20 June 1956

MEMORANDUM FOR: THE DEFENSE MEMBER OF THE NSC PLANNING BOARD
THE SPECIAL ASSISTANT TO THE JCS FOR NSC AFFAIRS

SUBJECT: Tentative Army Position on "United States Policy in Southeast Asia," dated 15 June 1956 (U)

The subject document has been reviewed and the following Department of Army comments thereon are submitted.

a. Add the following course of action: "Insofar as possible, grant US economic assistance in accordance with a definite plan for economic development, avoiding the scattering of economic aid over a large number of isolated projects."

 $\underline{\text{REASON}}\colon$  To increase the effectiveness of the US economic aid program.

b. Add the following course of action: "Encourage the conditions necessary to develop a Western Pacific collective defense arrangement including the Philippines, Republic of China, Japan, and the Republic of Korea, eventually linked with SEATO."

REASON: To improve the collective defense arrangements in Southeast Asia and the Western Pacific.

L. C. SHEA for EARLE G. WHEELER Major General, GS Director of Plans, ODCSOPS

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