September II, 1961

MEMORANDUM FOR

THE SECRETARY OF STATE
THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

This week I should like to resume our discussion

This week I should like to resume our discussion of Berlin contingencies with a run-down of planned reactions - political, military, and economic - to the most likely situations which may arise, and a review of the status of Allied agreement to these reactions. I have appended a list of a number of cases which I would like to cover in this review. You may wish to add others.

In considering these contingencies I would like to be reminded of the length of time required to react effectively in the way we propose, the degree of acceptance of dealing with East Germans implicit in our plans, and the circumstances under which our armed forces will be authorized to use their weapons.

I am also interested in knowing when and under what circumstances we would expect to use West German forces if the East Germans confront us. What if it is the East German air force which obstructs air access?

cc to: Sec.State
Sec.Defense
Sec.Treasury
Attorney General
Mr. Nitze
Dir. CIA
Dir. USIA
Chairman, JCS
Gen. Taylor
Mr. Kohler

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