

long hours with General Powers and his aides. Mr. Coolidge is said to have been shown highly classified war plans by SAC officers in an effort to convince him that substantial arms control was unthinkable at this time. These were the rumors that began to be circulated. Nobody knew what was the actual case.

On January 15, 1960, I, as chairman of the Disarmament Subcommittee, invited Mr. Coolidge to appear before the subcommittee and present testimony regarding his report. Mr. Coolidge had to decline and he indicated that perhaps it would not be appropriate for him to testify.

Subsequently, I wrote three letters to the Secretary of State asking for information pertaining to the Coolidge report. In the first letter, dated January 29, 1960, I asked whether the Coolidge report could be discussed with Members of Congress. The Secretary's response was that the Coolidge report was in the form of a working paper and was not being made public.

In my second letter, dated, March 10, 1960, I told the Secretary that I recognized not all reports to the Department should necessarily be made public. But I requested whether the Department could make the Coolidge report available to the subcommittee on an executive basis. In other words, the members would review its contents in executive session. The response of the Secretary to this request was also negative. He said in a letter of March 21, 1960, he did not "believe that it would be appropriate to make this particular study available as you suggest."

In his letter of March 21, the Secretary of State gave no reason for withholding the information contained in the Coolidge report. I, therefore, addressed a third letter to the Secretary. I pointed out that many times in the past the Disarmament Subcommittee and the Department of State had cooperated in sharing information. During the 1957 disarmament negotiations representatives of the Department of State, including Mr. Dulles himself, met weekly with the subcommittee to discuss in detail developments in the talks. Furthermore, the Department submitted daily to the subcommittee all telegrams and other reports dealing with the negotiations. (In this connection I might say that I know of no case when any of this information was revealed by anyone connected with the subcommittee to unauthorized persons). Since the Department had cooperated with the subcommittee in this instance, I asked in my third letter to the Secretary whether the policy of the Department of State had changed. And, if it had changed, I wanted to know on what ground and under what authority the information was being denied.

The Secretary of State, in his reply of April 23, 1960, stated that "This study was prepared solely for the advice and internal use of myself and the Secretary of Defense. It is essential to effective administration that employees of the executive branch be in a position to be fully candid in advising with each other on official matters, and that the broadest range of individual opinions and advice be available in the formulation of decisions and policy. The disclosure of such opinion and advice can tend to impair or prohibit essential reporting and decisionmaking processes, and such disclosure has therefore been withheld in the past as contrary to the national in-