



6 MAY 1948

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1. US extends invitations to Bikini tests--The State Department has extended to each member nation of the UN Atomic Energy Commission (Australia, Brazil, Canada, China, Egypt, France, Mexico, The Netherlands, Poland, the USSR and the UK) an invitation to send one press and two government representatives to witness the Bikini Atoll atomic bomb tests during July and August. The note specifies that the tests (a) are "subject to prior approval by the US Congress of the expending of naval ships for this purpose" and (b) are an "undertaking of the US Government" rather than "a combined or international operation."
2. US holds up entry of Soviet naval tanker--US Commander, Western Sea Frontier, has been ordered by the Chief of Naval Operations to deny entry into any US port of the Red Navy auxiliary tanker TAGANROG, until proper diplomatic clearance has been issued (see Daily Summary of 30 April, item 5). The TAGANROG has been anchored since 4 May outside the breakwater at San Pedro, where it is scheduled to load a cargo of diesel oil for discharge at Vladivostok.
3. Soviet plans to cut occupation forces in Germany--General McNarney reports that General Sokolovsky, Commander of the Soviet Occupation Forces in Germany, stated, after his recent return from Moscow, that his forces would be "drastically cut" by the end of June. (Impending Soviet troop reductions in Austria have also been reported, but are still unconfirmed; see Daily Summary of 30 April, item 8.)
4. Byrnes approves message to Stalin on wheat--Secretary Byrnes has approved the suggestion, made in March by the Combined Food Boards, that President Truman send a message to Stalin urging the sale of Soviet wheat to UNRRA.

EUROPE-AFRICA

5. IRAN: Soviet withdrawal appears complete except in Azerbaijan--Embassy Tehran reports that all of northern Iran except possibly for Azerbaijan has been completely evacuated by Soviet troops. Though information on the number of troops left behind in civilian clothes is conflicting, the Embassy does not believe the number to be large except

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in Azerbaijan. Qavam told Charge Ward on 4 May that (a) he believes that all Soviet troops, including those in Azerbaijan, will be evacuated not later than 6 May, and (b) he would instruct Ambassador Ala to inform the Security Council that Iran would make its report following receipt of a report from a commissioner whom Qavam planned to send to Azerbaijan "within a day or two."

Acting US Consul Tabriz reports that (a) the bulk of the Soviet garrison in Tabriz was withdrawn on 5 May, (b) Soviet occupation of Tabriz has been replaced by Soviet "penetration", (c) Caucasian immigrants increasingly are taking positions in the local government, including the office of Chief of Police, (d) the Soviet troops and material which moved south toward Tehran during early May apparently have not been withdrawn through Azerbaijan, and (e) evacuation of materiel and personnel from the Maragheh-Mindoab area south of Tabriz appears almost complete.

Assistant US Military Attache Tehran, who travelled by road from Tehran to Tabriz on 3-4 May, reports that (a) all Soviet check posts have been withdrawn from the road and no Soviet troops were seen except on the outskirts of Tabriz; (b) many Soviet Nationals in civilian clothing remain in Kazvin (80 miles northwest of Tehran), (c) many Russian-speaking Azerbaijanis were noted along the road to Tabriz, and (d) many well-uniformed, well-equipped and well-led small units of the Azerbaijani Army were observed over the 150-mile stretch from Zenjan to Tabriz.

Negotiations with Azerbaijani deadlocked--Qavam has told Embassy Tehran that negotiations with the Azerbaijani delegation are deadlocked, principally over the question of the Azerbaijani Army, which Qavam insists must be disbanded. Pischevari, leader of the delegation, has also refused Qavam's demand that the "National Assembly" in Azerbaijan be dissolved and new elections held for a Provincial Council. Pischevari has demanded that the Chief Finance Officer be appointed locally rather than from Tehran. Qavam has told Pischevari that he cannot and will not make any concessions beyond those publicly announced.

8. EGYPT: Reactions to Palestine report--Legation Cairo reports that (a) Arabs in Cairo generally hold the US responsible for the recommendations in the Anglo-American report on Palestine and (b) the Secretary-General of the Arab League, in a personal interview with Minister Tuck, explained that while "Britain had long been recognized as an enemy of

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the Arabs," the US "by the report had shown that it was now an enemy." Tuck also reports that on 3 May King Farouk cancelled a visit to the US cruiser PROVIDENCE, termed the report "rather a smack in the face," and declared that "President Truman's remarks of endorsement hurt more than" the report.

7. EGYPT: Bargaining on British evacuation plan--Legation Cairo has learned from "well-informed sources" that the Egyptians have rejected the British plan to evacuate UK forces over a five-year period (see Daily Summary of 1 May, item 9) and have proposed instead a one-year evacuation period. Local observers believe a treaty should be ready for signature after two or three weeks of bargaining. Minister Tuck reports that the political atmosphere "is considerably less tense."
8. GREECE: US and UK favor three-power revision of electoral lists--Acheson has advised Embassy Athens that Bevin favors a "relatively early" plebiscite on the return of the King provided (a) there is a satisfactory revision of the electoral rolls and (b) the Greek Government agrees to carry out the January 1946 financial and economic agreement. The British also wish to accept the Greek Government's invitation to assist in revising the registration lists and hope for US and French participation. The State Department "in principle" favors such participation as being (a) a guarantee against large scale falsifications and (b) a basis for refuting any charges of such falsifications as might be made by the Greek opposition or world opinion.
9. HUNGARY: "Big power" settlement of Transylvania acceptable--According to Minister Schoenfeld in Budapest, the refusal of Rumania to enter into bilateral negotiations with Hungary on the Transylvania border (see Daily Summary of 1 May, item 3) has "made it appear appropriate to" the Hungarians to (a) "throw the question into the Paris Conference" and (b) accept the decision of the "big powers" as incorporated in the peace treaties.

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10. YUGOSLAVIA: Joint US-British reply to protest--US Ambassador Belgrade has been instructed to join with the British Ambassador in replying to the Yugoslav communication of 27 March (the most recent of a series of "unwarranted protests" regarding Allied Military Government actions in Zone A, Venezia Giulia). The joint note is to contrast the propriety of AMG actions in Zone A with such Yugoslav improprieties there as: (a) subordination of the press; (b) attempts to discredit public order forces; (c) "false and inflammatory" propaganda attacks against AMG; (d) incitement to unrest; (e) intimidation of the local population and officials; (f) fomenting industrial unrest and impeding production; (g) usurping government functions; and (h) criminal and terrorist acts by the army and para-military organizations.
  
11. AUSTRIA: Military not to resume supply responsibility--The War Department has informed General Clark that "it is not considered advisable" for the military to resume civilian supply responsibility since (a) UNRRA is in a position to obtain better allocations than the War Department, (b) a uniform four-zone policy is of primary importance, and (c) the British and French refuse to consider resumption of supply responsibility by their military (see Daily Summary of 30 April, item 7).
  
12. GERMANY: Export-import program--General Clay has advised the War Department that the Soviets at the most recent Coordinating Committee meeting again opposed the US-British-French proposal for a single export-import program (see Daily Summary of 9 April, item 5). Clay informed the Committee that in the absence of a decision, (a) the US zone cannot provide reparations, and (b) further dismantling of plants in the US zone must cease. Clay states that "this was not intended as a bluff" and that, in fact, he has ordered the dismantling of plants to cease.
  
13. BELGIUM: Government acts to conserve food--Kirk reports that the Belgian Minister of Food has announced measures, effective 10 May, to reduce food consumption (see Daily Summary of 2 May, item 5). These measures include a cut in the daily bread ration from 400 to 350 grams (except for certain categories of heavy workers), despite the fact that "bread constitutes 55% of the basic Belgian ration."

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14. FRANCE: Caffery's proposals to strengthen Socialists--Caffery believes that the results of the present Franco-US economic conversations should be announced between 10 and 13 May (after the referendum results are known and just before the election campaign) in order that maximum political benefits might be achieved and attention be focussed on US aid to France. Caffery also suggests that the first US ship bringing US products, as a result of the Blum negotiations, be timed to arrive between 22 and 25 May (a week before the June elections) and carry a cargo of such general public interest as wheat. Such steps, he believes, would (a) hearten French elements which look to the west, (b) strengthen the position of the Socialist Party, and (c) enable Socialist leaders to take a more independent line with the Communists.

#### THE AMERICAS

15. BRAZIL: Request for allocation of Axis vessels--The Brazilians have advised Secretary Byrnes in Paris that they (a) are not satisfied with the arrangements for division of German external assets, and (b) desire a surface vessel and one or two submarines from the Italian fleet and a German passenger-carrying merchant vessel.
16. NICARAGUA: US to follow "hands off" policy--The State Department has advised Ambassador Warren that while it earnestly hopes that bloodshed will be averted, the US will not intervene in the internal affairs of Nicaragua. Warren had previously reported that the political situation was extremely tense and that political leaders believed that the US should exert some positive influence.

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