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1. It is requested that all Holders of J.C.S. 1927/1 take extraordinary security precautions in its handling, limiting access to those who must know the contents in order to execute their official duties, and that whenever possible sections or extracts be used rather than complete copies.
2. It is requested further that this sheet be kept as the cover sheet of J.C.S. 1927/1.

W. G. LALOR,

J. H. IVE3,

Joint Secretaries.

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Note to Holders JCS 1927/1

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2 September 1948

PAGES 25-26, INCL.

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MEMORANDUM BY THE CHIEF OF STAFF, U.S. ARMY

to the  
JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF

on

THE EMPLOYMENT OF COVER AND DECEPTION IN SUPPORT  
OF U.S. MILITARY POSITION AND POLICY

Reference: a. J.C.S. 570/3b

b. J.C.S. 570/1CC

c. J.C.S. 1844/4

1. I have studied J.C.S. 1927 and do not concur in the assignment of responsibilities for implementation contained in Annex "A" to Appendix "B" (see 1c). I believe it to be unsound to eliminate the Chief of Staff, U.S. Army and the Chief of Naval Operations from the chain of command coordination in dealing with the European Command and the U.S. Naval Forces Eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean respectively. I believe that more efficient coordination will be achieved if the Director of the Joint Staff will utilize the appointed executive agents in coordinating with these commands in order to insure that instructions emanating from the Departments of the Army and Navy are not in conflict with those issued by the Joint Chiefs of Staff. I recommend the following changes in paragraph 12, page 18 of Annex "A" to Appendix "B" to J.C.S. 1927:

"a. Joint Chiefs of Staff

(1) Over-all direction and control.

(2) Coordination with Commander in Chief, European

Command (through Chief of Staff, U.S. Army as executive agent of the Joint Chiefs of Staff), Commander in Chief, U.S. Naval Forces Eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean

(through the Chief of Naval Operations as executive agent of the Joint Chiefs of Staff), and agencies outside the National Military Establishment."

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THRUED

To: Secretary

2. An examination of the proposed memorandum for the

Secretary of Defense (Enclosure to J.C.S. 1927) indicates a lack of clarity in the description of plan THUMTBACK (page 5). I recommend that the description of this plan be rewritten as follows:

"A. Plan THUMTBACK - Annex "A" to Appendix "B"

To induce the USSR (by simulating the presence of an atomic striking force in the European area) to refrain from hostile acts and efforts to deteriorate our position in Europe. Through the manifestation of a U.S. military capability and state of preparedness, the U.S. will:

- (1) Establish the might of the USA in Europe.
- (2) Weaken the apparent USSR belief that the U.S. will continue to countenance hostile Soviet attacks in order to avoid war.
- (3) Deter the USSR from initiating war.
- (4) Diminish the significance of the U.K. as a base area vital to the U.S. air offensive in event of war."

3. Subject to the above considerations, I concur in the conclusions and recommendations of J.C.S. 1927.

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