

SOURCE:

National Defense University, Nelson Drew, ed.
NSC-68: Forging the Strategy of Containment
National Defense Press, Washington D.C., September 1994

PART II: THE KEY DOCUMENTS 111

NSC-68/2 30 September 1950

Background

President Truman did not immediately approve the budgetary and program recommendations of NSC-68/1, but he did, at an NSC meeting on 30 September 1950, approve the conclusions of NSC-68 as a statement of U.S. security policy and direct implementation of those conclusions by all executive agencies and departments. He deferred action on NSC-68/1 pending a revision of that report, which was to be completed by mid-November. The record of that NSC meeting was transmitted to the appropriate departments, along with the conclusions of NSC-68, as NSC-68/2.

Document

Report to the National Security Council by the Executive Secretary (Lay)

TOP SECRET
NSC 68/2

WASHINGTON, September 30, 1950.

NOTE BY THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY TO
THE NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL ON
UNITED STATES OBJECTIVES AND PROGRAMS FOR NATIONAL SECURITY
References: A. NSC Action No. 361
B. NSC 68; NSC 68/1; Annexes to NSC 68/1
C. NSC 20/4

At the 68th Council meeting, with the President presiding (NSC Action No. 361), the National Security Council, the Secretary of the Treasury, the Secretary of Commerce, the Acting Economic Cooperation Administrator, the Director, Bureau of the Budget, and the Chairman, Council of Economic Advisers, considered draft reports on "United States Objectives and Programs for National Security" (NSC 68 and NSC 68/1), and:

a. Adopted the Conclusions of NSC 68 as a statement of policy to be followed over the next four or five years, and agreed that the implementing programs will be put into effect as rapidly as feasible, with the

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understanding that the specific nature and estimated costs of these programs will be decided as they are more firmly developed.

b. Deferred action on NSC 68/1 pending a revision of that report to be prepared by the NSC Staff for Council consideration not later than November 15, 1950.

c. Noted the President's instructions that there should be no public discussion of this program, and specifically no public quotation of figures, until the appropriate time as determined by the President. The President has this date approved the Conclusions of NSC 68 as a statement of policy to be followed over the next four or five years, and directed their implementation by all appropriate executive departments and time, agencies of the U.S. Government.

Accordingly, the Conclusions of NSC 68 are circulated herewith for appropriate action.*

JAMES S. LAY, JR.