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By

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MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

2 January 1970

SECRETACTION

MEMORANDUM FOR DR. KISSINGER

FROM: Michael A. Guhin

THRU: Robert M. Behr

SUBJECT: Memorandum from Secretary Laird re Chemical Warfare and Biological Research Terminology and Our Request for White House Review of Statements for Senate and House Hearings

*Redo: T & P, L, L
noted in memo of Dec 9 of Dec 9. He has notes that indicate*

Secretary Laird forwarded a memorandum to you, the Secretary of State and the Director of CIA on December 9 (Tab B). The memorandum is basically a restatement of why the terminology section of NSDM 35 should be enforced. Secretary Laird notes:

1. Current documents of various agencies continue to use the terms "CBW" and "biological warfare programs" even though such terminology is seriously misleading and should be stricken from our lexicon
 - (a) because the U.S. does not have and does not plan to have a biological warfare capability, and
 - (b) because there exists no generic interrelationship between the chemical and biological fields.
2. Precise terminology, "chemical warfare and biological research", is important in this case in order to avoid confusing the American public, allies, potential adversaries, and even those responsible for our own defense programs.
3. Furthermore, in referring to other nations' programs, chemical warfare and biological activities of whatever nature should be differentiated and treated separately.

We agree with Secretary Laird's points. We also feel that, in order to avoid both these problems wherever possible and other problems

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which arose in connection with the recent House hearings on the Geneva Protocol, some form of mechanism should be established.

Consequently, attached at Tab A is a proposed memorandum from you to the addressees of NSDM 35 which (1) states that final drafts of statements and question and answer guidelines for Senate and Congressional hearings on the Geneva Protocol, or on the chemical warfare program and biological research program, should be submitted to the White House for review at least one week prior to the scheduled hearing; (2) politely reminds departments and agencies that the term "Chemical and Biological Warfare (CBW)" will no longer be used; and (3) states also that chemical warfare and biological activities of whatever nature should be differentiated and treated separately when referring to other nations' programs (Secretary Laird's last point).

Colonel R. T. Kennedy concurs in the proposed memorandum.

RECOMMENDATION:

That you sign the memorandum to the addressees of NSDM 35 at Tab A