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June 25, 1958

MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD:

Secretary Dulles, Secretary Quarles, Mr. Allen Dulles and Dr. Killian met with the President to discuss a proposal for certain balloon reconnaissance operations of a very restricted nature during July. Mr. Quarles thought the chance of being detected is very small and the chance of identification or shoot down practically nil. Mr. Allen Dulles thought that they might be seen. Dr. Killian thought the chances of their being seen are very small.



In general, the idea of two or three special flights launched from the Seattle area in preference to Alaska (Labrador was also mentioned), with concurrent flights launched from further south on the West Coast, seemed to be most acceptable. There was a limited go ahead, on the understanding that the group that was meeting with the President would itself consider the operational specifics and attendant public statements, cover and diversionary operations, etc. -- with political considerations to be given top priority.

  
A. J. Goodpaster  
Brigadier General, USA

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