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23 JULY 1947

CONVERSATION - CLIFFORD

I talked with Clark Clifford about the deletion by the Senate of the provision for an Executive Secretary of the National Security Council. Admiral Sherman had previously pointed out to me that while this gap could be filled by the Secretary of Defense naming one of his own assistants to this post, such a method would detract from confidence of other departments in the objectivity of such an appointee; and that unless he were named by the President it would incline other departments to regard such a man as the servant of the special interest of a particular department rather than the general interest of the Government as a whole. I later called Senator Saltonstall to give him this thought.

JF:FJT
7-23-47

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