National Security Study Memorandum 10

TO: The Secretary of State
    The Secretary of Defense
    The Director of Central Intelligence

SUBJECT: East-West Relations

The President has directed that a study be prepared on the nature of US-Soviet relations, on US interests and objectives with respect to them and on the broad lines of appropriate US policies. The study should incorporate alternative views and interpretations of the issues involved. It should include summary statements of the conceptions and policy lines of the previous administration.

An introductory section should include

1. a characterization of US-Soviet relations in their broadest sense;

2. a discussion of Soviet perceptions of these relations and of Soviet interests and objectives as we understand them, including such indications as there are of differences, vacillations and uncertainties among Soviet decision-makers;

3. a discussion of US interests and objectives, short, medium and longer term;

4. a brief description of the broad lines of policy that we have hitherto pursued;

5. a recommended US approach to East-West relations.

The President has directed that the NSC Interdepartmental Group for Europe perform this study.

The paper should be forwarded to the NSC Review Group by February 6, 1969.

cc: The Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff