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7 March 1962

MEMORANDUM FOR THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

Subject: Prerequisites for Selection to
General/Flag Officer

1. The President is desirous of requiring evidence of specific training or experience in the counter-insurgency field as a prerequisite to promotion to general/flag officer. He would like your recommendation as to the type of training or experience which would satisfy this requirement and the time by which such a requirement could reasonably be imposed. In this connection, he would like to know what other prerequisites for senior promotion (such as President Eisenhower's requirement of evidence of joint training) are now in effect in the various Services.

2. In order to expose large numbers of senior officers rapidly to counter-insurgency training which would satisfy the above requirement, the President is inclined to direct the conduct of summer courses at the National War College and the Service war colleges beginning this summer. He would like your comment upon this possibility.

MAXWELL D. TAYLOR

Office of the Secretary of Defense 505.6552
Chief, RDD, ESD, WHS
Date: 09 OCT 2012 Authority: EO 13526
Declassify: X Deny in Full: _____
Declassify in Part: _____
Reason: _____
MDR: 12-M-3082

DECLASSIFIED IN FULL
Authority: EO 13526
Chief, Records & Declass Div, WHS
Date: OCT 09 2012

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12-M-3082

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