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CONFIDENTIAL

March 12, 1953

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Soviet Withdrawal of Troops from
Germany

With regard to the possibility of the Soviets withdrawing their troops from Germany as a long-term planned strategic move in the cold war, I talked with Mr. McNair yesterday about Soviet troop withdrawal as a standard strategic political-military tactic. For example, with regard to the withdrawal of troops by the Soviets in North Korea, I wondered whether there had not been an intelligence report prepared which recited the facts, including all the propaganda and psychological warfare aspects of the withdrawal, and estimating the significance of these facts as a typical maneuver in Soviet political-military operations.

PSB 100-915

McNair stated that there were no intelligence estimates or reports to his knowledge but he would make a search and let me know in a few days.

However, [redacted] who was a member of the Joint US-Soviet Control Commission set up to run Korea after the war was over, is now back here in Washington in CIA, and has personal knowledge of facts and circumstances attending the withdrawal of Soviet troops. In consequence, I will talk with [redacted] about this situation either in the light of our having access to intelligence documents or not.

The pattern of similar action to take place in Germany is too distinct a possibility to not do everything we can in order to be prepared for such an eventuality.

cc: Mr. Anspacher

PSB/C: MM
Ortberg:vc

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By MMK NLDDE Date 10/30/12