MINUTES OF THE 74th MEETING
of the
NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL
held in the Conference Room of The White House,
on Monday, December 11, 1950, at 3:30 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT
The President of the United States, President
The Vice President of the United States
Dean Acheson, Secretary of State
George C. Marshall, Secretary of Defense
W. Stuart Symington, Chairman, National Security Resources Board

OTHERS PRESENT
John W. Snyder, Secretary of the Treasury
W. Averell Harriman, Special Assistant to the President
Charles Murphy, Special Counsel to the President
General Omar N. Bradley, Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff
Lt. Gen. Walter B. Smith, Director of Central Intelligence
Dean Rusk, Assistant Secretary of State for Far Eastern Affairs
(for Item 1 only)
Asst. Adm. Arthur G. Davis, Director, Joint Staff, Joint Chiefs of Staff
(for Item 1 only)

SECRETARIAT
James S. Lay, Jr., Executive Secretary

DECISIONS
1. U.S. POSITION REGARDING A CEASE-FIRE IN KOREA

a. Agreed to recommend to the President the following statement of policy on the subject:

"We will consider a cease-fire, but must insist upon a cease-fire which does not place UN forces at a military disadvantage and which does not involve political concessions. Details of a cease-fire should be negotiated in order to protect the security of UN forces before a cease-fire is accepted. The Joint Chiefs of Staff will prepare as a matter of urgency the military conditions on which a cease-fire would be acceptable."

b. Noted the President's approval of the above statement of policy.

NOTE: The above statement of policy subsequently transmitted to the Secretary of State for implementation in any negotiations, and to the Secretary of Defense for implementation by the Joint Chiefs of Staff of the last sentence thereof.

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2. RESULTS OF THE RECENT TALKS WITH PRIME MINISTER ATTILA

a. Discussed the results of the recent talks with Prime Minister Attlee.

b. In order that coordinated action may be taken as soon as possible by the Executive Branch of the Government to implement the agreements reached in the talks with Prime Minister Attlee, directed the NSC Staff to review these agreements and submit to the Council for consideration the courses of action which should now be taken, including not only direct implementing action but the revision of existing NSC reports or the preparation of new reports, in the light of the agreements reached and differences revealed at the talks.

3. PROCLAMATION OF A NATIONAL EMERGENCY

a. Discussed the situation the U. S. now faces and certain steps which now appear to be necessary, including the possible declaration of a national emergency and probable Soviet reaction thereto.

b. Agreed to advise the President that the declaration of a national emergency appears necessary in order to enable the U. S. to take the steps required in the interests of national security.

NOTE: The action in b above subsequently submitted to the President for consideration.