

APPROVED FOR RELEASE - Historical Programs Staff 30 August 2018



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GENERAL

1. Australian Foreign Minister's views on Far East problems--Evatt has expressed to US Ambassador Butler his views on several problems which he is "extremely anxious" to have expeditiously settled. According to Evatt, Australia is prepared to support the "recent US attitude on the Marshalls, Carolines and Marianas." Evatt desires mutual use of Manus Island, because Australia must obtain "use of facilities in at least one American base." He considers that in all Pacific matters Australia "should be in on the ground floor" with the US, since Australia's contribution to the Pacific War, Evatt said, was second only to that of the US.
2. US-UK action on Rumanian elections recommended--US Representative Berry (in reply to Acting Secretary Acheson's request for comment on a proposed US-UK request for ACC consideration of the Opposition's memorandum on the coming elections; see Daily Summary of 12 November, item 3) "holds little hope" for obtaining Soviet agreement to such a proposal. Berry recommends, however, that the step be taken "for the good that it will have outside Rumania" and that the US should at least reply (before the 19 November elections) to the Rumanian note of 2 November which denied US charges of pre-electoral violations of the Yalta agreement.
3. No immediate French decision on Germany--Bidault has told Caffery that the French will make no final "decisions of substance" on the German question until France's internal political situation is "stabilized."
4. IRO Constitution may require long UN debate--Austin reports that an almost endless debate on the International Refugee Organization Constitution is possible, because a 12 November Polish amendment limiting resettlement plunged the Committee into a "procedural morass in which the Yugoslav representative led the confusion." Austin adds that "Vishinsky's lack of cooperation at this moment is evident."

EUROPE

5. RUMANIA: US grain loan desired--The Communist Minister of Communications has told Berry that, in view of Rumania's serious food shortage and the country's need for foreign capital to exploit its natural resources,

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the Government is considering sending a delegation to the US to negotiate a loan of grain and to discuss investment of US capital in Rumania. The Minister stated that recent talks in Moscow had convinced him that "US capital could be gainfully invested in Rumania together with Soviet and Rumanian capital."

3.3(h)(2) 6. HUNGARY: Reported split in Leftist coalition- [redacted], has told US Minister Schoenfeld that widespread anti-Communist feeling in the labor ranks" and "confirmed Communist loss of membership to the Social Democrats" has caused strained relations between the two parties.

3.3(h)(2) [redacted] the majority of the Social Democrats will soon revolt against the Party's present pro-Communist leadership. Schoenfeld believes, however, that the chances for the success of such a revolt decrease daily because of the effective terror to which the Social Democrats are subjected and the skill of the Communists in exploiting their political position.

7. AUSTRIA: Labor crisis believed averted--US Charge Denby reports that in the opinion of the US Labor Attache the threatening labor crisis has been averted and that increased labor stability may be expected as a result of Government acceptance of economic measures advocated by the Socialist-controlled Trade Union Federation. Denby adds that, while a Communist Deputy severely criticized the agreements, the Communists were "somewhat nonplussed" by the concessions which the Government had made.

NEAR EAST-AFRICA

8. IRAN: Shah may use force to reoccupy Khamseh--Allen reports that the Shah, the Minister of War, and the Chief of Staff favor taking forceful action, if necessary, to reoccupy Khamseh Province (now held by Azerbaijan forces) and to do so without Qavam's concurrence if the latter hesitates to act.

9. SYRIA: Unrest among Druze tribes--US Charge Damascus reports that recent restrictive legislative decrees have been denounced by the Druzes. The Governor of Jebel Druze is reported to have told the President of Syria that the Druzes would march on Damascus if these decrees are approved.

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FAR EAST

10. **FRENCH INDOCHINA:** Prospects in Franco-Vietnam negotiations-- US Consul Hanoi reports that Boissier, President Bidault's Chief de Cabinet, has told him that (a) there would be no great progress in Franco-Vietnam negotiations until the new French government is fully established; (b) the French attitude toward Vietnam would almost inevitably stiffen; (c) at the Fontainebleau Conference, French Communists had proved more colonialist than other groups, and (d) no referendum would be held in Cochin China until "deep and profound" peace is established.

THE AMERICAS

11. **COLOMBIA:** President expects "serious trouble"--Wiley reports that President Ospina expects "serious trouble" immediately in the Communist-led petroleum workers' strike, which continues despite further wage concessions by Tropical. The President feels that this would result in "tremendous opposition to foreign interests" and that a revolution "would develop very quickly."

US equipment to be furnished--The War Department has instructed the Commanding General, Caribbean Defense Command, to ship gas masks and tear gas grenades to Colombia. This equipment was requested by the Colombian Government for possible use in quelling riots.

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