NSC 5309

TOP SECRET

April 2, 1958

NOTE BY THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY to the NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

on

U. S. POLICY IN MAINLAND SOUTHEAST ASIA References: A. NSC 5612/1

B. NSC Action No. 1826
C. Memos for NSC from Executive Secretary, same subject, dated
February 20 and March 3, 1958

D. NSC Action No. 1885

The National Security Council, the Acting Secretary of the Treasury, the Attorney General, the Secretary of Commerce and the Director, Bureau of the Budget, by Memorandum Action as of April 2, 1958 (NSC Action No. 1885), adopted the draft revisions of the Laos, Thailand, Malaya and Singaporé sections of NSC 5612/1, prepared by the NSC Planning Board in accordance with NSC Action No. 1826-b and transmitted by the reference memorandum of February 20, 1958; subject to:

a. The following comment by the Attorney General:

"Agree, subject to the substitution of the phrase 'of the proviso' for the word 'indicated' in the last line of paragraph 64A so as to make identical the references to the taking of independent action in paragraphs 64A and 64D. It is felt that such an amendment would obviate any future implication that independent U. S. military action in defense of Malaya might be undertaken without regard to the proviso in paragraph 19."

b. The following comment by the Secretary of Commerce:

"The Department of Commerce does to to consider that grant economic assistance to the Federation of Malaya is necessary or desirable at this time and understands the revision does not incorporate such provision. Also the Department does not feel that loans to the Federation of Malaya for economic development purposes are necessary at this time and should a proposal for such loans be advanced, would desire participation in the early stages of consideration."