

INCOMING TELEGRAM

Department of State

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TOP SECRET

Action

Control: 16562  
Rec'd: MARCH 26, 1957  
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FROM: NEW YORK

Info

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TO: Secretary of State

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*File: 10/VNR CAP room  
4/4/57*

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FOR WILCOX FROM LODGE

RE KOREA

IN RESPONSE YOUR TOP SECRET LETTER MARCH 20, IT IS HARD FOR ME TO BE PRECISE WHEN CIRCUMSTANCES WHICH YOU DESCRIBE ARE TO OBSCURE. YOUR LETTER REFERS TO "CERTAIN STIPULATIONS AND SAFEGUARDS" WITHOUT SAYING WHAT THEY ARE. IT SPEAKS OF "VARIOUS CONDITIONS" WITHOUT GOING INTO THEIR "NATURE OR EXTENT". THESE OBSCURITIES MAKE IT HARD TO HAVE SHARP-FOCUS OPINION.

IN GENERAL CAN BE SAID THAT FOR US TO ENLARGE ARMAMENT ON OUR SIDE OF KOREAN ARMISTICE LINE WILL BE DIFFICULT THING TO DEFEND IN UN UNLESS WE CAN PROVE COMMUNISTS HAVE MADE SAME OR COMPARABLE ENLARGEMENT ON THEIR SIDE. DIFFICULTY IS GREATLY INCREASED WHEN IT IS CASE OF ENLARGING WITH NUCLEAR WEAPONS. UN IS NOW HIGHLY TOUCHY REGARDING ALL PHASES OF PROBLEM OF ATOMIC WARFARE.

WHILE WE CANNOT TAKE POLL ON SUCH ISSUE, OUR BELIEF IS THAT OUR INTRODUCING SUCH NUCLEAR WEAPONS WHILE COMMUNISTS DID NOT WOULD BE TAKEN BY MANY DELS, ESPECIALLY THOSE NEUTRALIST-INCLINED, AS UNWARRANTED AND PROVOCATIVE VIOLATION ARMISTICE AGREEMENT. CERTAINLY COMMUNISTS WOULD EXPLOIT AS SUCH.

THESE GENERALITIES ARE ABOUT ALL I CAN SUBMIT NOW WITHOUT KNOWING IN GREATER DETAIL EXACTLY WHAT FACTS OF SITUATION ARE.

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