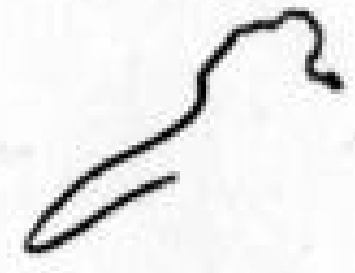


147 (PSF-GEN) 190
Top Secret

July 19, 1951



Dear General:

I read the communication from General Eisenhower with a lot of interest. His suggestions seem to me to be all right.

I am wondering whether September is too far in the future for the proposed meeting. I had told Harriman to suggest to him a date between the tenth and the fifteenth of August, but that doesn't seem to fit in with the General's plans -- he suggests a date in September.

I wish you would think about the situation and when we get a chance to talk about it we will make a decision on it.

Sincerely yours,

HARRY S. TRUMAN

General George C. Marshall —
Secretary of Defense
The Pentagon
Washington 25, D. C.



(President kept communication)

President handed this letter to Gen. Marshall when the Gen. was in the Pres. office today.

~~TOP SECRET~~

NLT (PSR-GEN) 191
COPY 1 OF 2

THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
WASHINGTON

18 July 1951

Dear Mr. President:

Forwarded herewith is a personal
message to you from General Eisenhower,
just received.

With great respect,

Faithfully yours,



Enclosure

The President

The White House



DECLASSIFIED
E.O. 12065, Sec. 3-402
DOD Directive 5100.30, ~~3-2-74~~ 1070
By NLT-~~HK~~ NARS, Date ~~1-14-83~~

751137

~~TOP SECRET~~

CLASSIFIED
INCOMING
MESSAGE

~~TOP SECRET~~

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
STAFF COMMUNICATIONS OFFICE

NLT (PSP-GEN) 192

~~TOP SECRET~~

PERSONAL FOR

SPECIAL HANDLING REQUIRED, NOT RELEASABLE TO FOREIGN NATIONALS

TOP SECRET
PRIORITY

PARAPHRASE NOT REQUIRED

FROM: SACEUR PARIS FRANCE SGD GENERAL DWIGHT D EISENHOWER

TO : DEPT OF DEFENSE WASH DC

NR : ALO 206

171445Z JUL 51

NOFORN 113

EYES ONLY TO SECRETARY OF DEFENSE MARSHALL. (SECDEF. HAS SEEN)

In response to messages from the President of the United States I request that after reading the message below you have it delivered on a TOP SECRET basis to President Truman:

Dear Mister President:

I received your message from Averell Harriman and of course am ready to comply with any plan that you may decide to approve. My sincere thanks for your kind inquiry concerning my health sent through Ambassador Bruce. I am fully recovered from a slight illness.

In my opinion any attempt to conduct a meeting on clandestine basis would inevitably become known and the results would be obviously undesirable and even unpleasant. Among the several objections to my coming directly to Washington to report officially as an American officer to the President of the United States, only the one of timing seems to me to have any real importance. I believe it to be distinctly undesirable for me to come to the United States before enactment by the Congress of the military aid bill. To do so would almost certainly involve me in hearings of indefinite length before Congressional committees. In this event I would probably be drawn into numerous argumentative subjects largely unrelated to my own responsibilities and concerning which I have little first hand knowledge. Complicating the matter is the fact that each House of Congress has sent over here large committees primarily because of my current inability to spare the time for prolonged appearances in

18 JUL 1951

DA IN 15745

(17 Jul 51) E.O. 12065, Sec. 3-402

DOD Directive 5100.30, June 10, 1951

By NLT: *[Signature]* NARS, Date *[Signature]*

U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE : 1950-O-898688

OCS FORM 331 AUG 50 REPLACES DA SCO FORM 22-1, 15 JAN 49, WHICH MAY BE USED

~~TOP SECRET~~



NR: ALO 206

PAGE 2

Washington. At least some of the members of these committees have stated that they made the trip at considerable inconvenience to themselves so as to obtain my personal testimony, in spite of my inability to appear in Washington at this time. If I should, at an early date, suddenly arrive in the capital city there would certainly be created some justifiable resentment among these particular people which might even cause some damage to the military aid bill.

If it is reasonable to assume that the Congress will complete the military aid bill within six or seven weeks, would it be satisfactory to you to plan on a meeting in Washington about the middle of September? My own feeling would be that immediately after the completion of the legislative action on that bill I could without creating complications be summoned as an American officer to report to you and to the Secretary of Defense on any type of development here that you might wish to give as a reason for the meeting.

I realize from Mister Harriman's message that this suggestion might not suit your calendar and I therefore add as an alternative the thought that you might consider going on some appropriately planned maneuver with the Atlantic Fleet during the course of which you could anchor at some port to which I could easily be summoned. Examples would be Newfoundland, Iceland and the Azores, depending entirely upon your time and inclinations. I think that an important consideration, if this alternative has any merit at all, would be to select the point sufficiently far from Washington so as to make plausible my immediate return to Europe without venturing into the capital city.

I repeat that if none of these ideas would appear to you to form the basis of a reasonable plan I will be quite ready to adjust my engagements and activities so as to come to Washington at any time you may designate. I believe however that I have not exaggerated the possibilities of embarrassment if I should come during the period of Congressional consideration of the military aid bill.

With my deep respects and best wishes. General Dwight D Eisenhower.

ACTION: SECY MARSHALL

DA IN 15745

(17 Jul 51)

jww/8

