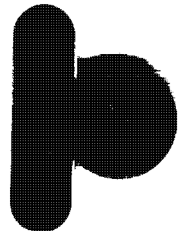


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18 JUL 1946

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129

## GENERAL

1. Soviets request closing USNA branch offices--The US Naval Attache in Moscow has been requested by the Foreign Relations Office of the Soviet Armed Forces to close the US Assistant Naval Attache branch offices at Odessa, Archangel and Vladivostock. The Soviets assert that those offices have served their purpose of assisting in lend-lease shipping and other war-time activities and are no longer needed. To the US Naval Attache's inquiry whether other US representatives could be set up in those ports to take care of US shipping, the Soviets replied that this was "a matter for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs."

## EUROPE-AFRICA

2. FRANCE: "Very important" de Gaulle speech likely--Caffery has been informed by a reliable source that de Gaulle plans to make a "very important" speech on Germany, probably within the next two weeks. The informant assumes that de Gaulle will take a strong French nationalist line in order to keep himself in the spotlight preparatory to a political comeback in the fall.
3. BULGARIA: Anglo-American protest urged--US Political Representative Barnes in Sofia reports that during recent months Soviet authorities have become increasingly "disdainful of the existence of US and UK representation" on the ACC Bulgaria. Barnes adds that he, his British colleague, and the US and UK representatives ACC are all agreed that continued US and UK participation in the ACC without protest would be damaging to Anglo-American prestige and perhaps more demoralizing to Bulgarian democratic forces than if the US and UK openly avowed their "impotence" and withdrew from the ACC.
4. IRAN: Report on Soviet news agency--US Ambassador Allen has been informed by the Iranian Minister of Posts and Telegraphs that the Iranian Government is considering a managerial contract with the International Telephone and Telegraph Company covering all telephone, telegraph and radio communications of Iran. The Minister, whom Allen describes as "quite leftist but very pro-American," remarked that as contrasted with the large amounts now paid by US agencies for cable

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service, the Soviet Tass news agency pays "nothing". "Our relations with Russia," the Minister added, "are all give but no take."

#### FAR EAST

5. **CHINA: Attack on Democratic League leaders**--US Consulate Kunming has been reliably informed that the 15 July assassination of a prominent Democratic League member and the critical wounding of his son were part of a general plot in which reactionary secret police were to assassinate ranking members of the League in Kunming. (The Chinese military commander in Kunming has told the Consulate that the attacks were part of a Communist plot.) League leaders are appealing for an investigation by a committee including a representative of General Marshall.

The Consulate has given asylum to eleven League leaders and their families but has been requested by the Chinese garrison commander in Kunming to advise them to "vacate." The commander has promised "special protection" for them in Kunming and assistance in case they wish to leave the city.

6. **N.E.I.: Dutch Cabinet decision on Indonesia**--Hornbeck reports that the Netherlands Cabinet has decided to recognize the authority of the "Indonesian Republic" in Java and Sumatra, exclusive of areas under Allied control, provided the Sumatrans are allowed, after an unspecified period, to choose their future status. On its side the "Republic" must remain in the Indonesian Federation, agree to a military truce, and implement certain other guarantees. Van Mook will shortly resume negotiations and will be assisted by a commission empowered to make major decisions.

Hornbeck's informant intimated that the Netherlands Government resented recent efforts by the British to foster meetings of Nationalists and Dutch in neutral territory.

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### THE AMERICAS

7. **VENEZUELA: Ex-President denies revolutionary intent--Former President Lopez Contreras, now in exile in Colombia, has informed an official of US Embassy Caracas that he is not engaged in any revolutionary plot and would in fact collaborate with the reigning junta in forming a "truly national" government. (The junta had requested US mediation to prevent a revolution -- see Daily Summary of 15 July, item 11.)**

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