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June 23, 1964

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. BUNDY

SUBJECT: Rumanian Reactor and Free World Trade with Cuba

1. I refer to my earlier memo to you on the above subject. Attached is a copy of ARA's memo (Dave Klein may have already passed a copy to you). Also attached is a draft rebuttal by E and EUR.

2. John Crimmins tells me that the two memos have not yet reached the addressees. S/S is holding the ARA memo in abeyance pending further talks between Tom Mann and John Crimmins and further talks between ARA and E-EUR.

Apparently, ARA has not yet firmly decided on its position and one of several things may happen. First, the ARA memo, recommending indefinite delay on the sale of a reactor, may go on to George Ball unamended, or even strengthened. If it does, the E-EUR rebuttal will go with it. Second, the ARA memo may be amended so that it does not recommend delay but merely flags the Cuban dimension for the 7th Floor. Third, ARA may withdraw its memo.

3. It seems to me conceivable that State might resolve this issue without White House clearance (e.g. if ARA decides against delay) and might start sending out cables to implement the decision (e.g. apply for COMCOM exception) or to educate some of our posts. Do you want me to officially indicate White House interest and assure that any outgoing cables get cleared over here? Or do you prefer to let State, if it wants to, decide this issue on its own?

My own humble view is that since the problems involved (Rumania and trade with Cuba) are both close to the President's heart, he might want to focus on this issue, if he has not yet had a chance to do so.

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E.O. 12958, Sec. 3.5

NSC Memo, 1/30/95, State Dept. Guidelines

By jc, NARA, Date 10-18-00

Gordon Chase

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