June 28, 1950 - Monday

Subject: Instructions to General MacArthur.

It is interesting to note in the telecon 2702172 that the question was asked MacArthur at Louis Johnson's request as to his estimate of the next most likely threat from the Soviet Union.

MacArthur replied that information was completely lacking as to Soviet intent and that "in view of military action directed by you, it is believed most probable that retaliatory Soviet action may be taken against Japan or South Korea. It is speculated that North Korean seizure of Okinawa is linked with overall South East Asia Communist objectives."

Source: White House files.

The question was phrased "If, in your judgment (of) the most likely threat from Soviets, retaliation is expected, what should be done?" although, as noted above, Sec. of War was not listed as one of those present at the telecon.