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By MMK NLDDE Date 8/29/16

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Dis armament

For the President

1. Disagreement between State-Defense over that part of the military statement dealing - not with general war - but with limited war and use of nuclear capabilities.

2. His injunction to military.

3. Par. 15 is too black - why.



With reference to paragraph 15, Defense seems to be making two important changes in existing basic policy, which states that military force (irrespective of the types of weapons used) should be applied "in a manner and on a scale best calculated to avoid hostilities from broadening into general war."

a. Defense now states that the manner and scale best calculated is: "the prompt and resolute application of the degree of force necessary." Thus, in the basic policy the manner and scale would be determined in advance for all cases.

b. Defense now states that if, in opposing local aggression, the use of a nuclear capability is required, that capability should be applied in a manner and on a scale best calculated to prevent hostilities from broadening into general war. While this statement may be correct, the paragraph no longer contains reference to the continuing capability of the U. S. (for some years to come) to apply conventional force. Except by implication from the clause "when its use is required."

This paragraph should deal first with the application of force - of whatever kind - in a manner and on a scale best calculated to prevent local hostilities from broadening into general war, and second the kind of weapons to be used in applying such force.

4. In paragraph 11, Defense states that the policy of the U. S. will be "to use nuclear weapons when required to achieve military objectives." This phrasing seems to disregard the paramount doctrine that military objectives are only one part of national security policy. This seeming disregard could be overcome by rephrasing the language: "to use nuclear weapons when required for military reasons to achieve national security policy objectives."

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