

Office of the Secretary of Defense
Chief, RDD, ESD, WHS

54508532

Date: 067142912 Authority: EO 13526

Copy 1 of 3

Declassify: X Deny in Full: _____

Declassify in Part: _____

Reason: _____ MDR: 12-M-0467

~~TOP SECRET~~

Secretary of Defense Staff
(Armed Forces Policy Council) Meeting
14 February 1972

Attendees.

Mr. Laird
Mr. Froehlke
Mr. BeLieu
General Westmoreland
Governor Chafee
Mr. Warner
Admiral Zumwalt
Dr. Seamans
Dr. McLucas
General Ryan
Admiral Moorer
General Cushman
Lt General Vogt
Mr. Sullivan (for Dr. Foster)
Dr. Hall
Mr. Henkin
Mr. Kelley
Mr. Moot

Mr. Selden (for Dr. Nutter)
Dr. Rehtin
Mr. Shillito
Dr. Tucker
Dr. Wilbur
Mr. Buzhardt
Mr. Wallace
Mr. Baroody
Mr. Johnson
Dr. Walske
Mr. Friedheim
Mr. Peter Cook
M/General Pursley
R/Admiral Murphy
Colonel Furlong
Colonel Boatner
Mr. Livesay

DECLASSIFIED IN FULL
Authority: EO 13526
Chief, Records & Declass Div, WHS
Date: FEB 06 2012

1. Attendance.

Mr. Laird began meeting 0933. He welcomed General Westmoreland and Mr. Selden back from their world trips. He said Dr. Foster is making a speech in California today, and Dr. Nutter is also speaking in California, possibly to Dr. Foster. Mr. Froehlke said Mr. Laird might be interested to know he is also speaking in California tonight.

DOC/PROISE (3)
12-X-0001
15

~~TOP SECRET~~

Downgraded to Secret
Date: 04/10/2011
Chief, Declassification Division, WHS

OSR DOC 17-4
EXCLUDED FROM AUTOMATIC
DECLASSIFICATION
DOES NOT APPLY

fcl staff mtg Jan-Mar 72, 0X 15 Acc 77-0062 12-M-0467

~~TOP SECRET~~

DECLASSIFIED IN FULL
Authority: EO 13526
Chief, Records & Declass Div, WHS
Date: FEB 06 2012

"... Nor should there be any doubt about our determination to take whatever steps are necessary to protect our diminishing forces as we continue to withdraw from Vietnam. If the enemy's response to President Nixon's comprehensive offers of peace should be a continued buildup which threatens the safety of our men - or further offensive actions - we are prepared to respond with American airpower as appropriate."

Mr. Henkin also noted that last year the Vietnam section was on page 28 of the unclassified version of the report. This year it is on page 118.

6. FY 1972 Expenditures.

Mr. Laird asked Mr. Moot to report on current expenditure rates. Mr. Moot said about the main thing to say for January 1972 is that we did not lose any more ground. We are still running \$2.7 billion behind last year, which is also the amount of the lag in procurement accounts. Each Department has furnished him a month by month phasing of expenditures from 31 January to 30 June 1972. Mr. Moot presented the substance of the attached 2 charts. Mr. Laird said there has been some improvement, but a good ways to go. Mr. Moot said from now on the charts will compare the monthly status with the specific Departmental plans.

7. DPRC Meeting.

Mr. Laird noted Admiral Moorer, Dr. Tucker and Mr. Moot had attended the last week's meeting of the DPRC. Admiral Moorer said there was full attendance. The general thrust of the meeting was that for the present we would project FY 1973 budget levels into FY 1974. Mr. Shultz brought up the deficit problem. Of course, projecting FY 1973 and FY 1974 would be affected by Congressional actions. Mr. Moot said that our update of the Five Year Defense Program indicates that the outlays for FY 1974 under present programs would total about \$84 billion. Mr. Shultz' reaction was how could it be that high. He thought the FY 1973 total plus pay increases should be in the neighborhood of \$82 billion. Mr. Shultz felt we had something in the \$84 billion figure

~~TOP SECRET~~

~~TOP SECRET~~

DECLASSIFIED IN FULL
Authority: EO 13526
Chief, Records & Declass Div, WHS
Date:

FEB 06 2012

that shouldn't be there. Mr. Moot said he pointed out the liquidation of \$8 billion additional budget authority in the FY 1972/FY 1973 budgets plus the next increment of programs such as F-15, ULMs, etc, plus pay raises would present no troubles in expenditures rising to \$84 billion. Nevertheless, the group decided to allow us to proceed on our current force structure. Mr. Laird said this is the posture we want to be in. Dr. Tucker indicated Dr. Kissinger is willing to proceed on the basis of present policy and planning guidance until June, and then discuss the policy issues. Mr. Laird said we need to get the DPRC talking about over-all budget and economic posture of the country. Unless the DPRC goes the route of over-all national planning, it will fall. Dr. Tucker said there was a paper prepared with OMB, Treasury and CEA in-put which raised these issues, but Dr. Kissinger chose not to address this agenda item because of the lack of time. Mr. Laird said Dr. Kissinger was over for breakfast this morning and Mr. Laird expressed his disappointment to Dr. Kissinger over the outcome of the DPRC discussions as reported to him. Mr. Laird feels we are headed toward arbitrary budget decisions in November rather than having the President presented over-all options in all areas of federal budgeting. Mr. Moot said there were facts in the paper which proved over the next 5 years the Department of Defense is contributing to a surplus rather than a deficit. Mr. Laird said we have to get this message across. The other agencies of the government are going the other way. We do not want the DPRC to provide fiscal guidance to the Department of Defense at this stage of the game. We want such guidance and decisions to be made from the President. Admiral Moorer noted the DPRC was getting into weapons acquisition in too much detail.

Mr. Froehke noted that Mr. Henkin did not comment on the Public Affairs aspects of the President's trip to China. Mr. Henkin said the idea is to keep silent. This is under the white part of the chart Mr. Baroody showed - negotiations.

8. Southeast Asia.

Admiral Moorer reported in northern Laos the enemy forces were harrassing Luang Prabang. There are reports a high point will be generated tonight in northern Laos. The regular Laotian troops have recaptured Moung Kassy at the junction of Route 7 and 13. The situation around Long Tieng is relatively quiet. General Vang Pao has initiated an offensive on the east side of the Plain of Jars using about 5,000 men.

~~TOP SECRET~~
10