

31 October 1960

MEMORANDUM FOR FILE

Subject: State of the Union 1961

Conversation with Dr. Moos this morning produced following preliminary guide lines:

1. The problem of militarism -- for the first time in its history, the United States has a permanent war-based industry -- aircraft, 90% -- missiles, 100%, etc. Not only that but flag and general officers retiring at an early age take positions in war based industrial complex shaping its decisions and guiding the direction of its tremendous thrust. This creates a danger that what the Communists have always said about us may become true. We must be very careful to insure that the "merchants of death do not come to dictate national policy".
2. Over the past year there has been a world wide tendency for orderly societies to break down into mob ridden anarchies, e.g. student riots, the Congo, Cuba, etc. In our own country we see instances where political decisions are first on the barricades instead of normal governmental processes. It is easy to wave banners to riot, to protest, but the difficult thing is to work a constructive change so that society is strengthened rather than weakened and divided.
3. Analyze previous major addresses of DDE. (Get Eisenhower's ~~speeches~~ from Military Aide's office)

Ralph E. Williams

