



January 17, 1963

Minute of Understanding [between President Kennedy and Prime Minister Fanfani]

Citation:

"Minute of Understanding [between President Kennedy and Prime Minister Fanfani]", January 17, 1963, Wilson Center Digital Archive, John F. Kennedy Library, National Security Files, box 122, Italy: Subjects, Fanfani Visit, 1/17/63, Minute of Understanding. Contributed by Bill Burr and Leopoldo Nuti.
<https://digitalarchive.umd.edu/document/300391>

Summary:

The two leaders signed off on a "minute of understanding" expressing their understanding on the MLF, replacement of Jupiters with Polaris by April 1, the substitution of Sergeant for Corporal missiles, and the possibility of using the Jupiters for "space experiments." In accordance with Fanfani's request, the minute was retyped to leave out the reference to bases in the Mediterranean.

Credits:

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Original Language:

English

Contents:

Original Scan

~~TOP SECRET~~
EYES ONLY

January 17, 1963

MEMORANDUM FOR

THE SECRETARY OF STATE
THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

I have had the piece of paper which was agreed on this morning retyped for the President's file -- with the single correction. Enclosed is a carbon for you.

McGeorge Bundy

~~TOP SECRET~~ EYES ONLY

~~TOP SECRET~~
~~EYES ONLY~~

January 17, 1973

MINUTE OF UNDERSTANDING

The following minute embodies the understanding reached by President Kennedy and Prime Minister Fanfani on Thursday, January 17, 1963:

1. The President and the Prime Minister have agreed on the importance of establishing a multilateral NATO nuclear force. It is their belief that Italy should participate in this force and that in particular Italy should be a member of the NATO committee which it is expected will be formed for developing the plans for such a force and for managing its direction when established.
2. In anticipation of this multilateral defense force, the United States will make available Polaris submarines to insure modernized nuclear defense of the Mediterranean area of the alliance. These Polaris submarines will be on station by April 1.
3. In the light of these arrangements, Prime Minister Fanfani will propose to his Government that the present Jupiter missile bases in Italy be eliminated by April 1.
4. The President in turn agreed to the replacement of existing Corporal missiles by Sergeant missiles.
5. Italian technical personnel and specially trained troops presently working at missile bases in Italy will share in setting up new facilities for Sergeant missiles.
6. To the extent that it is practicable, Jupiter missiles will be used for peaceful space experiments wherever this can be most effectively done.

~~TOP SECRET~~ EYES ONLY

Original to Mr. Kennedy
copy to Secy Rusk
copy to Secy McNamara

Handwritten marks at the top of the page, possibly initials or a signature.

January 17, 1963

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2. In anticipation of this multilateral defense force, the United States will make available Polaris submarines to insure modernized nuclear defense of the Mediterranean area of the alliance. These Polaris submarines will be on station by April 1, ~~and will be based in the Mediterranean as soon as is practicable.~~
3. In the light of these arrangements, Prime Minister Fanfani will propose to his Government that the present Jupiter missile bases in Italy be eliminated by April 1.
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Handwritten signature or initials.

Handwritten notes at the bottom of the page, including the number '7' and various illegible scribbles.