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25X1A STATE (RCI) (FOR HILSMAN AND AMBASSADOR GALBRAITH)
WHITE HOUSE

SECRET
NOFORN/CONTINUED CONTROL

SECRET NOFORN

25X1A COUNTRY GERMANY INDIA USUR SUBJECT KHRUSHCHEV'S ACCEPTANCE OF
NEHRU'S PROPOSAL FOR A BERLIN SETTLEMENT

25X1 [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] IS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION. SOURCE GRADINGS
ARE DEFINITIVE. APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE. [REDACTED]

25X1X 25X1X

1.

PRIME MINISTER NEHRU HAD TAKEN ALONG WITH HIM TO MOSCOW A SHORT
BRIEF ON THE GERMAN PROBLEM SPECIFYING THAT THE QUESTION OF CONTINUED
FREE ACCESS TO WEST BERLIN MUST BE SETTLED FIRST IN ANY NEGOTIATIONS
BETWEEN THE USSR AND THE U. S. ON GERMANY. HE PLANNED TO PROPOSE
TO KHRUSHCHEV THAT A GUARANTEE OF FREE ACCESS TO WEST BERLIN BE
WRITTEN INTO A BILATERAL SOVIET-EAST GERMAN PEACE TREATY, PASSING
ON TO EAST GERMANY, AS A SUCCESSOR POWER, SOVIET RESPONSIBILITIES
UNDER THE FOUR-POWER AGREEMENTS, BUT MAINTAINING THE USSR AS A
GUARANTOR OF THE EXECUTION BY EAST GERMANY OF THESE RESPONSIBILITIES.
THE TREATY WOULD THEN BE DEPOSITED WITH THE UNITED NATIONS.

2.

[REDACTED] NEHRU HAD MADE THIS PROPOSAL TO KHRUSHCHEV AND THAT
KHRUSHCHEV HAD ACCEPTED IT. 25X1X

3.

[REDACTED] NEHRU [REDACTED] CONSIDER THIS FORMULA 25X1X
THE ONLY WAY OUT OF THE PRESENT IMPASSE. [REDACTED] 25X1X
IT MIGHT BE ACCEPTABLE TO THE UNITED STATES. [REDACTED]
ALTHOUGH "BOTH SIDES ARE TRYING TO GO TO THE BRINK", THEY WILL
WITHDRAW BEFORE GOING TOO FAR; WAR OVER BERLIN IS MOST UNLIKELY
SINCE:

A. THERE CANNOT BE A WAR IF WESTERN CONDITIONS FOR CONTINUANCE
OF THE STATUS QUO IN BERLIN ARE MET; WAR CAN COME ONLY IN A BREACH
OF THESE CONDITIONS.

B. THE USSR IS WILLING TO GUARANTEE A CONTINUANCE OF THE
STATUS QUO.

C. WHETHER OR NOT THE U. S. LIKES THE SOVIET PROCEDURE FOR
MAKING THIS GUARANTEE, CONDITIONS ACCEPTABLE TO THE WEST WILL
THEREBY BE MAINTAINED.

4. [REDACTED] DISSEM: STATE.

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