

President's Secretary's File  
Departmental File  
State: Stettinius Edward R.  
Jan - Nov 1944 Box 75

45: 526

THE UNDER SECRETARY OF STATE  
WASHINGTON

DECLASSIFIED

State Dept. letter, 1-11-72

November 3, 1944

By [Signature] Date MAR 6 1972

*file*

SPECIAL INFORMATION FOR THE PRESIDENT

These international developments of the past two or three days will be of especial interest to you:

INFORMATION FROM THE FIELD

DISARMAMENT OF FRENCH RESISTANCE GROUPS. Despite objections from Resistance elements and open opposition from the Communists, the Provisional Government is apparently determined to enforce its decision to disarm Resistance groups.

FRENCH RECRUITING FOR INDOCHINA. The French Minister of Colonies states that, with the knowledge of our military authorities, officers and men are being recruited who might be interested in serving in the Pacific and particularly in Indochina.

VISIT OF CHURCHILL AND EDEN TO PARIS. On the invitation of the French Provisional Government Churchill and Eden plan to proceed to Paris at the end of next week.

WESTERN EUROPEAN REGIONALISM. A Foreign Office official states that conversations between Eden and representatives of Western European countries on regional collaboration will be resumed in the near future. Among other things, the problem of rearmament will be discussed.

POLISH-SOVIET SITUATION. Mikolajczyk, when expressing appreciation for the President's message, stated that no decisions had been made on the Moscow proposals. He was generally pessimistic.

SOVIET APPROPRIATION OF U.S. OIL EQUIPMENT. The British are protesting the Russian action in removing oil refinery equipment and accessories from the establishments of British and American companies in Rumania. The British have suggested corresponding deductions in lend-lease supplies to Russia if a satisfactory solution is not found.

CANADIAN

-2-

CANADIAN CABINET REORGANIZATION. Prime Minister King resolved a very serious Cabinet crisis by the replacement of his Minister of Defense who believed that the time had come to use abroad armed forces conscripted for home service only.

HITLER'S HEALTH. The Swiss Foreign Minister states that after July 20 Hitler developed nervous disorders and is now in seclusion, Himmler being in full control of the Government.

GREEK ECONOMIC SITUATION. The combination of a nightmare inflation and German destruction of transport facilities has practically deprived the Greek economy of any motion at all.

SOVIET-IRANIAN RELATIONS. The U.S. cannot concur in any interference in internal Iranian affairs, Moscow was informed in a note delivered by Kennan, under instruction. Reference was made to the Tehran declaration of December 1, 1943. Disturbances and agitation against the Saed Government continued in Iran and were reported by the Embassy in Tehran to be indisputably of Soviet origin.

ANTI-SEMITIC ATTITUDE OF IBN SAUD. Ibn Saud expressed his "hate for Jews" and his intention to "butcher" any who enter his kingdom, in addressing an MESC agricultural mission and a group of courtiers at Riyadh.

GALÁPAGOS BASE. Ecuadoran Constitutional Assembly is favorable to letting U.S. keep Galápagos base but compensation in some form will be expected.

ARANHA INTERVIEW. Aranha has given an interview to Time correspondent in Rio in which he attacks U.S.-Argentine policy, accuses Vargas of "Fascist ways" and opposes a fourth term for President Roosevelt.

GUATEMALAN RECOGNITION. There is general agreement among the American republics that the new regime in Guatemala should be recognized, probably early next week.

#### ACTION IN THE STATE DEPARTMENT

CONFERENCE OF FOREIGN MINISTERS. Ambassador Messersmith is proceeding tomorrow to Mexico City where he will suggest

that

-3-

that Padilla call a conference of Foreign Ministers, excluding Argentina, to consider international organization and, as a last item on the agenda, the Argentine request for a conference.

SWEDISH-GERMAN TRADE. Joint Chiefs of Staff have informed the Department that they wish all Swedish trade with German-held territory cut off in spite of any disadvantages which resulting closure of Swedish ports might entail.

HUNGARIAN REPARATIONS. The American position that reparations should be treated generally on a tripartite basis at a later date and in conformity with requirements of European economic stability rather than on a unilateral basis is again to be presented to the Soviet Government. Failing Soviet agreement, we will not withhold signature of the Hungarian terms but will instead make a reservation on the reparations clause.

ITALIAN AMBASSADOR IN WASHINGTON. The Italian Government is to be informed that the American Government agrees to the appointment of Count Sforza as Ambassador to Washington.

ITALIAN PARTICIPATION IN AVIATION CONFERENCE. Kirk has been informed that the decision not to invite Italy to participate in the aviation conference was based upon the subject to be discussed and does not constitute a reflection of general policy.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "E. A. Tamm", is written in the lower right quadrant of the page. The signature is fluid and somewhat stylized, with a long, sweeping underline that extends to the left.

*State*  
THE UNDER SECRETARY OF STATE  
WASHINGTON

DECLASSIFIED  
State Dept. letter, 1-11-73      November 27, 1944

By *[Signature]* Date MAR 6 1972  
SPECIAL INFORMATION FOR THE PRESIDENT

These international developments of the past two or three days will be of especial interest to you:

GOERING PEACE FEELER. An intermediary representing that he speaks for Goering informs our Embassy in Paris that Goering believes the war lost and is ready to proceed to Sweden and publicly urge the German nation to lay down its arms.

DEFEATISM IN CHINA. Pessimism and defeatism are spreading in Chungking, and recent governmental changes are being shrugged off as too late in view of the military situation. Chungking officials feel Chinese military resistance is disintegrating. American military are doing everything possible to maintain Chinese morale. Much depends on the direction of the next Japanese advance.

AMERICAN CIVILIAN EVACUATION OF SOUTHEAST CHINA. The Embassy at Chungking has instructed the Consulate General at Kunming to implement plans for the withdrawal of American citizens from Kewiyang and other places threatened by present Japanese drive. U.S. Air Force assistance is not available because of military necessity. The British are taking similar action.

REORGANIZATION OF CHINESE GOVERNMENT. Chinese Cabinet changes are "in the family", made prior to nominal participation of Communists in the Government. The Communists will probably refuse this nominal participation, or any compromise not meeting their minimum desires.

SOUTHEAST ASIA. Missions and consulates abroad have been informed that you have decided that U.S. approval must not be given to a French mission to SEAC, and that our officers in the Far East should not make political decisions on the future of Southeast Asia with the French or anyone else.

EXCHANGE NEGOTIATIONS.

-2-

EXCHANGE NEGOTIATIONS. The Swiss have been requested to propose to the Japanese Government an exchange of Japanese forces on isolated Pacific islands for allied prisoners of war in Japanese hands.

FRENCH ADHERENCE TO UNITED NATIONS DECLARATION. French state they are ready to adhere to the United Nations Declaration, adding they assume such adherence means they will participate in all international conferences organized within the framework of the United Nations.

BELGIAN POLITICAL SITUATION. Despite large-scale demonstrations against the Government, Pierlot firmly maintains that Resistance elements must be disarmed.

RELATIONS BETWEEN SHAEF AND FRENCH GOVERNMENT. General Bedell Smith has recommended abolition of the office of "Delegate for Allied Affairs" in the French Government which has been held by M. Coulet. In consequence Duff Cooper and Caffery will urge Bidault to rule that all problems arising in French civil ministries shall be referred through the Foreign Office to the Allied Embassies. Military matters will be subject to direct discussion between SHAEF and the Defense Ministries.

GERMAN CIVILIAN MORALE. Bern reports a growing Catholic and Socialist opposition in South Germany where morale among bombed-out civilians is at a new low.

GERMAN SCORCHED EARTH POLICY IN NORWAY. The Swedish Government has made strenuous efforts at Berlin to obtain permission from the Germans to bring Swedish relief to quarter million Norwegians in Northern Norway whose plight is critical as a result of the scorched earth policy of the Germans.

YUGOSLAV AFFAIRS. Mr. Churchill has answered King Peter's reproachful comments on one-sidedness of Tito-Subasic agreement by assuring him that the U.S.S.R. will take no action pending return to London of Subasic and study of agreement by both British and Yugoslav Governments.

General Wilson

-3-

General Wilson has complained to Mr. Churchill that Tito places politics before war and has failed to cooperate with the Western Allies in planning for enlarged military operations in Dalmatia. Accusations of brutality on the part of the Partisans in Chetnik areas made by Mihailovitch have been confirmed by recently returned OSS representative.

DISARMAMENT OF RESISTANCE FORCES. British Minister McMillan has been requested by General Wilson to discuss in Washington and London General Wilson's recommendation that a joint statement be issued by the Allied Governments regarding the disarmament of non-regular forces in liberated countries.

GREEK POLITICAL SITUATION. British intelligence continues to report indications that a coup is planned by ELAS before December 10, when disarming of that body is to start.

BRITISH REPRESENTATIONS TO SOVIETS ON IRAN. In a letter to Molotov, the British Ambassador suggested a Soviet statement that the Soviet Government, in agreement with the American and British Governments, will let the concessions matter rest until the end of the war. The letter asked clarification of the Russians view and expressed British concern over evidence of continuing Soviet pressure.

SOVIET ATTITUDE TOWARD ZIONISM. Russia is unqualifiedly opposed to the Zionist program, the Iraqi Minister in Beirut claims he was told in confidence by the new Soviet Minister there.

BOLIVIAN INSURRECTION. Bolivian Government has completely suppressed insurrection. Composition of revolutionary movement still is obscure, but pro-totalitarian party and military extremists are expected further to consolidate their position in the Government.

ECUADORAN PARTICIPATION IN THE WAR. Ecuador has been informed that a declaration of war on Axis by it would be well received in Washington.

BRAZILIAN

-4-

BRAZILIAN DISSATISFACTION WITH U.S. COTTON AND COFFEE  
POLICY. Brazilian reaction to U.S. cotton subsidy plan  
and maintenance of coffee price is unfavorable. Both  
actions are of major political and economic importance  
to Brazil- and may weaken President Vargas' position.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "E. J. Stettin". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned to the right of the typed text.