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S/AF FILE COPY Carry Langer 31, 1958

Sidi Slimsne Air Incident Involving : lane Loaded with Muclear Weapon.

Mr. Robert Murphy, G

Mr. Frederick Jundrey, EUR

ir. Joseph Falmer, Mid Yr. Philip Farley, S/AE Mr. E.E.A. Timons, Ek

Er. Arthur Richards, U/UF

Mr. Barke Wilkinson, P Mr. Biohard Finn. G

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Mr. Murphy said that he desired the views of the interested offices regarding the proposal of the Air Force to issue a public amountement to the effect that a B-47, which had caught fire at Bidi Slimano in Morocco with a muclear weapon aboard, had suffered no harmful consequences by may of explosion of the weapon, radiation or other unexpected results. Hr. Falmer said that any announcement regarding carrying of nuclear apapons by planes based in North Africa would have very disadvantageous effects in that area and throughout the Areb world. He felt that it would probably be desirable to authorize Ambassador Cammon in his discretion to inform the King or a senior official regarding the incident, including the fact that a nuclear weapon was involved, but this would be for the confidential information of the semior Moroccan officials. Mr. Jundrey concurred that any statement regarding the carrying of muchoar weapons by our planes everses would have harmful affects and would provide large opportunities for Seviet propagands even though there night be a partial benefit from the point of view of our relations with the United Singdon. Ur. Bichards noted that the OCB had continuously expressed serious reservations about statements involving the carrying of nuclear weapons by our aircraft overseas. Mr. Farley thought that we should give further consideration to a general statement regarding crashes of planes loaded with nuclear devices but that attention should not be

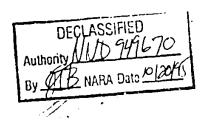
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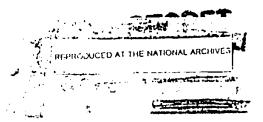
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focused on the particular incident in morocco. Er. Wikinson agreed that the less said about the heroccan incident the botter. It was noted that the air base had been temporarily evacuated during the fire and that this would probably create considerable local interest with a danger of leaks.

It was expect that the Department should advise the Pentigon that we do not agree to the release of a statement regarding the incident at Sidi Blimme and that Hr. Palmer should dreft a talegram authorizing aspassador Cennon in his discretion to advise senior to recent afficials about the incident for their confidential information.

Mr. Emphy informed Mr. Nobbins in the office of Eurray Snyder regarding the views of the State Department and later confirmed these views in a conversation with Mansfield Sprague.

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