be able to resist such pressure.

5. In view of my letter to Murray of February 9/57, I shall not take further action.



Robert Cutler

cc: Goodpaster
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