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FOREIGN SERVICE DESPATCH

FROM : American Embassy LONDON 1092
TO : THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE, WASHINGTON.
REF: Embassy's G-253, September 25, 1960

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SUBJECT: NATO Atomic Stockpile Agreement

LIMIT DISTRIBUTION

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On December 6, the Foreign Office submitted to the Embassy, under cover of an aide-memoire, a revised draft of the proposed NATO Atomic Stockpile Agreement, together with a memorandum explaining wherein this draft differs from that submitted by the US and the reasons for the changes. Copies of these documents are enclosed for consideration by the Department.

The Embassy would appreciate in due course further instructions regarding the negotiation of this agreement.

Declassified Authority: 27447 By: Laurie Madsen Date: 04-04-2013

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
L/T
AUG 11 1961
OFFICE OF THE LEGAL ADVISER

For the Charge d'Affaires ad interim:
William C. Trueheart
William C. Trueheart
First Secretary of Embassy

Enclosures:

1. Aide-memoire, dated December 6, 1960
2. Revised Draft General Provisions concerning Supply and Storage of All Nuclear Weapons Supplied by the United States for United Kingdom Forces Assigned or Ear-marked for NATO
3. Note Explaining where the British Draft on Storage of United States Nuclear Weapons Supplied for United Kingdom NATO Forces Differs from the American Draft with Reasons

Copies sent to:

- Paris - Embassy, USRO, Thurston, Finn and CINCEUR (for FMR)
- Bonn
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POL/AE/WCTrueheart:pm
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Desp. No. 1092
From Amembassy LONDON

AIDE-MEMOIRE

On May 4 1960 Mr. Trueheart of the United States Embassy left with the Foreign Office the draft of a possible Anglo-American Agreement designed to cover the establishment of stock-piles for atomic weapons to be provided by the United States for the support of NATO units in the United Kingdom, and of NATO forces of the United Kingdom in other areas. Mr. Trueheart informally invited the Foreign Office to express a preliminary view on whether an agreement on the general lines of this draft would be acceptable to Her Majesty's Government. After discussion in Whitehall and with Mr. Trueheart, it was agreed to begin the negotiation of such an agreement on the basis of the American draft.

2. The draft has now therefore been considered in detail by the United Kingdom Ministry of Defence in consultation with other Service Departments concerned, and certain amendments have been suggested. A main objective has been to modify the draft along more general and less specific lines, so that it will be unlikely to require alteration in the light of future developments. These amendments have been incorporated in the revised draft attached. Also attached is a note drafted by the United Kingdom Ministry of Defence explaining where and why the amendments have been made.

3. The United States draft has also been considered from the legal point of view in the Foreign Office. Difficulty has arisen for Her Majesty's Government in that the United States draft has been cast as an Agreement. Every Treaty and International Agreement entered into by a member of the United Nations is required under the Charter to be registered with the Secretariat and published. As far as the Foreign Office is aware, Her Majesty's Government has without exception complied with this requirement. It is the understanding of the Foreign Office however that on security grounds the United States Government do not wish to make public this agreement concerning nuclear weapons. Her Majesty's Government also consider that it should remain unpublished. The alternative therefore has been to recast the agreement as a memorandum of understanding, which is not registrable with the United Nations. The revised draft attached has been so recast. It takes the form of an Exchange of Letters recording the Understanding of the Governments of the United States of America and of the United Kingdom. The exchange might take place either between the United States Secretary of Defense and the United Kingdom Minister of Defence, or between the American Ambassador in London and the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, to suit the preference of the United States authorities.

FOREIGN OFFICE,
December 6, 1960

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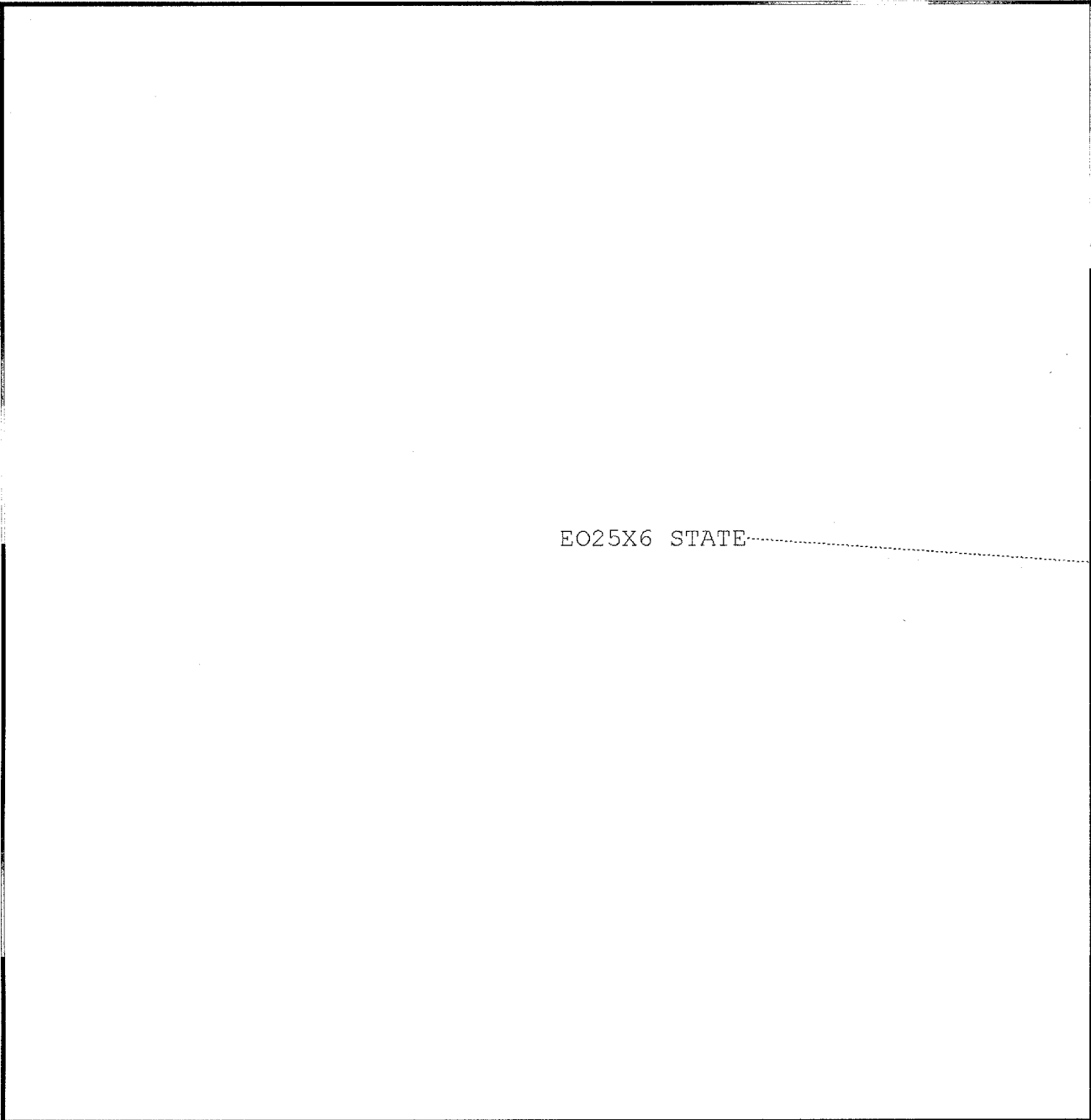
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From Amembassy LONDON

REVISED DRAFT GENERAL PROVISIONS CONCERNING SUPPLY
AND STORAGE OF ALL NUCLEAR WEAPONS
SUPPLIED BY THE UNITED STATES FOR UNITED
KINGDOM FORCES ASSIGNED OR EAR-MARKED FOR NATO



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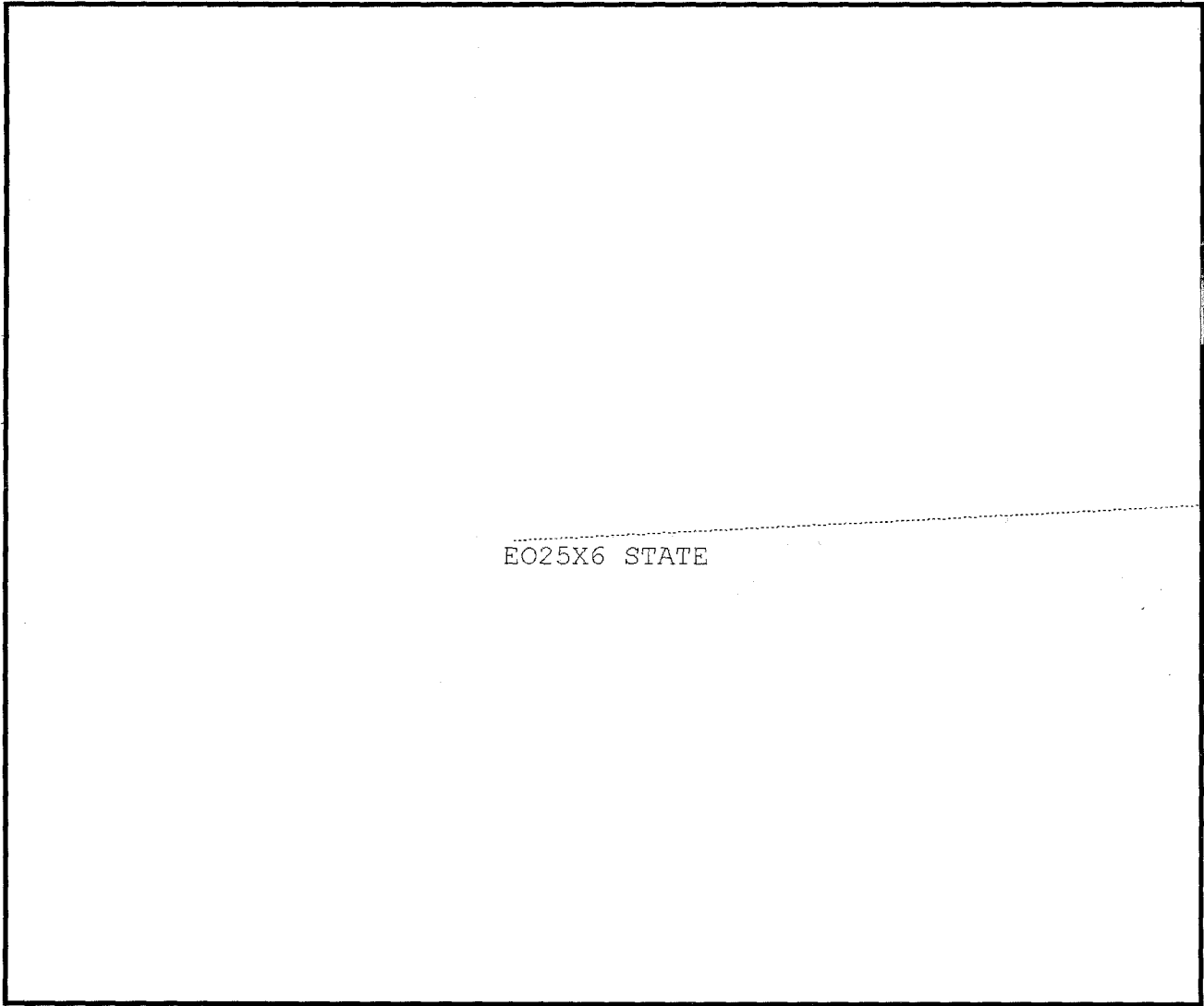
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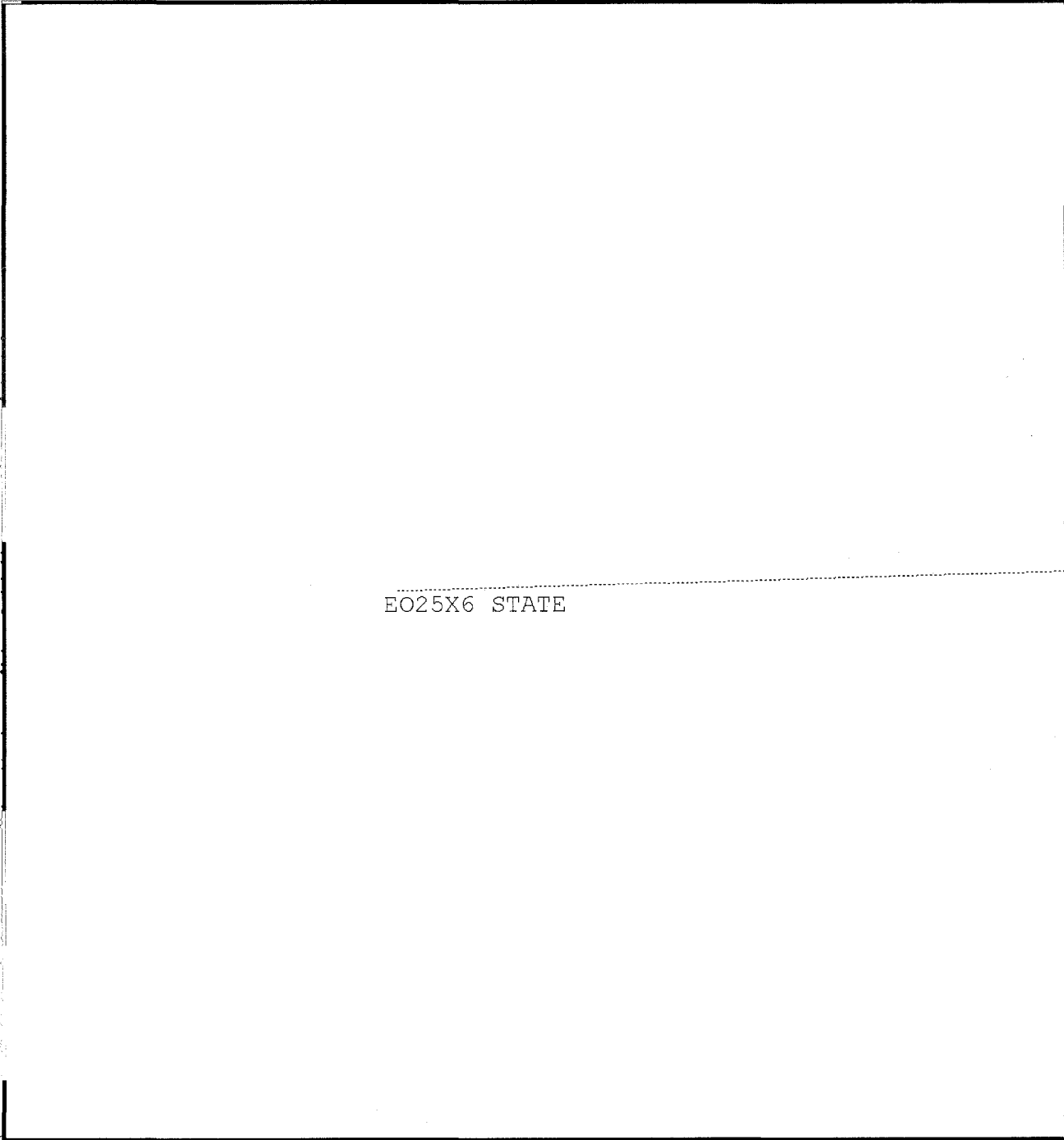
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From Amembassy LONDON

NOTE EXPLAINING WHERE THE BRITISH DRAFT ON STORAGE OF
UNITED STATES NUCLEAR WEAPONS SUPPLIED FOR UNITED
KINGDOM N.A.T.O. FORCES DIFFERS FROM THE AMERICAN DRAFT
WITH REASONS



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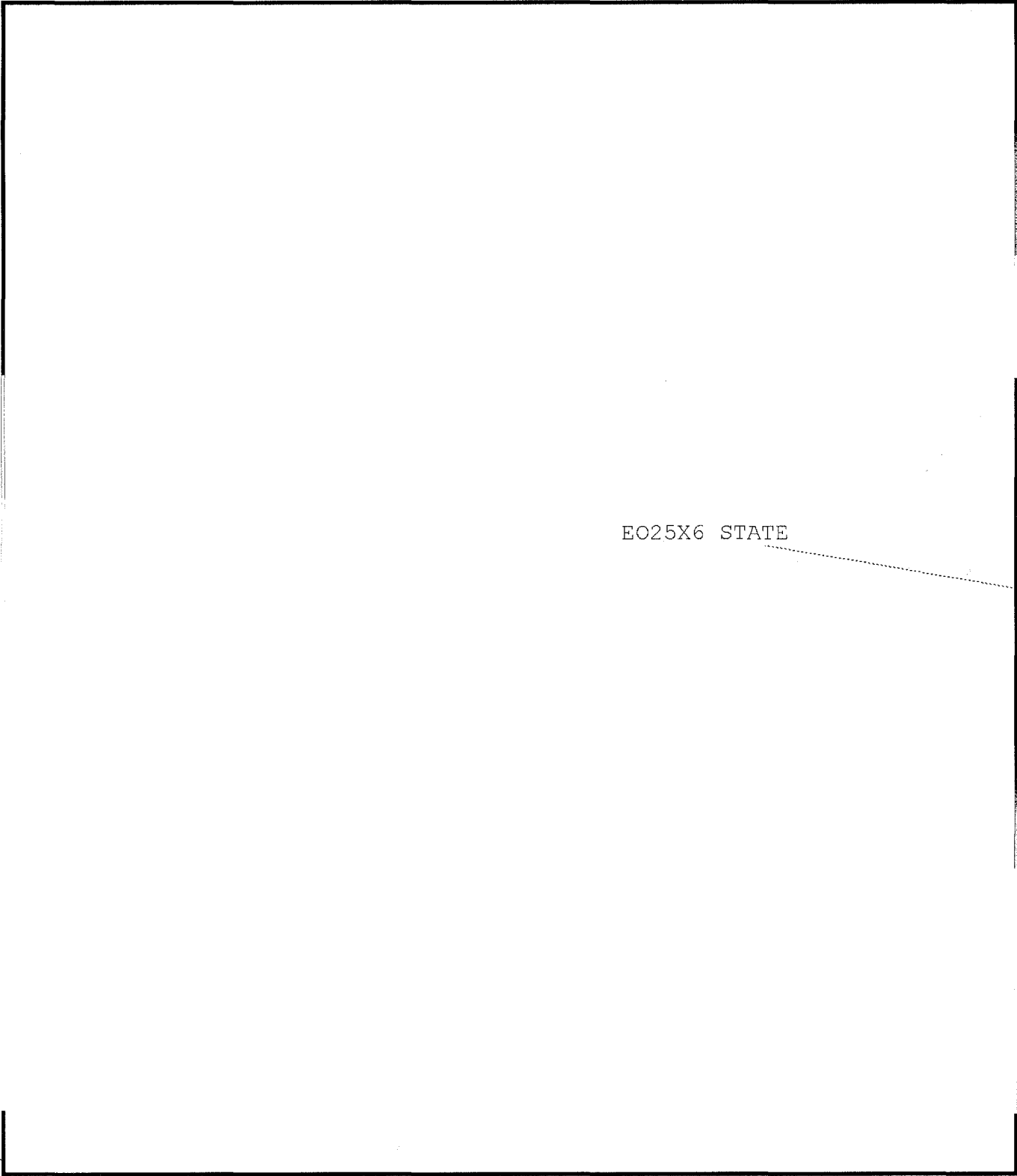
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**The U.S. Nuclear Presence in Western Europe,
1954-1962, Part II**

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