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TOP SECRET CONTROL NUMBER  
 S/P-61-175-8 USA 4 (3)

DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
 Susan 9/31/60

TOP SECRET COVER SHEET 128-3

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4. BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF ATTACHED DOCUMENT(S) (Origin, subject, reference no. or other pertinent data)  
 Nov 29  
 December 1, 1961  
 NSAM #117. Contingency Planning on Berlin

2. COPY INFORMATION  
 ACTION COPY \_\_\_\_\_ INFORMATION COPY \_\_\_\_\_  
 TELEGRAMS, DESPATCHES, ETC. \_\_\_\_\_  
 COPY NO. \_\_\_\_\_ OF \_\_\_\_\_ COPIES

5. FORWARDED  
Dec. 4, 1961  
 (Date)  
I. Stotler  
 (Top Secret Control Officer)

3. DATE AND NAME OF PERSON PREPARING FORM  
12/4/61 E. Cahill

6. PERSONS TO WHOM ROUTED OR READING DOCUMENT	7. OFFICE SYMBOL	8. SIGNATURES	9. DATE RECEIVED	10. DATE READ	11. DATE RELEASED
Mr. Morgan	S/P	<i>[Signature]</i>	12/4/61		
<i>Mr. Rowlow</i>		<i>[Signature]</i>		12/7/61	
Mr. Owen		<i>[Signature]</i>			1/26
Mr. Fuller		<i>[Signature]</i>	1/30/62		1/30/62
Mr. Lindley		<i>[Signature]</i>	1/31/62		1/31/62
7261A					

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

18735

November 29, 1961

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NATIONAL SECURITY ACTION MEMORANDUM NO. 117

TO: The Secretary of State

SUBJECT: Contingency Planning on Berlin

In reviewing the latest reports on the status of contingency planning on Berlin, I do not find any contingency plan for the case of disturbance along the sector border which might lead to riots on both sides and possible rebellion in East Berlin. The recent protests of West Berliners, at a time of relatively low tension, suggest that one of the real possibilities in this situation is that we may have a citizen explosion of some sort at a later stage of the crisis.

I would like to have your recommendation as to possible courses of action in this range of contingencies. I recognize the difficulty of framing precise plans ahead of time for a matter so unpredictable as a civilian uprising, but it does seem to me that we should be thinking ahead on this one.

/s/ John F. Kennedy

Copies to: The Secretary of Defense  
The Military Representative of the President

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