TELEPHONE CALL TO THE PRESIDENT

Sec said we had heard from Macmillan and Lloyd and they thanked us for our invitation to come over here, but felt it better to go to Russia first. The Brit Amb at Moscow has approached the government and was told he would receive an early reply. Sec said apparently the Brit had not informed either the Fr or the Ger. Sec said he had also received an essay from Lloyd which is very disturbing because it indicates a weakness over there which really jeopardizes our NATO planning. Lloyd says the people are not willing to risk what may be a war because of issues which seem minor to them and feel the US wants to get them into a European war from which it would be relatively immune. Sec said if that thinking prevails, we are in a bad fix. It indicates a Chamberlain attitude. Sec said he would send the Pres a copy or the orig tomorrow. Sec said he was doing a companion piece now to the Lloyd memo and would send the Pres a copy of that too tomorrow. Sec said he was saying in his memo that they say they are willing to give in by inches and the Soviets are smart enough to do it that way. Sec said it was bad if they distrust the US that much. Sec said actually the US would be the first hit and the hardest hit. Lloyd says he knows that but the people do not know it. Sec said it was surprising to have this come from the Brit Gov which is the best gov they have had for a long time; of course Macmillan is running pretty hard for election. Sec said the Pres would see all this in the morning.

cjp (one sided)