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TOP SECRET

DRAFT

Draft delivered by
Stoddard ^{OSD} TIA to
Brandin BNA July 1/60

File: Iceland

privately

TO: Embassy REYKJAVIK

RPT INFO: Embassy PARIS TOPOL
CINCLANT
COMICEDFOR

JOINT STATE-DEFENSE MESSAGE

1. In reply first question (urtel 367) you may inform Foreign Minister, that Keflavik has never rpt never been used for U-2 flights to or over non-NATO countries.

(urtel 367)

2. Re second question concerning atomic weapons - you may assure Foreign Minister, again privately, that no atomic weapons stored at Keflavik and none are carried through Keflavik in transit. Request you impress on Foreign Minister delicacy of this entire subject and note to him that it is US policy neither to confirm nor deny publicly location of nuclear weapons, because either confirmation or denial would reveal information of significant value to enemies of western world. *It is of greatest importance that we sincerely hope the Icelandic Government* ~~will~~ follow a similar policy.

In our view it is not desirable give assurances to Icelandic Government that we would seek its prior agreement to storage or transit of nuclear weapons. Before we would authorize you to give such assurances matter would have to be very carefully studied here. Therefore we hope you can avoid subject. If Foreign Minister should press you and ask whether US would seek prior agreement Icelandic Government, you may note that since such weapons have not been stored Iceland the question of consultation has not arisen. The Foreign Minister's inquiry is therefore a hypothetical one and if upon further consideration he still requires an answer, you would have to seek instructions.

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