POINTS REQUIRING PRESIDENTIAL DECISION

1. Should General MacArthur be authorized to supply South Korea with arms and other equipment over and above the supplies of ammunition presently authorized under the NMAP Program?

Discussion: Present authorization under the NMAP Program permits General MacArthur to supply South Korea with additional ammunition which he has available. He is now arranging to deliver such supplies. He is not currently authorized to furnish arms and other equipment such as anti-tank guns, artillery, etc.

Recommendation: That General MacArthur be authorized to supply South Korea with such arms and other equipment as is available to him and which in his judgment is important to support the Southern Korean defense effort.

2. What orders should be given to General MacArthur regarding the extent to which he should use available forces to provide protection for the evacuation of Americans from South Korea and for the delivery of arms, etc., to South Korea?

Discussion: Under the standing approved evacuation plans, Ambassador MacCord is authorized to call upon General MacArthur to provide air, sea or other transportation facilities for the
the evacuation of Americans from South Korea. General MacArthur is authorized in providing such transportation to furnish at the same time any necessary air or sea cover to protect the operation.

Further orders are desired to guide General MacArthur in the exercise of his discretion.

While certain air cover based on Japan could be utilized, it may be desirable or necessary to base fighter aircraft on Kimpo Airport at Seoul in order to make the necessary protection fully available.

An important element in the situation is the presence of the North Korean tank forces, estimated at some 70 tanks, at a point reported to be only 15 or 20 miles north of Seoul. If the North Korean forces capture Kimpo Airport, evacuation might be made impossible. Use of our air cover might therefore extend to bombing or strafing operations against North Korean tank or other ground forces or operations against North Korean air forces. It is considered desirable that Kimpo Airfield be held for the present, not only to aid in evacuation plans but also for its effect on the morale of the army, government and people of South Korea. Retention of
of the airport is also important to facilitate the delivery
of ammunition or other arms. While American dependents are
already being evacuated, other American personnel need not
be immediately brought out. So long as any remain in Korea,
the suggested operation would have justification in this
fact.

Recommendation: That General MacArthur be ordered in his
discretion so to use air cover for evacuation operations as
to prevent their interruption by North Korean forces;

That General MacArthur be further ordered
in his discretion to use the Naval forces at his disposal to
hold such Korean ports as he believes may be useful in com-
pleting evacuation plans.

3. If requested by the Security Council to assist in executing
a resolution for the termination of the invasion of South
Korea, what assistance would the United States be prepared
to render?

Discussion: The Security Council has adopted a resolution
calling on the North Korean forces to cease fire and withdraw
beyond the 38th parallel. The resolution called upon all
member states to assist in the execution of the resolution.
In the absence of the Soviet representative, it might be possible to have the Security Council adopt a further resolution calling upon all or certain states to respond in so far as they are able to any request from the Korean Government for aid in its defensive effort.

In pursuance of such a resolution the United States would be justified in using land, sea and air power to render material assistance to the South Korean military effort.

If such action is considered desirable, steps toward its implementation would have to be taken immediately.

Recommendation: That the Joint Chiefs of Staff be requested to inform the President immediately what action of the type indicated would be within the capabilities of the United States and what their estimate of the probable local military value in Korea of such effort would be.

If the Joint Chiefs of Staff indicate that such action would be within the capabilities of the United States and would be useful, that steps be immediately taken to secure such Security Council action.

1. In the light of the Korean developments, what action should the United States take in regard to Formosa?
Discussion: The invasion of Southern Korea cannot be regarded as any isolated incident. It alters the strategic realities of the area and is a clear indication of the pattern of aggression under a general international Communist plan. Quick affirmative action by the United States in other Far Eastern trouble spots will contribute to the disposal of the Korean situation and also to forestalling a deterioration of the entire Far Eastern situation.

It is unnecessary to review the history of the Formosa problem but it seems clear that Formosa now offers an opportunity for United States action of general utility in maintaining the peace of the Pacific area.

Recommendation: That as soon as North Korean non-compliance with the Security Council resolution is known, the 7th Fleet be ordered to proceed to Formosa waters. The task assigned the Fleet will be to prevent any landing upon Formosa by Chinese Communist forces from the mainland. The Fleet will also be charged with terminating the Nationalist blockade of the China coast or other Nationalist operations against the mainland.

That the United States announce its purpose is to prevent the extension of aggression to Formosa and
to protect the interests of the Formosans without prejudice to the future disposition of the island. The United States is prepared to submit to the United Nations the decision concerning the island's future.

5. In the light of the Korean developments, what action should the United States take in regard to Southeast Asia?

Discussion: The reasons for prompt action in Southeast Asia are the same as those stated under question 4.

Recommendation: That the programs for military aid to Indo-China, Burma and Thailand be executed immediately with at least some token deliveries made at once through the use of such extraordinary clearances and procedures as can be devised.