



23 MAY 1946

84

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## EUROPE-AFRICA

1. IRAN: US urges Qavam to support Ala--Stettinius reports that at the close of the 22 May Security Council meeting (in which Ala reiterated his assertion of Soviet interference in Iran), Afifi of Egypt privately expressed the hope that the US would impress upon Qavam the importance of supporting Ala in the Security Council. Byrnes has informed Ambassador Allen that (a) although Ala appears "to have gone beyond his definite instructions," he has done so "in reply to specific questions from Council members" and has rendered "an outstanding service to the Council"; (b) Ala's actions have, however, reflected only his own decision and have not been influenced by the US; and (c) the US hopes Qavam "will refrain from taking precipitous action against Ala under Soviet pressure."

Hostility to US and UK in Azerbaijan--US Consul Tabriz reports that (a) Azerbaijan leader Pishevari has publicly disclaimed responsibility for any violence against Americans in Tabriz and (b) both British and US officials have been molested in "minor incidents." The Consul believes, however, that Pishevari is "bluffing" in order to prevent US and British representatives from circulating freely.

US asks Thornburg to leave Iran--Byrnes has informed Allen that the Department is most embarrassed by the recent arrival in Iran of Max Thornburg (whose mission, according to Allen, is to investigate economic conditions for US aviation and petroleum firms). Byrnes (a) states that while Thornburg's visit may not be connected with oil, "it will be difficult to establish this fact" and (b) directs Allen to inform Thornburg that the Department wishes him to leave Iran at once "without discussing Iran's oil problems."

2. UNITED KINGDOM: Foreign Office applauds Byrnes' speech--Embassy London reports that high-ranking Foreign Office officials (a) "commented most favorably" on Secretary Byrnes' speech of 20 May, and (b) expressed the opinion that the Conference of Foreign Ministers had made progress in narrowing the gap between the USSR and the other Allies.
3. RUMANIA: Soviets order expulsion of US correspondent--US Political Representative Berry reports that Soviet military authorities have ordered R. H. Markham, Christian Science Monitor correspondent in Rumania, to leave the country by 26 May. The Soviets accuse Markham of having (a) participated in National Peasant Party conferences:

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(b) offended the Red Army by describing how Soviet troops broke up a National Peasant Party meeting; and (c) publicly stated that the US would fight the Soviets and free the "Russian people from the Russian Government." Berry supports Markham in his denial of these allegations and comments that the expulsion order reflects the desire of the Rumanian Government to hold elections without the presence of US or UK observers. Berry suggests that the State Department instruct Embassy Moscow to "insist on having the expulsion order cancelled."

US-UK protest Groza policies--In view of the continuing deterioration of political conditions in Rumania, the US and UK are to deliver to the Rumanian Government parallel protests against its failure to implement its pledges of political freedom and early elections. The Soviet Government, which has refused to join in the US-British protest (see Daily Summary of 26 April, item 1), will be informed concurrently with the delivery of the US and British notes.

4. CZECHOSLOVAKIA: Soviet troop movements postponed--Ambassador Steinhardt reports that the Soviets have promised the Czechs to (a) try to move into Germany by 23 May all Soviet troops already in Czechoslovakia and (b) postpone the movement of additional troops through Czechoslovakia until 27 May. (Foreign Minister Masaryk had previously pointed out to the Soviet Ambassador that the presence of large numbers of Soviet troops in Czechoslovakia on 26 May, election day, would "create an unfortunate impression in Czechoslovakia and other countries.") Masaryk has told Steinhardt that Czechoslovakia considers the above schedule acceptable.

#### FAR EAST

5. JAPAN: State Department comments on FEC policy statement--Secretary Byrnes has informed General MacArthur that US Government concurrence in the Far Eastern Commission's recent policy statement on food supplies for Japan (see Daily Summary of 1 May, item 11) is not considered an "opening wedge to divide the administrative responsibility of the Supreme Commander."

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6. KOREA: Soviet reply on US Consulate in North Korea--The Soviet Foreign Office has informed Embassy Moscow that the USSR sees no basis for connecting the question of the future operations of the Soviet Consulate General in Seoul with the question of the establishment of a new US Consulate in P'yongyang (see Daily Summary of 10 May, item 14). Ambassador Smith recommends that he be authorized (a) to inform the Soviet Foreign Office that "after a certain date in the near future" the Soviet Consulate General will no longer be permitted to function, and (b) to put the matter thereafter on a "quid pro quo basis" with the Foreign Office.

Communist counterfeiters apprehended--General Hodge reports the arrest of 16 Korean Communists (including two Party officials), who belonged to an organization which had flooded Korea with 3,000,000 yen in bogus money. Their equipment, including plates stolen from the Bank of Chosen, was installed in Korean Communist Party Headquarters.

7. CHINA: Failure in food distribution--Colonel Harrison, head of the Food Fact Finding Board, has informed the Secretary of Agriculture that UNRRA distribution of food in China so far has been almost a complete failure, with less than 10% of the food received actually reaching areas of direst need. Harrison recommends that Secretary Anderson suggest that "continuation of food shipments to China will only be possible if present distribution bottlenecks are broken." Harrison adds that these bottlenecks must be broken within 30 days if widespread starvation is to be prevented.

US Marines fired on near Tientsin--Commanding General, US Marine 3rd Amphibious Corps, reports that on 21 May a Marine reconnaissance patrol was fired on by unknown Chinese at a point ten miles southwest of Tientsin. One enlisted Marine was killed, one officer wounded. Fire was returned but Chinese casualties are unknown.

Evacuation of US civilians from inland Shantung--US Consul Tsingtao, after consultation with local Marine Corps authorities, has advised the 31 US civilians in the interior of Shantung Province to evacuate to places of safety. The British Consul has taken similar action.

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