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November 23, 1960

Dear General Power:

You requested yesterday at lunch that I remind you of the Secretary's suggestion of action on your part that would be helpful to him on submission of the Single Integrated Operations Plan.

As I understood the conversation, Mr. Gates asked that you recommend to the JCS that further study be made of the following in reference to future plans to be developed by the Director of Strategic Target Planning, but that these studies not delay approval of the Plan to be presented to the Secretary and the JCS on 1 December.

1. Investigation of the desirability of increased use of computer techniques in the development of the SIOP and the NSTL. On this point the Secretary was particularly anxious to explore the possibility of using mathematical techniques in addition to human judgment in the proper selection of delivery systems in general war.

2. Re-examination of the DASA data used in weapons selection. The Secretary's thought here is that weapons requirements are perhaps increased unrealistically by restricting consideration of weapons effects to blast damage. Possibly it would be more realistic to apply thermal effects and even radiation in some phases of the targeting.

3. A re-evaluation of the planning criteria. The particular point of concern here seemed to be the question of whether it was wise to target floor space of industrial capacity.

I trust that the above accurately reflects the conversation, and should you feel that it does not, I respectfully suggest that

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the matter be discussed further by you and the Secretary when we come out to Offutt on December 1.

Respectfully,

SIGNED

George S. Brown
Brigadier General, USAF
Military Assistant

General Thomas S. Power, USAF
Commander-in-Chief
Strategic Air Command
Offutt Air Force Base, Nebraska

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