

December 17, 1968

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT-ELECT

From: Henry A. Kissinger

Subject: Your Call on Secretary General U Thant

Like his predecessor Dag Hammarskjöld, U Thant favors a UN with an executive capacity to act -- an organization that involves itself in peacekeeping and economic development. However, he has taken considerably less initiative than Hammarskjöld. Specifically, he has tried to stay out of conflicts involving the US and the USSR and has used his position and the Secretariat to move into issues when there is at least a modicum of US-USSR agreement. The only exception is his rather persistent criticism of our Vietnam policy. While he has been critical of the Soviet Union's action in Czechoslovakia, he has been on the whole more restrained vis-a-vis the Soviet Union.

The Secretary General may touch on the following subjects:

Your views on the prospects for a Vietnam settlement and any UN role in it.

(Thant has had a long record of attempts to mediate. In April 1965, he considered a trip to Hanoi and Peking, but was sharply rebuffed by both capitals. In March 1967, he formally proposed a standstill truce, preliminary talks, and reconvening of the Geneva Conference, but the reception was no better. A trip early this year to New Delhi (where he met with the North Vietnamese Consul), Paris, London and Moscow was unproductive. Presumably, however, Thant would not rule out a UN role in guaranteeing and implementing any settlement -- provided the funds were available and the Communist Chinese could be brought along.)

Your views on the prospect for a settlement in the Middle East

(As you know, Thant's special representative, Ambassador Jarring, has been hard at work for some months trying to get the parties to the conference table. He has had little success. Thant may want to get some idea from you as to whether the new Administration will continue to support the Jarring Mission.)

Disarmament

(Thant strongly favors the Non Proliferation Treaty as a step toward general and complete disarmament and will be interested in your views on US ratification.)

UN "constitutional" crisis

(A persistent and ever more difficult problem for the UN has been the increasing use of procedural votes to deal with substantive issues. Recently, for example, the Afro-Asian states sought to oust South Africa from the UN Conference on Trade and Development -- a procedural step aimed at showing UN disapproval of apartheid in South Africa. The move was beaten by only four votes. Thant played an extremely helpful role in bringing about the defeat of the resolution. Should he raise this subject with you, you might tell him that you share his view of the dangerous precedent such moves set.)

Chinese representation

(Thant favors Peking's admission to the UN. A resolution to expel the Chinese Nationalists was defeated fairly easily in the Assembly this session, but Taipei is concerned that their credentials may be challenged in the Security Council next year. The make-up of the new Council -- which will be seated next month -- is less favorable to the Chinese Nationalists.)

At some point during the conversation you may want to indicate your strong support for the UN and your intention to work closely with the Secretary General in the years ahead.

Because of the intense press interest in your meeting with Thant, you may want to consider issuing a short statement after your call. A proposed statement is at Tab A.

PROPOSED PRESS STATEMENT

Secretary General U Thant and I had a most useful exchange of views. I conveyed to him the abiding interest of the American people in the work of the United Nations, and their strong support for the principles of the Charter.

United States policy toward the United Nations has always been bipartisan. The Organization, is, and will continue to be, an important part of our efforts to keep and build the peace.

I told the Secretary General that I intend to work closely with him in the years ahead as we search for a safer, more peaceful world.

Bio File

CONFIDENTIAL

December 18, 1968

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT-ELECT

From: Henry A. Kissinger

Subject: Your Meeting with John McCloy
Friday, December 20 at 10:00 A.M.

John McCloy is a long time member of the East Coast foreign affairs establishment. His primary interests are:

-- Our relations with Europe. He is strongly anti-de Gaulle, and believes Germany to be the key to Europe. In his view, we have pushed detente at the expense of Western Europe. He is sympathetic with your statements during the campaign that we must strengthen our Western European ties before moving toward negotiations with the Soviets.

-- Disarmament. McCloy recently resigned as chairman of the General Advisory Committee on Disarmament, and is intensely interested in the US-USSR strategic balance issue. He is a strong advocate of a thorough assessment of our strategic position prior to any arms talks with the Russians. He is generally sympathetic with your campaign statements on superiority.

-- The Middle East. His interest here relates particularly to the impact of Middle East events on Europe, e.g., the impact on NATO of an increased Soviet presence in the Middle East and the Mediterranean.

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I suggest you ask McCloy for his views on these 3 subjects. You may also want to thank him for his help on the summit problem.

A biographic sketch is at Tab 1.

CONFIDENTIAL

JOHN J. McCLOY
(Biographical Summary)

John J. McCloy, partner of the law firm of Milbank, Tweed, Hadley & McCloy, has served as The Assistant Secretary of War; President of the World Bank; U. S. Military Governor and High Commissioner for Germany; Chairman of the Board of Directors of The Chase Manhattan Bank and Chairman of the Board of Trustees of The Ford Foundation. He was for a number of years a Trustee of the Rockefeller Foundation. Early in January, 1961, Mr. McCloy was named by the late President Kennedy as his Advisor on Disarmament Matters, which post he held until October, 1961, when the permanent U. S. Arms Control and Disarmament Agency was established. He is now Chairman of the General Advisory Committee on Disarmament. Early in December, 1963, Mr. McCloy was named by President Johnson to serve on the Presidential Commission to Investigate the Assassination of President Kennedy.

Mr. McCloy became Chairman of The Chase National Bank on January 19, 1953, succeeding Winthrop W. Aldrich, who left the Bank to become Ambassador to Great Britain. During Mr. McCloy's tenure as Chairman, The Chase National and The Bank of the Manhattan Company merged in April, 1955, to form The Chase Manhattan Bank.

Mr. McCloy retired as Chairman December 31, 1960.

Born on March 31, 1895, Mr. McCloy attended The Peddie School and received his B.A. from Amherst College in 1916 and his LL.B. from Harvard Law School in 1921. He was in the U. S. Army from 1917 to 1919, serving as a captain in the field artillery with the A.E.F. in France.

Mr. McCloy was for many years a member of the firm of Cravath, DeGersdorff, Swaine & Wood, and in 1940 he retired from the firm to become a consultant to Secretary of War, Henry L. Stimson. From 1941 to 1945, he was The Assistant Secretary of War.

In 1947, after a year with the law firm of Milbank, Tweed, Hope, Hadley & McCloy, he was appointed President of the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (World Bank). From 1949 to 1952, he was successively U. S. Military Governor and U. S. High Commissioner for Germany.

Mr. McCloy is Chairman of the Executive Committee of Squibb Beech-Nut, Inc. He is an Honorary Trustee of the Lenox Hill Hospital. He is also a Director of Allied Chemical Corporation and the Telsun Foundation and is a retired Director of American Telephone and Telegraph Company; The Chase Manhattan Bank, N.A.; Metropolitan Life Insurance Company and Westinghouse Electric Corporation.

Three

His other affiliations include the following:

Chairman of the Board of Trustees of Amherst College;
Honorary Member of the Board of the Academy of Political Science,
Columbia University; Trustee Emeritus of Johns Hopkins University;
Treasurer and Trustee of the American School of Classical Studies,
Athens, Greece; Chairman of the Board of Trustees of Goethe House,
Inc. and member of the Committee of the Board of Overseers to Visit
the Center for International Affairs at Harvard University.

Chairman of the Committee for Modern Courts, Inc.;
Member of the American Bar Association; The American Society of
International Law; Association of the Bar of the City of New York;
Federal Bar Association of New York, New Jersey and Connecticut;
the New York County Lawyers' Association and the New York State
Bar Association.

Chairman of the Board of the Council on Foreign
Relations, Inc.; Chairman of the Board of International House;
Chairman of the Board of The Atlantic Institute; Trustee of the
United States Council of the International Chamber of Commerce and
Trustee of the Army Relief Society.

Mr. McCloy belongs to the Anglers', Bond, Century,
Links, Wall Street and University Clubs in New York; the Clove
Valley Rod & Gun Club of La Grangeville, New York; Metropolitan

Club in Washington, D. C.

He was awarded the Distinguished Service Medal, the Medal of Freedom and the "Grand Cross of the Order of Merit of the Federal Republic of Germany". He is a Grand Officer of the Legion of Honor of France and a Grand Officer of the Order of Merit of Italy.

Mr. McCloy is an Honorary Member of the Senat of Johann Wolfgang Goethe University in Frankfurt, Germany; and the Friedrich Wilhelm University in Bonn, Germany; Honorary Citizen of the Free University of Berlin, Germany. He has received honorary LL.D. degrees from Amherst, Boston College, Brown, Colby, Columbia, Dartmouth, Franklin and Marshall, Harvard, Haverford College, Lehigh University, New York University, Middlebury College, Princeton, Syracuse, Trinity, University of Maryland, University of Notre Dame, University of Pennsylvania, Swarthmore College, Yale, Williams College and Wilmington College. He was also awarded a D.C.L. by Washington College and an honorary degree by the Technical University of Berlin.

Mr. McCloy and his wife, the former Ellen Zinsser, live in New York City. They have a son, John Jay II, and a daughter, Ellen Zinsser McCloy.

April 1968

JOHN J. McCLOY

Academy of Political Science, Columbia University	Honorary Member
Adirondack Mountain Reserve, Ausable Club	Member
Advertising Council, Inc., Public Policy Committee	Member
Allied Chemical Corporation	Director; Member of Exec. Com.
American Bar Association	Member
American Bar Foundation	Fellow
American Judicature Society	Member
American Legion, Chase Manhattan Post No. 1674	Life Member
American School of Classical Studies, Athens, Greece	Trustee; Secty-Treas
American Society of International Law	Member
Amherst College	Chairman Board
Anglers' Club of New York	Member
Army Relief Society	Trustee
Association of the Bar of the City of New York	Member
Atlantic Council of the United States	Director
Atlantic Institute, The, Paris	Chairman Board
Bond Club of New York	Honorary Member
Brook Club	Honorary Member
Century Association, The	Member
Clove Valley Rod and Gun Club	Member
Committee for Modern Courts, Inc.	Chairman
Committee of the Board of Overseers to Visit the Center for International Affairs at Harvard University	Member
Council on Foreign Relations, Inc.	Chairman Board
Disarmament, General Advisory Committee on, Department of State, Washington, D. C.	Chairman
Federal Bar Association of New York, New Jersey and Connecticut	Member
"Foreign Affairs", Publication of Council on Foreign Relations, Inc.	Member, Editorial
442 Association of New York (Japanese-American Combat Team)	Honorary Member
France-America Society	Member
Goethe House	Chairman Board

Hochschule für Gestaltung (High School) Ulm, Germany	Honorary Trustee
International House - New York	Chairman Board
International Lawn Tennis Club of U. S. A.	Member
International Legal Aid Association	Member
Johns Hopkins University	Trustee Emeritus
Lenox Hill Hospital	Honorary Trustee
Links, The	Member
Metropolitan Club, Washington, D. C.	Member
Milbank, Tweed, Hadley & McCloy	Partner
National Lawn Tennis Hall of Fame and Tennis Museum, Inc.	Life Member
National Legal Aid and Defender Association	Director
New York County Lawyers' Association	Member
New York State Bar Association	Member
Pennsylvania Society, The	Member
Pilgrims of the United States, The	Member
Roosevelt Memorial Foundation, Eleanor	Trustee
Squibb Beech-Nut, Inc.	Chairman
	Exec. Com.
	Member
Telsun Foundation	
United States Council of the International Chamber of Commerce, Inc.	Trustee
University Club	Member
Wall Street Club, The	Member

April 1968

BIOGRAPHIC SKETCH

of

CHARLES WOODRUFF YOST

Ambassador Charles Woodruff Yost was Deputy Permanent Representative to the United Nations from 1961 to 1966.

A native of Watertown, New York, Mr. Yost graduated from Hotchkiss in 1924 and from Princeton in 1928. He was appointed to the Foreign Service in 1930 and served in Egypt and Poland. He was a free-lance journalist from 1933 to 1935 but returned to the State Department in the latter year. He later served as Secretary of the State Department's Policy Committee, in 1944 as Assistant to the Chairman at the Dumbarton Oaks Conference, and in 1945 as Assistant to the Chairman of the United Nations Conference at San Francisco. Later that year he acted as Secretary General of the United States Delegation at the Potsdam Conference. In 1946 and in 1949 he served as Political Adviser to the United States Delegation at the United Nations General Assembly, and in 1949-50 as Director of the Office of Eastern European Affairs in the Department of State.

During this period Mr. Yost also served abroad at Bangkok, Prague, Vienna and Athens. After a return to Vienna in 1953 as Deputy High Commissioner, Mr. Yost was appointed American Ambassador to Laos. Subsequently, he served as Ambassador to Syria, as Minister in Paris and, until his assignment to our United Nations Mission in 1961, as Ambassador to Morocco. He was named Career Ambassador in the Foreign Service in 1964.

Mr. Yost holds an honorary degree, Doctor of Laws, from St. Lawrence University, was a sponsor of the Atlantic Council, and is a member of the American Academy of Political and Social Science, the National Planning Association and the American Society of International Law.

On December 3, 1964, Mr. Yost received a Rockefeller Public Service Award in recognition of his distinguished service to the United States in the field of Foreign Affairs.

Mr. Yost is the author of "The Age of Struggle and Frustration: Modern Dialogues," published February 1964 by Robert Speller and Sons, New York City; and "The Insecurity of Nations: International Relations in the Twentieth Century," published January 1968 for the Council on Foreign Relations by Frederick A. Praeger, New York City.

Mr. Yost is married and has three children.

Mr. Yost retired from the Foreign Service and joined the Council on Foreign Relations in June 1966 as a Senior Fellow.

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