

NYC 54 13 JUL 1960
TO HAZELHOFF PENN MILLER
FM BROWN DUNNING STRAUSS COPY ALEXANDER YARROW

434P

FOLLOWING ARE TENTATIVE IDEAS FOR AUGUST MONTHLY DIRECTIVE. LEADING SUBJECT WOULD BE SURVEY OF INTERNATIONAL SITUATION IN LIGHT OF LATEST DEVELOPMENTS. ALTHOUGH POSSIBLE MOTIVATIONS OF SERIES OF SOVIET JABS AT THE WEST ARE MANY AND NO DEFINITE CONCLUSIONS CAN BE REACHED, WE FEEL THAT IN ORDER TO AVOID CREATING THE IMPRESSION OF A DYNAMIC SUCCESSFULLY SOVIET POLICY ACHIEVING GAINS AGAINST THE WEST WHILE THE U.S. IS PARALYZED BY AN INTERREGNUM PERIOD, WE MIGHT LEGITIMATELY SEE SOVIET LEADERSHIP AS FRUSTRATED IN ITS SUMMIT STRATEGY AND ENGAGED IN SPITEFUL AD HOC MISCHIEF MAKING AND AT BEST PROBING FOR WEAKNESSES IN AN AMERICAN ELECTION YEAR. THE COUNTER OF THIS IMAGE WOULD BE THAT OF A U.S. ENGAGED IN A QUADRENNIAL REFRESHING OF PERSONNEL AND POINTS OF VIEW, WITH BOTH PARTIES COMMITTED TO SAME BASIC GOALS AND SAME MAJOR IMPLEMENTS, AND WITH NO SLACKENING OF VIGOR IN THE OLD ADMINISTRATION, AS ITS STRONG POSTURE OF PAST WEEK HAS INDICATED. PRECEDING IS NOT INTENDED AS A SPECIFIC ARGUMENT BUT AS A TENTATIVE SOLUTION TO PROBLEM OF FINDING A GENERAL APPROACH. YOUR IDEAS AND SUGGESTIONS WOULD BE HEARTILY WELCOMED.
(MORE)

WE WOULD SUPPLEMENT THE GENERAL INTERNATIONAL PICTURE WITH SHORTER SPECIFIC ITEMS ON AFRICKA AND ON CUBA. IF THE REPUBLICAN PLATFORM IS AVAILABLE IN TIME WE SHOULD LIKE TO INCLUDE APOST-CONVENTION PRE-CAMPAIGN SURVEY, POINTING OUT IF POSSIBLE AREAS OF AGREEMENT ON FOREIGN POLICY. (FEELING HERE AMONG DESK CHIEFS IS THAT LISTENERS ARE MORE CONCERNED ABOUT OUTCOME OF COLD WAR IN GENERAL AND HENCE MORE INTERESTED IN FOREIGN POLICY PLANKS THAN IN SPECIFIC REFERENCES TO CAPTIVE NATIONS.)

NO USEFUL ANNIVERSAIRES OR DATES SUGGEST THEMSELVES, BUT OPENING OF OLYMPIC GAMES CALLS FOR REPEITION OF DIRECTIVES CUSTOMARILY ISSUED ON THIS OCCASION.

AS ALREADY REMARKED, YOUR IDEAS FOR NEW THEMES AND ESPECIALLY ANY POSSIBLE INTERNAL AFFAIRS ITEMS WOULD BE ESPECIALLY WELCOME.
REGARDS.

END MSG

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