

~~TOP SECRET~~

NLT (CF) 96

THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
WASHINGTON

C.F.

North Atlantic Treaty Organization

1/8/51
Full Confidential
175-51
E.B.

JAN 3 1951

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

At their Brussels meeting, the North Atlantic Defense Ministers agreed to the immediate establishment in London of a North Atlantic Defense Production Board with the objective of achieving the maximum production of military equipment to meet the requirements of NATO. As you know, at that meeting Mr. Pace announced the designation of Mr. William L. Batt as the United States member of this Board.

The key position in this organization will be that of Director of NATO Defense Production who, by agreement, would be an American. As over-all coordinator of production of the NATO member nations, the individual selected for this position will bear an important responsibility second only to that of the Supreme Commander. As its first order of business the Board will meet shortly to appoint the Director. It is considered that an individual of prominence and demonstrated leadership in United States industry, as well as of considerable international distinction should be nominated by this government.



Consultations between Mr. Charles Wilson, Mr. Averill Harriman, Mr. William Foster, General Lucius Clay, Mr. Sidney Weinberg, Mr. J. D. Small, Mr. George Perkins and Mr. Karl R. Bendetsen (representing Mr. Frank Pace) have resulted in agreement among them that the persons named on the attachment are qualified. Any of these persons would be acceptable to General Eisenhower. I recommend them to you in the order named. There is general agreement that Herod is the outstanding candidate and that every effort should be made to obtain his services. No steps have been taken, however, to determine the availability of any of those listed pending an indication from you of their acceptability or of your further desires respecting potential nominees.

Upon receipt of an expression of your desires in this matter, I would propose, with your approval, to undertake, in collaboration with Mr. Charles Wilson, to determine the availability of, and transmit to the Defense Committee the name and qualifications of the individual so nominated.

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E.O. 12065, Sec. 3-402
State Dept. Guidelines, March 6, 1982
By AK NLT, Date 6-20-84

x Defense Dept.
x Defense Mobilization
1 Incl
Attachment as described.

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POTENTIAL NAMES FOR THE DIRECTOR OF
NATO DEFENSE PRODUCTION.

1. William Rogers Herod President,
570 Lexington Avenue International General Electric
New York City, N. Y. Company

2. Lewis H. Brown Chairman of the Board
22 East 40th Street Johns Manville Company
New York City, N. Y.

3. Harold Boeschstein President,
c/o Owens-Corning Fiberglas Corp. Owens-Corning Fiberglas Corp.
Toledo, Ohio



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THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

January 4, 1951

Memorandum for: Secretary of Defense

From: The President

I'll write you a note in just a day or two
as to which of the recommendations for Director of the
NATO Defense Production we should recommend.

HSA



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Copy 1 of 2

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January 8, 1951

MEMORANDUM FOR: Honorable George C. Marshall
The Secretary of Defense

This is to confirm my conversation with Colonel Carter to the effect that there will be no objection to your recommending any of the three gentlemen listed in your memorandum of January third addressed to the President.

By direction of the President:

DONALD S. DAWSON
Administrative Assistant
to the President



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By NLT NLT, Date 6-21-84

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