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8 December 1954

Dear Mr. Friedman:

I quote below the text of a memorandum relating to your inquiry of December 2, with respect to a forthcoming publication on the wartime conferences. The source of the information is Mr. G. Bernard Noble, Chief of the Historical Division, Department of State:

"1. The text of the messages (there were three, I believe) is included in the volumes on the Potsdam Conference.

"2. The text is quoted from the published proceedings of the Tokyo War Crimes Trials, so the material is in print already.

"3. There is a footnote which states that the text of these messages was 'known to' US officials on July 13.

"4. There is a further footnote reference to the published Forrestal Diaries in which the process of obtaining the material is clearly identified.

"5. The text further quotes Secretary Stimson writing that he received from the Pentagon an 'interesting message' on July 16.

"6. The phrasing of the footnote mentioned in 3 above is as agreed with the Pentagon to replace a more explicit statement on the galley-proofs submitted to Defense."

Sincerely yours,

/s/ W. Park Armstrong, Jr.

Mr. William F. Friedman  
Special Assistant  
National Security Agency  
Washington

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