

January 17, 1962

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MEMORANDUM FOR:

Secretary of Defense

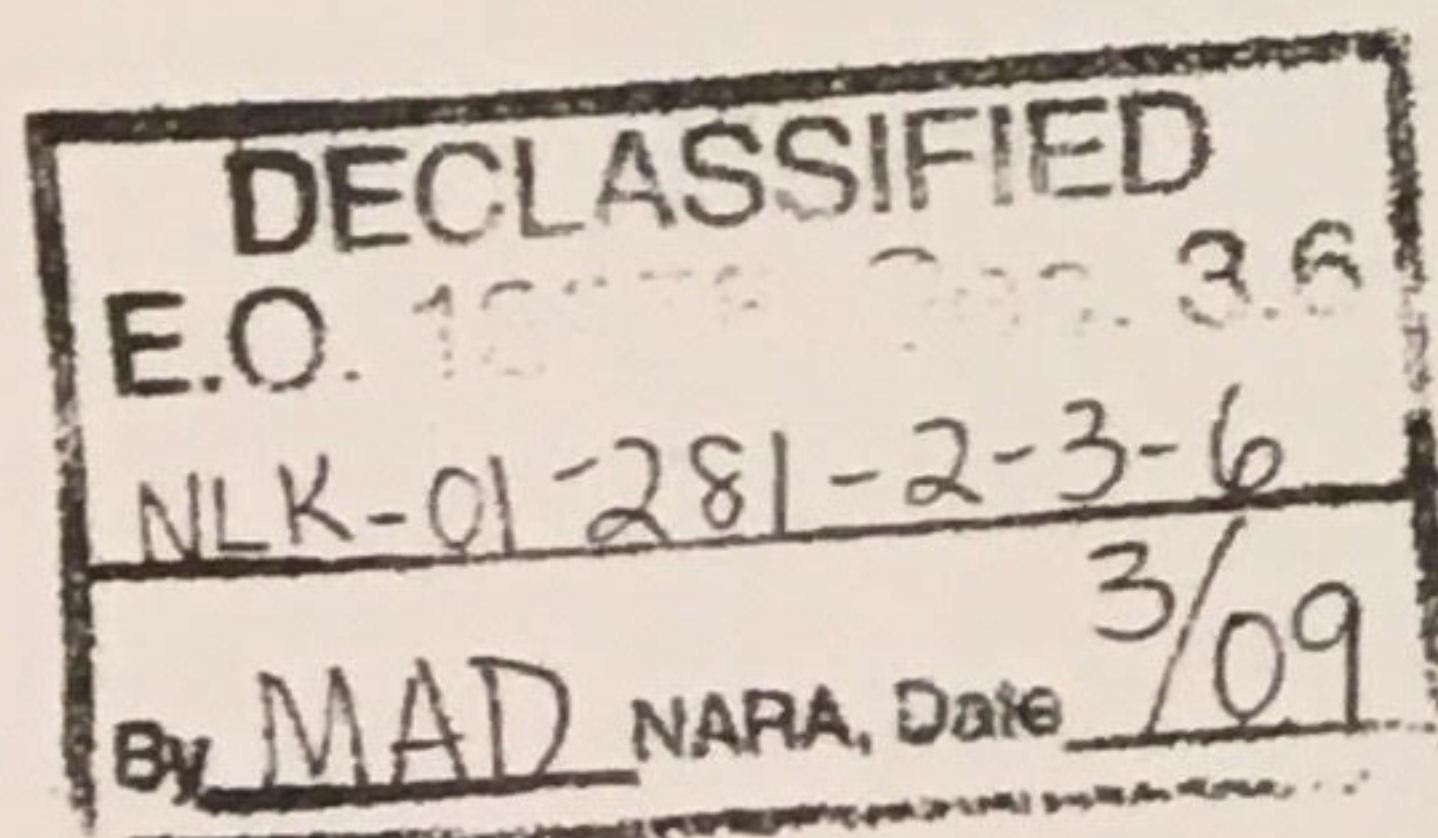
Subj: JCS Emergency Alerting Procedures

The President discussed JCS Emergency Alerting Procedures with General Lemnitzer and General Wheeler on January 16, 1962. It was apparent from this meeting that the President expects to be able to initiate, as well as to participate in, an emergency conference with the Secretary of Defense and the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

As you know, the Joint War Room has the capability of convening such a conference now. In order to provide personnel in the White House and the Joint War Room with practice in responding to a request from the President, I have asked Captain Shepard, Naval Aide to the President, to convene a conference check of the Secretary of Defense and the Joint Chiefs of Staff at random intervals from the President's office. This drill may cause some inconvenience. However, in view of the importance which the President attaches to this capability, occasional practice has become a necessity.

McGeorge BUNDY

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