

INCOMING TELEGRAM

Department of State

TELEGRAPH BRANCH
~~TOP SECRET~~

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FROM: London
TO: Secretary of State
NO: ACTEL 15, May 19, 9 p.m.
NIACT.

FOR WEBB FROM ACHESON.

As you will have seen from our daily reports the significance of the recent meetings was not that they recorded a finished achievement but rather that they were a second step along a most difficult and hard road. After a year of planning and organizing the NAT countries recorded a willingness to take coats off and go to work on creating speedily balanced collective forces and the economic base to support them. Whether these recent meetings amount to anything will depend on whether the countries translate resolutions into action. Most importantly it will depend on whether we do, in particular or whether out of NSC 68 and Gordon Gray's work come drastic and vigorous action. It is from this point of view that I have thought about the dramatic report to the Congress suggested your TELAC 18.

If President and his advisors thinking of report to both houses as step in direction NSC 68 and as beginning an administration-wide program which will put life and vigor into the decisions of the recent meetings I would consider such a report very useful. If, however, purpose merely to report on events of meeting I am inclined against it for fear of over-playing results.

I am of course entirely in President's hands and will do anything he wishes.

In event decision in favor of report, suggest no commitment be made on off-record portion until I see how draft of formal report shapes up.

ACHESON

MG:IQB

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G.O. 12065 SEC. III
STATE GUIDELINE 672-79
By ACT/AL NARS, Date 11-21-79 ~~TOP SECRET~~