

66-435

28 January 1966

Handwritten signature/initials

The Honorable McGeorge Bundy
Special Assistant to the President for National
Security Affairs
The White House

Dear Mac:

STAT
Confirming our brief conversation in Clark Clifford's
outer office, [] who has been conducting a survey of
the intelligence effort devoted to warning of an impending military
attack, has just about completed his report. Before reaching
any final judgments about the adequacy and relevance of the
effort, he would like to talk to a few of the ultimate consumers
of "warning" information. With this purpose, I will be calling
your office to see if you could let us have a little time some
time during the week beginning 7 February.

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What I think [] is particularly concerned to find out
is what awareness there is on the part of senior policy officials
of what is called the warning mechanism; what use it has been
in the past, and what use you foresee for it in the future. The
assumption on which we are presently operating is that a certain
proportion of the intelligence effort should focus exclusively on
the collection and evaluation of evidence bearing on the likelihood
of a hostile military attack. Policy officials should presumably
derive some comfort from confidence that this system is func-
tioning efficiently (if indeed they are aware of its existence).
Perhaps the basic question which [] would like to ask is what
kind of evidence you would expect or hope to have as a basis for

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the kinds of decisions that would have to be taken in seriously escalating situations.

I don't think that a discussion of this subject would necessarily take very long, but would be most appreciative if you spare us whatever time appears to be appropriate.

Faithfully yours,

/s/ John A. Bross

John A. Bross

JABROSS:ag (28/1/66)

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