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May 16, 1960

**Memorandum for International Operations Division
Chief, 'RFE Guidance Line on U-2 Incident'**

Citation:

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Summary:

An IOD officer responsible for RFE reports to Cord Meyer on differences between the FEC/RFE leadership in New York and the RFE management in Munich on broadcast coverage of the U-2 incident and endorses the "calm and reasoned" approach of the Munich management.

Original Language:

English

Contents:

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16 May 1960

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MEMORANDUM FOR: Chief, International Organizations Division

SUBJECT: RFE Guidance Line on U-2 Incident

1. You will recall that I told you that Nathan and Lunning took an un-
necessarily hard line in the initial days of the U-2 incident. These were
difficult days at best for all of us

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2. In the meantime, Munich apparently took a calm and reasoned approach
to its coverage

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Al-
though I have heard nothing on this directly from RFE New York, Bernie Yarrov
told me on 13 May that Munich had come in with a strong dissent from Nathan's
early hard line guidance. I attach a copy of the Munich message which makes
slot of sense and is reassuring to me. Among other things, the message
originated with Nowak and Miller in Fern's absence and indicates that Miller
is shaping up very well indeed. While I have not seen the Polish New York
desk commentary referred to in this message, I assume that it is one of
Wierzbicki's and is one more proof to me that international commentary on such
subjects should originate in Munich.

3. I talked to Archie by phone Friday night about this problem, among
others, and he said that he felt the only ultimate solution to this continuing
open sore is getting rid of such people as Nathan who simply cannot apparently
adapt to the less blatant line necessary for credibility in such a situation.
In this connection, I was quite interested to see Eric Hazelhoff's reference
to Col. Reuben Nathan whose policy disagreements with Archie are apparently
becoming widely known within the organization.

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