

Satellite

May 27, 1955

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: Discussion at the 250th Meeting of the
National Security Council, Thursday,
May 26, 1955

Present at the 250th Council meeting were the President of the United States, presiding; the Vice President of the United States; the Secretary of State; the Secretary of Defense; the Director, Foreign Operations Administration; and the Director, Office of Defense Mobilization. Also present were the Secretary of the Treasury; the Director, Bureau of the Budget; the Chairman, Atomic Energy Commission; the Acting Director, U. S. Information Agency (for Item 4); the U. S. Representative to the United Nations (for Item 4); the Deputy U. S. Representative to the United Nations (for Item 4); Assistant Secretary of Defense Quarles (for Item 1); the Under Secretary of State; the Deputy Secretary of Defense (for Item 4); the Secretary of the Army, the Secretary of the Navy, and Mr. Douglas for the Secretary of the Air Force (for Item 4); the Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff; the Chief of Staff, U. S. Army (for Item 4); Admiral Duncan for the Chief of Naval Operations (for Item 4); the Commandant, U. S. Marine Corps (for Item 4); the Director of Central Intelligence; the Assistant to the President (for Item 4); Special Assistants to the President Anderson and Rockefeller; the Deputy Assistant to the President (for Item 4); the White House Staff Secretary; T. B. Koons, NSC Special Staff; the NSC Planning Board (for Item 4); Governor Stassen's Staff (for Item 4); 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. NSC 5520
(NSC 5520; Memo for NSC from Executive Secretary on the subject, dated May 25, 1955)

Mr. Dillon Anderson briefed the Council on the contents of NSC 5520 (copy of briefing notes filed in the Minutes of the meeting).

At the conclusion of Mr. Anderson's briefing, the President inquired whether any members of the Council wished to hear in greater detail on this project from Dr. Quarles, Assistant Secretary of Defense for Research and Development. At the invitation of the President, Dr. Quarles proceeded to describe the earth satellite in greater detail.

DECLASSIFIED	
E.O. 12958, SEC. 3.6(b)	
MIR 90-46#7	
BY <i>JK</i>	DATE 11/31/96

Eisenhower: Papers, 1953-61
(Ann Whitman file)

The President pointed out that while this earth satellite was rather a minor affair, if we subsequently put up a reconnaissance satellite, then we would be getting into "the big stuff".

The Vice President inquired whether it would be possible eventually to develop an earth satellite which could stay up indefinitely. Dr. Quarles replied that it might be possible to do this at a later time.

Ambassador Lodge warned that the public relations aspects of establishing an earth satellite as proposed in NSC 5520 should be very carefully worked out. Otherwise the public relations effects could be harmful to the United States. Dr. Quarles replied that he thought that the auspices which it was proposed that the U. S. use in launching the earth satellite (the International Geophysical Year) would be effective in meeting the problem cited by Ambassador Lodge.

Secretary Humphrey inquired whether it would take expensive and complicated instruments to observe the movements of the earth satellite. Dr. Quarles replied that at certain times in its revolutions about the earth the satellite could be seen with ordinary field glasses. More powerful instruments would be required at other times.

After further discussion, the President inquired whether any members of the Council perceived any objection to an attempt by the U. S. to launch such a satellite. There were no objections from members of the Council. Mr. Allen Dulles observed that it was very important to make this attempt, and Mr. Rockefeller suggested that the announcement of such an attempt might well be made in the United Nations.

The National Security Council:

- a. Noted and discussed the draft statement of policy contained in the reference report (NSC 5520) in the light of the views of the Joint Chiefs of Staff transmitted by the reference memorandum.
- b. Adopted the statement of policy in NSC 5520.

NOTE: NSC 5520, as adopted, approved by the President (on May 27, 1955) and referred for implementation to the Secretary of Defense in consultation with the Secretary of State and the Director of Central Intelligence.

THE PRESIDENT'S APPOINTMENTS
THURSDAY, JUNE 10, 1954

AKW Daring
June 54



- 8:45 am (Hon. Gabriel Hauge)
- 9:00 am The President received the AMVETS Memorial Scholarship award winners. (Six annual winners, one from each of the Federal postal districts. Each, under terms of award, must be child of World War II or Korean veteran killed in action or who died as result of service. Each given \$2,000 to cover four years of tuition in any college of his choice.) The following were present:
AMVET Scholarship Winners:
Willard Childres, II, Junction City, Kansas
Hugh K. Berkeley, Portsmouth, Virginia
Judith M. Maxwell, Mansfield, Ohio
Victoria Hayward, Islip, New York
John D. Eberhardt, San Diego, California
Mary Fordyce, Little Rock, Arkansas
Also present:
Edgar C. Corry, Jr., President, AMVETS Service Foundation
Harry J. Mahady, National Commander, AMVETS
Harold A. Keats, Past National Commander, AMVETS
Melvin Ryder, Washington, D. C.
- 10:00 am (Mr. Hagerty)
- 10:30 am Press Conference
- 11:15 am Captain Howard T. Orville, Chairman, Advisory Committee on Weather Control
Hon. Lewis W. Douglas, Member
Dr. Allan Waterman
Hon. Donald A. Quarles, Assistant Secretary of Defense
(Appointment requested by Lewis Douglas, who telephoned Mr. Stephens from New York last week)
- 11:45 am (Mr. Bob Considine) OFF THE RECORD
(Hon. James Hagerty)
- 12:00 Hon. George M. Humphrey, Secretary of the Treasury
Hon. W. Randolph Burgess, Deputy to the Secretary of the Treasury
Major General Glen E. Edgerton, Managing Director & President,
Export-Import Bank of Washington
Hon. Robert Murphy, Acting Under Secretary of State
Hon. Thruston B. Morton, Assistant Secretary of State
Sen. Homer E. Capehart, Indiana
Sen. Burnet R. Maybank, South Carolina
Cong. Jesse P. Wolcott, Michigan
Cong. Brent Spence, Kentucky
(Hon. Gabriel Hauge)
(Hon. Earle Chesney)
(Arranged by Dr. Hauge. Discussed organization of the Export-Import Bank)