

26 APR 1946

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1. USSR refuses to join tripartite protest to Rumania--According to Embassy Moscow, the Soviet Government has refused the US invitation to join the US and UK in a tripartite approach to the Rumanian Government regarding the latter's failure to fulfill its pledges of political freedom and early elections (see Daily Summary of 19 April, item 3). The Soviet note characterized the US charges against Rumania as "utterly groundless."
2. Yugoslav 1 May move on Trieste doubted--The Supreme Allied Commander, Mediterranean, considers that a Yugoslav move on Trieste on 1 May is "highly unlikely." He believes that [redacted] a secret Yugoslav mobilization should be treated "with considerable reserve."
3. Soviets deny taking initiative for Hoover visit--Ambassador Smith has asked the Soviets whether, as reported by General Clark, they invited Hoover (through the Chief of the UNRRA Mission, Austria) to visit Moscow. The Soviets state that they received an inquiry "from the other side" in Vienna, and they merely authorized an affirmative reply.
4. Uniform French customs inspection suggested--Embassy Paris has been asked by Murphy whether it can "informally let the French know" that the US hopes that they will apply to the planes and personnel of other nations the same customs inspection which the US has accepted. Murphy acted after learning of the alleged smuggling of money and arms by Soviet aircraft, which are not subjected to customs at Le Bourget airport.
5. Hungary to approach Rumania on Transylvania--Minister Schoenfeld reports, according to "reliable information," that (a) during the recent visit to Moscow by Hungarian officials, Molotov urged Hungary to take the initiative prior to the Peace Conference in opening negotiations with Rumania concerning the Transylvanian question (see Daily Summary of 23 April, item 5), and (b) the Hungarian Cabinet has decided to send an emissary to Rumania to arrange a meeting of the Foreign Ministers to consider the question.

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8. Progress made by Commission on Italo-Yugoslav boundary--Dunn reports that the Commission on the Italo-Yugoslav boundary has made considerable progress on the report of its findings. The Soviets have indicated a desire to complete this report before discussing boundary recommendations. Although the Soviet delegation has stubbornly upheld the Yugoslav point of view, it has made several substantial concessions after long discussion.

EUROPE-AFRICA

9. FRANCE: Cabinet approves Bidault's policies--In a conversation between Bidault and Secretary Byrnes on 25 April, Caffery questioned Bidault on his unusually vigorous remarks "against Russian pretensions." Bidault replied that the Cabinet had given him a "free hand" in foreign affairs. Earlier Bidault had remarked that the Cabinet had asked him to remain in office as Minister of Foreign Affairs. According to Caffery, "how long Bidault will remain is another matter."

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10. ITALY: Wheat deemed crucial factor in elections--According to Embassy Rome, the British Ambassador has transmitted an appeal from Italian Vice-Premier Nenni to Prime Minister Attlee asking for the diversion to Italy of five shiploads of wheat now en route to Britain. Nenni asserted that (a) such British action to tide Italy over the pre-election period would have "favorable political repercussions," and (b) any Soviet decision to ship grain to Italy now would increase the Communist vote by ten percent thus making the Communist Party the strongest single group in the Constituent Assembly. The US Embassy comments that alleviation of famine conditions during this critical period "may well mean the difference between success or failure" of US Italian policy.
11. HUNGARY: Soviets finally grant clearance for US officials--Ambassador Smith has been informed by Vishinsky, and General Key confirms, that instructions have been given to the Soviet delegate ACC to issue permits for entry into Hungary to General Haynes and H. Merle Cochran (State Department Inspector with rank of Minister), who are to investigate alleged black market activities of US personnel. (Soviet authorities in Hungary on 2 April had refused clearance on the grounds that Moscow must approve visits of important State and War Department officials; see Daily Summary of 4 April, item 3.)
12. GERMANY: British position regarding the Ruhr--According to Embassy London, the Foreign Office takes the position, with which the Dutch and Belgians are in general agreement, that (a) the Ruhr should not be politically separated from Germany but should be under international economic control; and (b) Soviet participation "should be considered very carefully", possibly in relation to Soviet willingness to have Eastern European industrial centers under similar control.
13. GERMANY: Closing of DP camps--General McNarney has urged the War Department to announce that displaced persons' camps are to be closed by 1 July, since failure to do so prevents (a) effective planning with the displaced persons regarding their future resettlement status and (b) taking advantage of the good weather necessary to complete the repatriation program this year.

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14. IRAN: Embassy believes Qavam "sincere patriot" -- Embassy Tehran's current summary of the Iranian political situation contains the following points: (a) there are indications that Soviet forces may at last be leaving Azerbaijan, though there are persistent reports of an increase in Soviet citizens and soldiers wearing civilian clothes; (b) it is unlikely that Azerbaijan will make "substantial concessions" in its forthcoming negotiations with Tehran; (c) Qavam is "acting as a sincere patriot" in attempting to appease the USSR without becoming a Soviet puppet; (d) the USSR "undoubtedly" is better pleased with Qavam than with his predecessors but probably will not be satisfied with his policy indefinitely; and (e) the principal dangers are that Qavam will be forced to yield too much ground to pro-Soviet factions in Iran and that he will be physically unable to stand up under his present "terrific burden."

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