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MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRIME MINISTER

Mr. Stephen Holmes told me the other day that the United Kingdom Chiefs of Staff had been instructed to review the United Kingdom's post war security position in all possible contingencies, including the situations with which they would be confronted if the Dumbarton Oaks proposals were unrealized or if the Anglo-Soviet Alliance were broken. Appreciations of the security position in these unlikely and unwelcome hypotheses were matters of the highest military secrecy. They would be the responsibility of the Chiefs of Staff and not of the Foreign Office. For this reason, if any of the United Kingdom plans and dispositions made on these assumptions were communicated to us, it would be direct from Chiefs of Staff to Chiefs of Staff and not through the usual inter-Governmental channels.

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Noted