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U. S. Naval Station,
Key West, Florida,
March 9, 1951.

MEMORANDUM FOR:

Col. Beichline



Here is the letter to General Eisenhower about which I just spoke to you over the phone. It will be greatly appreciated if you will see that it is forwarded to General Eisenhower. Regards.

WILLIAM D. HASSETT,
Secretary to the President.

U. S. Naval Station,
Key West, Florida,
March 9, 1951.



Dear General Eisenhower:

I have read and reread your thoughtful letter of February 24th, which I brought with me to Key West. Needless to say, I found this first report very interesting and appreciate more than I can tell you the sense of responsibility which is yours as you enter into the work of the herculean mission which I gave you.

I can readily understand the desirability of making Averell Harriman your special Washington contact as you go forward with the work. Of course, at one time or another, since your mission is not wholly military, it will relate in turn besides to the Defense Establishment, the Department of State, the E.C.A., and Charley Wilson. Nor is that all. Some of your problems began with the Creation; others extend themselves into imponderables—those incalculable forces that project themselves into world affairs today, like pride of race and of blood, and always national jealousies.

I want you to know that I am fully mindful of the tremendous problems that are yours. It is because of my full appreciation of their gravity that I selected you to do the job.

It will be quite appropriate for you to make reports to Averell as you indicate. Averell reached Key West last evening, and we shall go over your first report together. Happily Averell, like yourself, has my complete confidence, and it will be reassuring to me to know that you are working in such close cooperation. I know, also, you will exercise sound judgment in routing all your reports.

I read Winston Churchill's critical remarks in the House of Commons, to which you refer. In politics, the world over, even as in our own Congress, the opposition will not omit turning even the greatest of issues to partisan advantage.

I am glad Mrs. Eisenhower is with you. I send her with my best wishes a special commission to insist that you take proper rest and to guard your health always.

Cordially and sincerely,



General of the Army Dwight D. Eisenhower,
Supreme Commander,
Allied Powers in Europe.