

PA - Mr. Russell

July 2, 1947

PA - Joseph Jones

I spent several hours last night with Clark Clifford word-pinchng on the President's July Fourth message. I also had dinner with him and had a good talk. Incidentally, I am extremely impressed with his ability and liberalism.

We got to talking about the major lines of foreign policy, and I mentioned that in my opinion there was a great deal of confusion as to the relationship between the Truman Doctrine and the Marshall Plan, and that it ought to be cleared up. Clifford agreed very emphatically and said that they had been discussing it at the White House. He felt strongly that the President should issue some clarification in an early speech or statement. He suggested that I get to work on such a statement.

This of course was what I had been planning to do for the State Department and I so told Clifford. He felt strongly however that the President should make the statement. He agreed that it would be an excellent idea for the Department to publish the President's clarification statement together with all the supporting speeches and documents so as to make a useful promotion pamphlet.

I detect on Clifford's part a desire to have the President take more of a lead in foreign affairs and to be the chief spokesman in this field. Perhaps it hasn't gone as far as jealousy of the Secretary at the White House, but certainly there are tendencies in that direction. On the other hand, I would be extremely surprised if there were not like tendencies in the Department. For that reason I think that although Clifford is an excellent contact for us and presents to us a number of opportunities, we shall have to be extremely careful in our direct dealings with the White House.

As for the job Clifford has asked me to do, I shall of course do it. But then I think we must figure out some appropriate way for getting it to the White House officially without too much heart-burning.

I would like to talk this over with you when you have time.

PA JMW eh