

**Statement at News Conference by Secretary of State Dulles, on German Reunification, June 10, 1958<sup>1</sup>**

[Extract]

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Q. Mr. Secretary, in the last issue of *Newsweek* it said that you told associates, "I seem to be much stronger for unification than he is", meaning Adenauer. I was wondering whether you can confirm that.

A. I do not think that I am stronger for German unification than Chancellor Adenauer is. I think that there is a slight difference in our respective positions. I can see that, quite understandably, the Government of the Federal Republic does not want to seem to be in a position of blocking disarmament by saying that unless there is first a reunification of Germany nothing can be done in any field. None of us want to take that position.

On the other hand, the United States is a country which was at the last "Summit" conference, as the Federal Republic was not.

We are a party, as the Federal Republic was not, to certain agreements at that time with the Soviet Delegation.

We feel, quite independently of any other considerations, that integrity in dealing with the Soviets, and the ability to deal with them in other respects, would be put in question if we go back again to the "Summit" meeting and say, "Well, now, the first thing we do, Mr. Khrushchev, is to wipe off the books the last things we agreed to." Now, that goes not just to the question of the reunification of Germany. That goes to the question of the integrity of our agreements. It just happens that those agreements related to the reunification of Germany. But we have a certain position to claim that the agreements of the last "Summit" conference, whatever they were, should not be wiped off the books as we start, if we should start, a second "Summit" conference.

Now, you see, that is something which is a little apart from the particular merits of the reunification of Germany. It goes to the question of whether or not agreements made at the last "Summit" conference, whatever they are about, should still be a topic for discussion or whether we are willing to see them wiped off. We are not willing to do that.

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**Letter from Premier Khrushchev to President Eisenhower, on the Question of a Summit Meeting, June 11, 1958<sup>2</sup>**

The present situation with respect to the negotiations on the preparation of a summit conference compels me to address this message to you.

Nearly two months have already elapsed since preliminary negotiations through diplomatic channels, proposed by the Western Powers, were initiated on the preparation of the said conference. Some time ago, when the Western Powers brought up the question of preliminary

<sup>1</sup> Department of State press release 319, June 10, 1958.

<sup>2</sup> The President replied on July 2, 1958 (*infra*).