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1. INDOCHINA: US plans for recognizing Bao Dai--The Department of State has informed US Embassy London that the US is planning to extend some form of recognition to the Bao Dai Government of Vietnam, as an associated state in the French Union, provided the French National Assembly adheres to the estimated timetable for ratifying the agreement transferring limited powers to Bao Dai. The Department expresses the hope that recognition can be synchronized with a "spontaneous" French public statement of liberal intentions and concrete plans for further evolution of political independence in Vietnam. The Department also hopes that some South Asian nations may be persuaded to extend some form of recognition to the Bao Dai Government before the US acts. Meanwhile, US Embassy Paris estimates that the "most optimistic" date for the start of French Assembly debate on the agreements for relinquishing certain French powers in Indochina is now 17 January 1950. (French Foreign Minister Schuman originally estimated that debate would begin by 12 January.)

State Dept. review completed

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