

MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

March 19, 1971

*Talk to Purley
that we want to place
level of representative
JK*

HAK:

Secretary Rogers (Tab **A**) suggested to you that we ought to have a higher level representative than Nutter to testify from Defense on the Geneva Protocol. You agreed and said that you would call Defense on this. Rogers said "Nutter would kill it." The Secretary seems to have known whereof he spoke (See NYT item this morning at Tab **B**). Nutter could not make the appearance because of a luncheon date and the Times notes that the 'snub' (even though he is now scheduled to testify on Monday) "combined with the unwillingness of the JCS to testify is inclined to create reluctance within the Committee to support ratification."

If the Administration really wants to pursue this there will have to be some push put behind it. The tear gas and herbicides question has arisen, of course, and there is some sentiment in the Senate to let the treaty lie. The Defense performance adds weight to that school. We have to decide, therefore, whether the President really wants to push this to ratification or just let it take its own course.

RTK

*Here 3/20/71
Secretary Rogers advised that with
more already committed to
appearances with the JCS and
had been urged to provide further
level representative but was unable
to do so - further delay in appearance
would prevent the Chairman of the
Committee from being able to
write up report for the file & this
effect would compromise the committee
work next to next.
JK*