

DECLASSIFIED

Authority MND 852 931

By AF/AFSA Date 6/30/05

~~TOP-SECRET~~ SECURITY INFORMATION

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

THE UNDER SECRETARY

March 12, 1953

(21)

*[Handwritten initials]*

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. GORDON ARNESON

STATE DEPT. DECLASSIFICATION REVIEW

Retain class'n      Change/classify to \_\_\_\_\_

Declassify          with concurrence of \_\_\_\_\_

after \_\_\_\_\_

EO 12958, 25X      Date: \_\_\_\_\_

IPS/GR/IR by [Signature]

6-29-99

At his meeting with the President on March 9, 1953, Mr. Eden raised the question of a personal assurance for consultation by the President with the Prime Minister prior to employment of any atomic weapon as mentioned in your conversation with me prior to the meeting. The President, while expressing his sympathy with the British viewpoint and his understanding of the exposed position of Britain in the event of general war, declined to give such a commitment. He said that the United States would of course, in the event of increased tension or the threat of war, take every possible step to consult with Britain and our other allies. His remarks followed closely the memorandum give him by the Secretary on this subject.

*[Handwritten Signature]*  
 Walter B. Smith

711.5611  
 3-12-53

SPECIAL ASSISTANT TO THE SECRETARY  
S/AE

MAR 18 1953

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*[Handwritten mark]*

U:WBS:HED.

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E.O. 12958, Sec. 3.6

By STP Date 11/31/00

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