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June 21, 1954

Personal and Confidential

MEMORANDUM TO THE PRESIDENT:

I have been tremendously impressed with the point of view that you have expressed each time we have discussed the possibility of a moratorium on further tests of nuclear weapons. As I interpret it, you feel that we must have a program which will give our own citizens and the citizens of the free world a real basis for hope.

Irrespective of what may happen to the moratorium proposal, I have been wondering if it wouldn't be worthwhile for a small group to spend a day with you, for example at Camp David, for the purpose of making a start in the direction of developing a practical and realistic "package program" for peace. Such a discussion might not carry us any further than we are at the present time. Somehow or other, however, I have faith that it would. Obviously following such a discussion a great deal of work would have to be done in terms of filling in whatever outline might emerge. Once this has been done, however, all of us would be in a position to keep selling the "package program" every time we made a speech.

I have a growing conviction that something along this line can be done. As I indicated at NSC the other day, I am convinced that unless it is done it will become increasingly difficult for us to keep people behind programs that will make it possible for us to proceed from a position of strength. People must believe that war is not inevitable. They will only believe this if they are provided with a practical, realistic program for peace around which they can rally.



Arthur S. Flemming
Director of
Defense Mobilization

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