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, Present
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)
Rear Adm. Arthur C. Lewis, Director, Joint Staff, Joint Chiefs of Staff
(for Item 1 only)

SECRETARIAT

James S. Lay, Jr., Executive Secretary

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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.
2. RESULTS OF THE RECENT TALKS WITH PRIME MINISTER ATTLES

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 con-
   sideration the courses of action which should now be taken, includ-
   ing 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 emer-
   gency 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.