

FLASH

Regraded Unclassified

18 December 1944

MR-OUT-683

FOR THE PRESIDENT FROM ADMIRAL BROWN.

Western Front

SHAEP estimates that the fierce enemy counter offensive was designed to relieve Allied pressure in the critical Cologne and Saar areas and to spoil opening of expected further Allied offensives. The German attacks are taking place in a 60-mile sector which had been inactive for several months.

Four refitted Panzer Divisions and nine Infantry Divisions have so far been contacted in the attack area. SHAEP believes enemy offensive to be "final effort" based on captured orders and enemy propaganda, but enemy's ultimate intention is not yet known. In order to mount these attacks, enemy has refrained from sending necessary infantry replacements to Cologne and Saar battles, and has committed a large proportion of his best reserves of armor. This gives his present operation the character of a gamble.

The enemy employed several parachute sabotage groups totalling about 1,600 men.

Brunt of the enemy attack was borne by four U.S. divisions of First Army -- 4th, 28th, 106th, and 9th Armored. Elements of these divisions have been overrun and cut off.

Philippines

The carrier escort force which supported the operation against Mindoro reports they made 81 sure kills with 25 additional planes damaged at a loss of one Navy bomber and one pilot. Seven other planes were operational casualties but no additional personnel lost.

Admiral Halsey reports that he lost 20 planes and 23 personnel in combat plus



18 December 1944

MR-OUT-682

FOR THE PRESIDENT FROM ADMIRAL BROWN.

Pacific Submarines

The submarine ALBACORE and the sub SCAMP are overdue and must be presumed lost.

The submarine FLOUNDER sank a German sub and damaged a 5,000-ton freighter in the Java Sea.

The submarine PADDLE sank two freighters off the northwest coast of Borneo for a total of 9,500 tons.

Philippines

Admiral Halsey reports that a bad storm has prevented refueling carrier groups. There will be no strikes on Luzon in support of Mindoro for next two and possibly three days. Final count for three days ending the 16th shows 270 Jap planes destroyed and 192 definitely damaged. Others strafed and crippled.

Western Front

The enemy counterattack has increased in intensity in the Eighth Corps sector of First Army along Luxembourg border and north in Fifth Corps area where Allied positions were along the eastern tip of Belgium. Communique states that our units have been forced back in three places and press reports indicate these withdrawals are up to six miles.

German air force scale of effort in support of ground forces very heavy; 108 enemy aircraft destroyed yesterday.

20th Air Force

On 17 December, Saipan based B-29's again attacked Mitsubishi aircraft plant at Nagoya. Results unobserved. Same day 94 India based B-29's attacked Jap supply base at Hankow, China. Bombing done visually.

SENT: 181442Z

Regraded Unclassified

MR-OUT-681

17 December 1944

*W*

TO THE PRESIDENT FROM ADMIRAL BROWN, EVENING NEWS.

WESTERN FRONT

No details are available on radio reports of large scale enemy counter-attack in First Army sector. Reports state that enemy armored columns made penetrations in Belgium and Luxembourg with greatest weight of attack just south of Aachen. No official confirmation as yet.

Otherwise no war news to report.

NKLCR

**TOP SECRET DISPATCH**

DRAFTER	EXT.	ADDRESSEES	PRECEDENCE
FROM <b>COMNAVGRP CHINA</b>		ASTERISK (*) MAILGRAM ADDRESSEE	<b>OP OP OP</b>
RELEASED BY		<b>THE PRESIDENT</b>	PRIORITY 2
DATE <b>17 DEC 1944</b>			ROUTINE 3
TOR CODEROOM <b>171757</b>			DEFERRED 4
DECODED BY <b>COOK</b>			BASEGRAM 5
PARAPHRASED BY <b>COOK</b>	CHECKED BY <b>COOK</b>	<i>W</i>	PRIORITY 9
ROUTED BY <b>COOK</b>	DITTOED BY <b>COOK</b>		ROUTINE 10
			DEFERRED 11
UNLESS OTHERWISE INDICATED THIS DISPATCH WILL BE TRANSMITTED WITH DEFERRED PRECEDENCE AND AS ADMINISTRATIVE.			BASEGRAM 12
<b>PAGE 1 OF 2</b>	<b>171247</b>	<b>NOR 6465</b>	IF OPERATIONAL CHECK BELOW 13
	<i>680</i>		<input type="checkbox"/> 14

Originator fill in DATE AND TIME GROUP (Use G. C. T.)

ON OUTGOING DISPATCHES PLEASE LEAVE ABOUT ONE INCH CLEAR SPACE BEFORE BEGINNING TEXT

(TOP SECRET FROM HURLEY FOR PRESIDENT ALONE VIA COMNAVGR CHINA)

THE FOLLOWING TELEGRAM JUST SENT TO STETTINIUS REPEATED FOR YOUR INFORMATION.

"SPECIAL PLANE ARRIVING TODAY TO TAKE ME TO WASHINGTON. I HAVE DECIDED NOT TO LEAVE CHINA AT THIS TIME FOR FOLLOWING REASONS: 1. WEDEMEYER ABSENT FROM CHUNGKING. 2. ATCHESON SICK. 3. AGREEMENT HAS NOT YET BEEN REACHED BETWEEN COMMUNIST TRCOP LEADERS AND NATIONAL GOVERNMENT. 4. MY CREDENTIALS HAVE NOT ARRIVED.

UNDER PRESENT CIRCUMSTANCES TOO MANY RUMORS WOULD BE CREATED BY MY DEPARTURE. I AM THEREFORE DIRECTING PLANE SENT FOR ME TO BE USED TO EVACUATE AGED MISSIONARIES AND WAR WEARY PILOTS. THE SITUATION IN MY OPINION IS NOT DANGEROUS. I AM ANXIOUS TO GO TO WASHINGTON FOR REPORTS TO PRESIDENT, TO YOU AND WAR DEPARTMENT AS WELL AS PUT MY PERSONAL AFFAIRS IN ORDER.

No. 1 ADMIRAL. No. 2 FILE. No. 3F-1 OR CHARTROOM. No. 4 SPECIAL.

**TOP SECRET**

Regraded Unclassified

СОЗДАТЕЛЬ ШИФРА

**TOP SECRET DISPATCH**

DRAFTER	EXT.	ADDRESSEES		PRECEDENCE
FROM _____		ASTERISK (*) MAILGRAM ADDRESSEE		1
RELEASED BY _____		FOR ACTION		PRIORITY 2
DATE _____				ROUTINE 3
TOR CODER ROOM _____				DEFERRED 4
				BASEGRAM 5
DECODED BY _____		INFORMATION		6
PARAPHRASED BY _____	CHECKED BY _____			PRIORITY 9
	DITTOED BY _____			ROUTINE 10
ROUTED BY _____	BY _____			DEFERRED 11
				BASEGRAM 12
UNLESS OTHERWISE INDICATED THIS DISPATCH WILL BE TRANSMITTED WITH DEFERRED PRECEDENCE AND AS ADMINISTRATIVE.				13
PAGE 2 OF 2	171247	NCR 6465	IF OPERATIONAL CHECK BELOW	14
			<input type="checkbox"/>	15

Originator fill in DATE AND TIME GROUP (Use G. C. T.)

ON OUTGOING DISPATCHES PLEASE LEAVE ABOUT ONE INCH CLEAR SPACE BEFORE BEGINNING TEXT

TRIP POSTPONED INDEFINITELY. SIGNED HURLEY

NAVAIDE (#1 & #2)..... ACTION

No. 1 ADMIRAL. No. 2 FILE. No. 3F-1 OR CHARTROOM. No. 4 SPECIAL.

**TOP SECRET**

Handle only in accordance with "Top Secret" instructions contained in Article 76, Navy Regulations. COPY NO.

OPNAV 1578

Regraded Unclassified

MR-OUT-679.

17 December 1944

W

FROM ADMIRAL BROWN TO THE PRESIDENT

I have given to the Secretary of State copies of the Prime Minister's numbers 854 and 855.

MEMORANDUM

The 100's (and 100's and 200's) (detached from battleships) were ordered to proceed to the Philippines on a southeasterly course. We do not know whether these ships are at present in operational status and whether they are being used for the purpose of attacking our forces.

RECD 171504Z

Following capture of Gumburg and Weissemburg in border area the German Navy is reported to be concentrating in the North Sea. It is believed that the German Navy has been ordered to shift its base to the North Sea.

Official details regarding heavy German submarines (U-23) are being received as yet, although reports are being received that attacks of this type are being made against our forces. It is believed that the German Navy is still in the North Sea.

MEMORANDUM

Bad weather has hampered landing of troops and stores at various points in the North Sea. It is believed that the German Navy is still in the North Sea. It is believed that the German Navy is still in the North Sea.

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The German Navy has reported that it has captured several ships in the North Sea. It is believed that the German Navy is still in the North Sea.

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MR-OUT-678 (1715152)

17 December 1944

PHILIPPINES

On Mindoro, the town of San Jose was occupied without any casualties to our forces. Airdrome construction has been started in this area, where the ground is reported hard and dry.

On 15 December, attacks against Allied shipping caused some damage and included three suicide crash dives. Naval antiaircraft fire shot down four planes, fighter patrols claimed 17 others.

INDO-CHINA

Two XCV's (the ISA and HYUGA--converted from battleships) were sighted off Camranah by one of our subs in company with one or two heavy cruisers and a number of destroyers on a southeasterly course. We do not know whether this force will head for the Philippines, Borneo, or Formosa, but we do know that these ships are at present in operational status and capable of undertaking counteraction against our forces.

WESTERN FRONT

Following capture of Lauterbourg and Weissenburg on border near the Rhine south of Karlsruhe, U.S. Seventh Army units are encountering Siegfried Line defenses in Germany and advance has been slowed by stiff resistance.

Official details concerning heavy German counterattacks on U.S. First Army sector have not been received as yet, although morning press features this action. Attacks of this type are an enemy capability, since he has recently been able to hold most of his armor in reserve

GREECE

Bad weather has hampered landing of troops and stores at Piraeus, where operations to clear harbor area continue. ELAS forces attacked Indian troops at Krioneri near Messolonghi and forced an evacuation under fire which was covered by British naval support. Some tanks and about 80 vehicles were abandoned. Withdrawal of British forces from Kavallo, Volos, Kalamata, Preveza, Levkas, north shore of Gulf of Corinth and Ionian Islands has been ordered. Previous reports had not indicated any increase in tension these places.

ITALY

New Zealand troops have captured Faenza, and advanced several miles beyond the town toward Bologna against heavy opposition.

CLIPPERTON

U.S. converted yacht ARGUS reports survey Clipperton shows small amount food supplies and dynamite. Emergency equipment, including RCAF fishing pack, indicates fairly recent occupation. Consider this was probably left by survey party. Comwestseafron has directed exclusion of all personnel except from regularly commissioned French man-of war.

Regraded Unclassified

MR-OUT  
627

TOP SECRET

17th December 1944

*M*

From: The U.S. Military Attache, London, England

To : The President of The United States

Nr : 856                      Filed 17/1025Z

Prime Minister to President Roosevelt. Personal and TOP  
SECRET. Number 856.

Your number 675. I am most grateful to you for sending  
this telegram to U.J. It can do nothing but good.

Prime

TOP SECRET

171430Z  
RLUB

HR-OUT  
676

17 December 1944

From: U. S. Military Attache, London, England

To: The President of The United States

Nr: 855, 17 December 1944

Filed 170115Z

Prime Minister to President Roosevelt personal and TOP SECRET  
private and confidential number 855.

About Greece. The present position is that our representatives on the spot, MacMillan and Leeper, have strongly recommended the appointment of the Archbishop as regent. This is obnoxious to the Papandreou Government though they might be persuaded to advocate a regency of three, namely the Archbishop, General Plastiras and Dragoumis. There is suspicion that the Archbishop is ambitious of obtaining chief political power and that, supported by EAM, he will use it ruthlessly against existing ministers. Whether this be true or not I cannot say. The facts are changing from hour to hour. I do not feel at all sure that in setting up a one-man regency we might not be imposing a dictatorship in Greece.

There is also to be considered the fact that the King refuses, I think inflexibly, to appoint a regency, certainly not a one-man regency of the Archbishop, whom he distrusts and fears. According to the Greek constitution the Crown Prince is Regent in the absence of the King. The King also states that all his ministers under Papandreou advise him against such a step and that, as a constitutional monarch, he cannot be

Recd 171210 Z

Sub: 171430 Z  
RUB

responsible for it.

The War Cabinet decided to await for three or four days the course of military operations. Our reinforcements are arriving rapidly and the British General Staff Intelligence says that there are not more than 12,000 ELAS in Athens and the Piraeus. The Greek King's estimate is 15 to 22,000. Anyhow we shall, by the middle of next week, be far superior in numbers. I am not prepared, as at present informed, to give way to unconstitutional violence in such circumstances.

Our immediate task is to secure control of Athens and the Piraeus. According to the latest reports ELAS may agree to depart. This will give us a firm basis from which to negotiate the best settlement possible between the warring Greek factions. It will certainly have to provide for the disarming of the Guerrilla forces. The disarmament of the Greek Mountain Brigade, who took Rimini, and the Sacred Squadron, who fought so well at the side of British and American troops, would seriously weaken our forces, and in any case we could not abandon them to massacre. They may however be removed elsewhere as part of a general settlement.

I am sure you would not wish us to cast down our painful and thankless task at this time. We embarked upon it with your full consent (see my number 755 and your reply). We desire nothing from Greece but to do our duty by the common cause. In the midst of our task of bringing food and relief and maintaining the rudiments of order for a government which has no armed forces, we have become involved in a furious, though not as yet very bloody, struggle. I have felt it much that you were unable to give a word of explanation for our action but I understand your

difficulties.

Meanwhile the cabinet is united and the Socialist ministers approve Mr. Bevin's declarations at the labour conference which, on this matter, endorse the official platform by a majority of 2,455,000 to 137,000 votes. I could at any time obtain, I believe, a ten to one majority in the House of Commons. I am sure you will do whatever you can. I will keep you constantly informed.

**TOP SECRET**  
**CORRECTED COPY**

*MR-OUT*  
*675*

16 December 1944

From: U.S. Military Attache, London, England

To: The President of The United States

Nr: 854, 16 December 1944

Filed 162301Z

Prime Minister to President Roosevelt Personal and TOP SECRET  
Number 854.

In your telegram Number 674 you asked for my estimate of the possibility of Mikolajczyk returning to power with enough authority to carry out his plans.

When he resigned it looked to us for the time as though efforts by other Poles to form a government might fail and Mikolajczyk be called back soon. Now that Arciszewski's government has established itself, we no longer see any immediate prospect of this. The majority of the Poles here appear to have accepted Arciszewski *faute de mieux*, and to be in a fatalistic mood of waiting for something to turn up. But with the Poles these moods do not last. In London Mikolajczyk has the support of all his own Peasant party and of important elements of the Socialist and Christian Labour parties. We have indications that the people in Poland are unhappy about Mikolajczyk's absence from the government. { I am hopeful therefore that Mikolajczyk's return to power will still be possible in the new year. }

*Recd 171210Z*  
*Sent: 171430Z.*  
*RUB*

Regraded Unclassified

You also asked about the Lublin Committee. We do not regard it as in any way representative of Polish opinion and whatever developments there may be in the Soviet Government's attitude we do not, at present, intend to recognise it. We shall maintain our recognition of the London Government, which is the legal government of Poland and the authority to which the large Polish forces fighting under British command owe allegiance. We hope that we can keep in step and consult beforehand on all this.

TOP SECRET

674

16 December 1944

From: U.S. Military Attache, London, England

To: The President of The United States

Nr: 854, 16 December 1944

Filed 162301Z

Prime Minister to President Roosevelt Personal and TOP SECRET  
Number 854.

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You also asked about the Lubin Committee. We do not regard it as in any way representative of Polish opinion and whatever developments

Recd 170235Z

Send 170249Z

TOP SECRET

Regraded Unclassified

TOP SECRET

-2-

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\* Message being serviced

TOP SECRET

Regraded Unclassified

673

SECRET

W3

MESSAGE TO THE PRESIDENT FROM THE SECRETARY

The United States Government's position as regards  
 and sympathy for the interests of the Polish people. This  
 position has been communicated to you in a letter of  
 it  
 There is attached the statement which I make to the press regarding Poland. I am reluctant  
 to trouble you with this matter before your return here  
 but the pressure from the press is becoming so great  
 that I feel it will be necessary to make a statement not  
 later than noon on Monday. If we put it off until a  
 later date I feel we would have to say more. If you  
 approve this draft it will be released on Monday.

*approved by the Secretary*

*Charles E. Bohlen*

PROPOSED STATEMENT BY THE SECRETARY OF STATE

The United States Government's position as regards Poland has been steadfastly guided by full understanding and sympathy for the interests of the Polish people. This position has been communicated on previous occasions to the interested governments, including the Government of Poland. It may be summarized as follows:

1. The United States Government stands unequivocally for a strong, free and independent Polish state with the untrammelled right of the Polish people to order their internal existence as they see fit.

2. It has been the consistently held policy of the United States Government that questions relating to boundaries should be left in abeyance until the termination of hostilities. As Secretary Hull stated in his address of April 9, 1944, "This does not mean that certain questions may not and should not in the meantime be settled by friendly conference and agreement." This is particularly true when the settlement of outstanding disputes by mutual agreement is essential in the prosecution of the war against the common enemy. In the case of the eastern, western and northern frontiers of Poland, if a mutual agreement is reached by the United Nations directly concerned, this  
Government

Government would not oppose such an agreement. The United States Government continues to adhere to its traditional policy of declining to give guarantees for any specific frontiers. The United States Government is working for the establishment of a world security organization through which the United States together with other member states would assume responsibility for the preservation of general security.

3. Recognizing the desirability of contributing in so far as possible to the attainment of general tranquility and security in the post-war world the United States Government, in cooperation with other Governments, will assist Poland, in so far as practicable, in the transfer and resettlement of national groups provided the Government and people of Poland desire to bring about such transfer and resettlement.

4. It is the announced aim of the United States Government, subject to legislative authority, to assist the countries liberated from the enemy in repairing the devastation of war and thus to bring to their peoples the opportunity to join as full partners in the task of building a more prosperous and secure life for all men and women. This applies to Poland as well as the other United Nations.

The

The policy of the United States Government regarding Poland outlined above has as its objective the attainment of the announced basic principles of United States foreign policy.

Signal Corps, United States Army

TOP SECRET

MR-OUT-672

16 December 1944

*WR*

FOR THE PRESIDENT FROM THE SECRETARY OF STATE:

My suggested message to Stalin on Poland and the reasons therefore (MR-OUT-670) was drafted and sent to you before I received your drafts (MR-IN-236). If you approve the draft I sent you, I believe the substance of yours relating to the place of meeting could go as a separate message when you get Stalin's reply.

RFCD 162232Z - amc



DEST COPY

TOP SECRET

# Signal Corps, United States Army

Received at

## TOP SECRET

MR-OUT-672

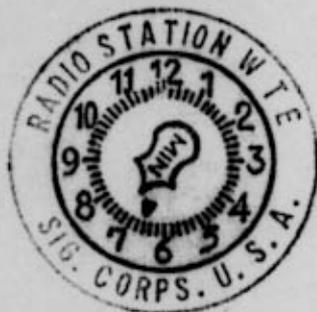
DECEMBER 16, 1944

FOR THE PRESIDENT FROM THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

MY SUGGESTED MESSAGE TO STALIN ON POLAND AND THE REASONS THEREFOR (MR-OUT-670) WAS DRAFTED AND SENT TO YOU BEFORE I RECEIVED YOUR DRAFTS (MR-IN-236). IF YOU APPROVE THE DRAFT I SENT YOU, I BELIEVE THE SUBSTANCE OF YOURS RELATING TO THE PLACE OF MEETING COULD GO AS A SEPARATE MESSAGE WHEN YOU GET STALIN'S REPLY.

NO SIG.

RECEIVED



DEC 16 1944 PM

*See State*

*Your 672 approved.  
Please notify The P.M. in  
my name*

*Russell*

## TOP SECRET

Regraded Unclassified

671

SECRET

December 16, 1944

WA

TELEGRAM TO THE PRESIDENT FROM THE SECRETARY OF STATE:

Dr. Berle has returned to Washington and I have had my first talk with him today. He is now willing to take the Brazilian post if he does not have to make a commitment to stay there for a definite period. He would like to feel free to resign after the fall of Germany. He says he can be of assistance in connection with the Argentina problem and the meeting of the Foreign Ministers of Latin America when that is held.

He will see you immediately on your return to tell you this and accept the post under these conditions.

I asked him if he was particularly anxious to have his name submitted to the Senate during the present Congress or to the new Congress. He said he would prefer to have his name sent to the new Congress.



162150Z

Signal Corps, United States Army

RECEIVED



Received at

TOP SECRET

MR-OUT-671

DECEMBER 16, 1944

DEC 16 1944 PM

FOR THE PRESIDENT FROM THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

DR. BERLE HAS RETURNED TO WASHINGTON AND I HAVE HAD MY FIRST TALK WITH HIM TODAY. HE IS NOW WILLING TO TAKE THE BRAZILIAN POST IF HE DOES NOT HAVE TO MAKE A COMMITMENT TO STAY THERE FOR A DEFINITE PERIOD. HE WOULD LIKE TO FEEL FREE TO RESIGN AFTER THE FALL OF GERMANY. HE SAYS HE CAN BE OF ASSISTANCE IN CONNECTION WITH THE ARGENTINA PROBLEM AND THE MEETING OF THE FOREIGN MINISTERS OF LATIN AMERICA WHEN THAT IS HELD.

HE WILL SEE YOU IMMEDIATELY ON YOUR RETURN TO TELL YOU THIS AND ACCEPT THE POST UNDER THESE CONDITIONS.

I ASKED HIM IF HE WAS PARTICULARLY ANXIOUS TO HAVE HIS NAME SUBMITTED TO THE SENATE DURING THE PRESENT CONGRESS OR TO THE NEW CONGRESS. HE SAID HE WOULD PREFER TO HAVE HIS NAME SENT TO THE NEW CONGRESS.

NO SIG.

*Delighted with Berle's acceptance  
I will see him thru a week*

TOP SECRET

Regraded Unclassified

670

TELEGRAM TO THE PRESIDENT FROM THE SECRETARY OF STATE. (MAP  
ROOM. NOTE: Sec of State has not yet seen the President's message  
AR-14-236)

On your request I am attaching a draft of a suggested message to Marshal Stalin in accordance with your exchanges with the Prime Minister on the subject.

We feel that it is necessary for me to make a statement reemphasizing and perhaps clarifying our position on the Polish matter along the lines of your letter to Mr. Mikolajczyk. I feel also that the general statement of position will in truth be welcomed by Marshal Stalin, and you will note that it is very much in harmony with the sentiments expressed by the Prime Minister yesterday in the House of Commons.

I believe that by giving Stalin advance notice of this statement the chances would be increased of his withholding any sudden move in regard to the Lublin Committee pending the meeting.

If you approve of this message it can be sent right off and repeated to the Prime Minister and thus constitute an answer to his 853 of December 16.

The full text of the proposed statement on Poland will be sent to you as soon as it is drafted.

1621182.

*Your 653. I have today recd the following message to St. J.*

TOP SECRET

FROM THE PRESIDENT TO MARSHAL STALIN.

In view of the interest raised in this country by Prime Minister Churchill's statement in the House of Commons yesterday and the strong pressure we are under to make known our position in regard to Poland, I believe it may be necessary in the next few days for this Government to issue some statement on the subject. This statement, if issued, will outline our attitude somewhat along the following lines:

1. The United States Government stands unequivocally for a strong, free, independent and democratic Poland.
2. In regard to the question of future frontiers of Poland, the United States, although considering it desirable that territorial questions await the general postwar settlement, recognizes that a settlement before that time is in the interest of the common war effort and therefore would have no objection if the territorial questions involved in the Polish situation, including the proposed compensation from Germany, were settled by mutual agreement between the parties directly concerned.

3. Recognizing

3. Recognizing that the transfer of minorities in some cases is feasible and would contribute to the general security and tranquillity in the areas concerned, the United States Government would have no objection if the Government and the people of Poland desire to transfer national minorities ~~to and from the future territory of Poland~~ and would ~~be prepared in so far as feasible to assist~~ <sup>join in</sup> ~~together with others in~~ such transfers.

4. In conformity with its announced ~~policy~~ <sup>aim</sup> this Government is prepared to assist, subject to legislative authority, and in so far as may be practicable, in the economic reconstruction of countries devastated by Nazi aggression. This policy applies equally to Poland as to other such devastated countries of the United Nations.

The proposed statement, as you will note, will contain nothing, I am sure, that is not known to you as the general attitude of this Government and is I believe in so far as it goes in general accord with the results of your discussion with Prime Minister Churchill in Moscow in the autumn, and for this

reason

reason, I am sure, you will welcome it.

I feel it is of the highest importance that until the three of us can get together and thoroughly discuss this troublesome question there be no action on any side which would render our discussions more difficult. I have seen indications that the Lublin Committee may be intending to give itself the status of a provisional government of Poland. I fully appreciate the desirability from your point of view of having a clarification of Polish authority before your armies move further into Poland. I very much hope, however, that because of the great political implications which such a step would entail you would find it possible to refrain from recognizing the Lublin Committee as a government of Poland ~~(until)~~ *before* we meet, which I hope will be immediately after my inauguration on January 20. Could you not until that date continue to deal with the Committee in its present form. I know that Prime Minister Churchill shares my views on this point.

16 December 1944

MA

EVENING NEWS, ADMIRAL BROWN TO THE PRESIDENT

PHILIPPINES

Admiral Halsey reports destroying eight out of eight enemy planes attempting to attack our carrier forces. Our planes still blanket Luzon with no air opposition. Targets hard to find although photos still show many hidden planes. Partial account of planes destroyed last three days: 235 destroyed, 138 damaged. Cannot estimate total enemy operational planes remaining, but 99 fields have been well covered and air capabilities considered negligible until again reinforced. No further information on ground operations on Mindoro.

BURMA

Following from General Sultan's Headquarters; Information regarding enemy activities in rear areas sketchy and in many instances from low rated sources but general tenor of all reports is southward movement of troops and supplies through the Mandalay Area toward Rangoon; possibility exists that general withdrawal from Burma now in progress if Allied pressure is maintained.

CHINA

Chinese reoccupation of Pachai (70 miles southeast Kweiyang) last week represented the turning point of the Japanese swift and demoralizing drive towards Kweiyang. Trend towards reorganization of Chinese defenses, bitterly cold winter weather, or overextended Japanese supply lines appeared to dissuade Japs from further penetration. Chinese pursued re-treating Japs without contact retaking many points along railroad including Nantan, 120 miles south of Kweiyang.

RECD 162045Z

MR-OUT  
666

TOP SECRET

16 December 1944

WS

From: U.S. Military Attache, London, England  
To: The President of The United States  
Nr: 853, 16 December 1944 Filed 161109Z  
Prime Minister to President Roosevelt Personal and  
TOP SECRET Number 853.

I thank you cordially for your telegram number 674 about Poland. I trust you will carry out your proposal to send a message to Stalin suggesting that he postpone any positive action on the Polish question until the 3 of us can get together. This suggestion is most valuable and also I feel extremely urgent. Would it be possible for you to do this today, as I apprehend Stalin may make some move recognizing the Lublin Committee as the government of Poland.

We will send you a fuller account of our views on the other questions you raise as soon as possible, probably tomorrow. I also hope to send you a statement about Greece in answer to your number 673.

I do hope you have benefited by your brief rest at Hot Springs after so strenuous and successful a campaign.

*Copy being sent to STATE DEPARTMENT.*

TOP SECRET

Prime

Swt: 161510Z.  
RUB

TOP SECRET

OUT 667. 16/1730Z

16 December 1944

WB

From: U. S. Military Attache, London, England

To: The President of The United States

Nr: 853, 16 December 1944

Filed 161515Z

Correction from source to Prime Minister's message  
to President TOPSEC No 853.

Please insert in para 2 after "Tomorrow":-

I can however tell you at once that the War Cabinet  
feel that the four points mentioned in your letter to  
Mikolajczyk are very much in line with our ideas, and that  
the publication of them could do nothing but good.

Rec'd 16/1720Z.

No Sig.

TOP SECRET

16 December 1944

MR-OUT-665

FOR THE PRESIDENT FROM ADMIRAL BROWN

Philippines

Following our unopposed landing in southern Mindoro, our forces penetrated eight miles inland by that evening. Unloading operations proceeded rapidly and ahead of schedule. Hostile air reaction during approach and unloading was weak. First reports indicate airdrome potentialities excellent.

In addition to the enemy aircraft destroyed on Luzon reported in last night's news, Admiral Halsey reports extensive damage to ground installations and the following damage to Jap ships in adjacent waters: five cargo ships and one oiler sunk; six small cargo ships left burning; one large transport beached; three destroyers, one destroyer escort, one escort vessel, and two cargo ships damaged.

On 15 December, the USS HOWORTH in Mangarin Bay, Mindoro, was attacked by two suicide Zeros, one of which struck the radar antennas, glanced off the fore-castle and crashed into the water. No personnel casualties are reported, but there was minor hull and radar damage.

Fourteenth Air Force plane sighted two battleships, two light cruisers and one heavy cruiser in Camranh Bay on Indo-China coast.

Western Front

The crossing of the German border near Karlsruhe by elements of the U.S. 7th Army was made against slight resistance. Further to the east, in the Hardt Mountains, the enemy is resisting fiercely, but 21st Panzer Division was forced to evacuate Lembach. In the U.S. 3rd Army sector resistance in our Saarlautern bridgehead is reported decreasing.

Progress in the advance on Duren is slow because of pillboxes, wire, mines and artillery fire and counterattacks. The level of the Roer River has risen three feet in the past three days. This may be due to enemy controlling flow of river from dams in the Schmidt area.

U.S. Casualty figures, excluding air force, from D-day through 2400, 30 November, are as follows: Killed: 44,143; Wounded: 189,118; Missing: 24863.

#### Burma

The communications center of Bhamo on the Irriwaddy River was taken on 15th December. This city was bypassed by Chinese forces and has been under seige for several weeks.

#### Greece

U.S. Naval Attache reports British reinforcements arrived during the 14th and that military situation is relatively quiet. General Plasteras arrived Athens on the 13th, and an observer believes a compromise will be impossible if the British agree to his succession of Papandreou.

#### Miscellaneous

Your five-star appointments confirmed by Senate.

SENT: 161458Z

WAR DEPARTMENT  
CLASSIFIED MESSAGE CENTER  
INCOMING CLASSIFIED MESSAGE

SECRET TOT  
OPERATIONAL PRIORITY

664  
WAZ  
WR

From: General Headquarters, Southwest Pacific Area,  
Advance, Leyte, Philippines

To: War Department

No. C 54925 16 December 1944

From GHQ SWPA sgd MacArthur to Chief of Staff  
War Department C 54925 for President Roosevelt from General  
MacArthur.

My grateful thanks for the promotion you have just  
given me.

My pleasure in receiving it is greatly enhanced  
because it was made by you.

End

ACTION: White House ✓

CM-IN-15517 (16 Dec 44) 0555Z m/m

SECRET

COPY NO. 1

THE MAKING OF AN EXACT COPY OF THIS MESSAGE IS FORBIDDEN

Regraded Unclassified

663

TELEGRAM TO THE PRESIDENT  
FROM THE SECRETARY OF STATE

I sent you on December 14 the following memorandum on the delivery of French currency to the French Provisional Government:

QUOTE The Secretary of the Treasury has asked me whether I approve of turning over to the French Provisional Government the new non-military French currency which is being printed in this country and which the French plan to use to replace the various currencies now in circulation in France. The French desire that the currency be turned over to them as soon as possible.

On May 24, 1944 you approved the printing of this currency on the understanding that it would remain under our control "until such time as this Government is prepared to release the notes to whatever French authorities are finally determined to be responsible for civil affairs administration in France".

In view of our recognition of the French Provisional Government, it seems to me that there is no objection to the proposed action. Do you approve? UNQUOTE

December 14, 1944

-2-

The Department was advised by the Treasury Department this morning that a French cruiser is arriving on December 16 in order to receive and transport rapidly some of this currency now stored in this country. I would consequently appreciate receiving an early reply since, whatever your decision, we do not wish to hold up this cruiser.

December 15, 1944

152370 Z

Regraded Unclassified

662

PREPARING OFFICE  
WILL INDICATE WHETHER

TO BE TRANSMITTED

# TELEGRAM SENT

SECRET ~~xxx~~

Collect { Full rate  
Day letter  
Night letter

CONFIDENTIAL

RESTRICTED

CLEAR

PARTAIR

Charge Department:

## Department of State

Full rate  
Day letter  
Night letter

Washington,

Charge to

December 15, 1944

\$

SECRET

WDL  
WJ

### TO THE PRESIDENT FROM THE SECRETARY OF STATE

A situation has developed with regard to shipping which I hesitate to get into at all in view of the urgent and paramount requirements in this field for the supply of our Armed Forces. Nevertheless, as a result of a lack of essential civilian supplies, conditions are developing in Europe which may produce the gravest consequences and which I feel I should bring to your attention.

Greece is an illustration and the same type of situation exists in Italy. Belgium is close to disorder. It was possible for a short time after liberation to prevent "disease and unrest" with minimum food and medical supplies. Now something more is required. The alternative would appear to be persistent disorder and delay in the firm establishment of democratic forms of government in these countries. In addition to food and direct relief supplies, a few essential raw materials and items of equipment necessary to put idle hands to work in producing and distributing goods seem desperately needed.

I, therefore, recommend, first, that you appoint someone who can, in consultation with the highest civilian and military authorities, review the overall shipping situation to see whether our political and military objectives require further accommodation to the shipping currently at our disposal. A recommendation can then be made to you for a decision on the use of ships in operational needs and the civilian programs for liberated areas; second, that as rapidly as possible separate allocations of shipping outside of the military pool be made directly to the governments of the liberated countries. Supreme Headquarters Allied Expeditionary Forces has promised the inland transport, assigned the port space, and endorsed the request of the French and Belgian Governments for the separate shipping allocation. The War Shipping Administration strongly favors it. These Governments have a large number of their own ships in the Allied pool. At best the amount of shipping which could be made available is far less than is needed, and these Governments will ration their tonnage to the most essential items.

Should the War Shipping Administration be given this authority, <sup>it</sup> should consult the appropriate agencies of the Government for guidance on policy.

Sent by operator \_\_\_\_\_ M., \_\_\_\_\_ 19\_\_\_\_  
cc: To adm. Leahy

152320 z

U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE 16-25293-1

662

Regraded Unclassified

661

Top Secret

Telegram to the President from the Secretary of State.

661  
You have undoubtedly seen the press reports on Mr. Churchill's statement in the House of Commons regarding the Polish problem in which he emphasized his general agreement with the Soviet proposals on Polish frontiers and apparently he implied that it was difficult to reach a solution to the problem since the United States Government has not clearly defined its attitude. Since I have seen only the early newspaper reports I have declined to comment on the statement.

You will recall that on November 15 you sent by Ambassador Harriman a letter to Mikolajczyk outlining our policy in regard to Poland. This letter was shown to Mr. Churchill before Ambassador Harriman delivered it to Mikolajczyk. The following is a summary of the United States position on the Polish question laid down in that letter:

1. We stand unequivocally for a strong, free and independent Poland with the untrammelled right of the Polish people to order their internal existence as they see fit.

2. Regarding the future frontiers of Poland, this Government would offer no objection if a mutual agreement on this subject including proposed compensation

152125Z.

compensation for Poland from Germany was reached between the Polish, Soviet and British Governments. As regards a United States guarantee of any specific frontier, it was stated that this Government, in accordance with its traditional policy, did not give guarantees for any specific frontier. But it was pointed out that the United States Government is working for the establishment of a world security organization through which we with other members of the United Nations will assume responsibility for general security which of course includes the inviolability of agreed frontiers.

3. If the Polish Government and the people desire in connection with the new frontiers to bring about a transfer to and from the territory of Poland of national minorities the United States Government will raise no objection and as far as practicable will facilitate such transfer.

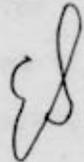
4. It was indicated that we were prepared, subject to legislative authority to assist in so far as practicable in the postwar economic reconstruction of Poland.

I am sending a full summary of these four points so that you will have them before you, since you will undoubtedly

undoubtedly be questioned at your first press conference on your return. I hope to talk over with you the possible necessity of some public statement making clear our position along the lines of the four points.

It is not clear from the reports we have so far received on Churchill's statement whether he is endeavoring to force a change in the present Polish cabinet and bring Mikolajczyk back or whether he may plan to follow a Soviet lead and recognize the Lublin Committee as the government of Poland. In this connection there are definite indications that the Lublin Committee is planning to declare itself as the provisional government of Poland, and other indications point to the probability that it will be recognized as such by Stalin, possibly at an early date.

In view of the uncertainty as to Churchill's plans, it is suggested you might care to send the attached telegram to him.



Telegram to the Prime Minister

I have seen the newspaper reports of your statement in the House on the Polish question. In order that we may cooperate fully in this matter I would appreciate receiving the benefit of your ideas as to what steps we can now take in regard to this question. Particularly I would like to have your evaluation of the possibility of Mikolajczyk's coming back into power with sufficient authority to carry out his plans and what action you feel we should take in the event the Lublin Committee should declare itself to be the provisional government of Poland and Stalin should recognize it as such. In view of this possibility I wonder if it would be helpful if I should send a message to Stalin suggesting that he postpone any positive action on the Polish question until the three of us can get together.

You will recall the contents of the letter I sent to Mikolajczyk by Mr. Harriman which he showed to you and which outlines our policy in regard to Poland. I anticipate strong pressure here for the position of this Government to be made clear, and I may therefore have to make public in some form the four points outlining our position contained in my letter to Mikolajczyk referred to above.

*Sent as PRES # 674.*

Knowing that we have in mind the same basic objectives in regard to Poland I want to be sure to coordinate with you any steps which I may contemplate in this matter.

MR-OUT-660 .

15 December 1944

EVENING NEWS, ADMIRAL BROWN TO THE PRESIDENT

WB

MINDORO

We have no reports as yet from land forces ashore concerning progress on Mindoro. Apparently the enemy was taken completely by surprise and we are faced by negligible opposition.

U.S. submarines have been stationed throughout the South China Sea so as to be able to intercept any attempt on the part of the Japs to harrass our landing forces or disrupt our communications. So far, Jap warships have been sighted off French Indo-China but it is doubted if they are to be used against our landing operation.

Our Third Fleet has managed to pretty thoroughly neutralize Jap Luzon aircraft, having destroyed 224 planes as of 10:00 this morning and damaged 90 more. It is estimated that remaining Jap planes (estimated 275) are well hidden and widely dispersed. It is believed the enemy will be unable to put any sizeable number in the air.

The Third Fleet is maintaining a day and night CAP over Luzon.

ADRIATIC

A British destroyer, the ALDENHAM, was sunk by a mine in the Adriatic.

GREECE

Cinclmed reports that situation at Pireaus is quieter and that the armies are making steady progress. Voluntary Greek ratings are operating ashore and are proving enormous success as civilians are enthusiastic at sight of uniformed Greek forces.

152052Z - amc

659

**SECRET**

December 15, 1944

WB

LEAHY TO PRESIDENT:

The following draft reply to Governor Lehman's message 10939 December 9, is forwarded for your consideration.

Jerry Land concurs:

QUOTE: President to Governor Lehman, via State Department.

Replying to your message of December 9, I am informed that the W.S.A. contemplates allocating shipping space directly to UNRRA to meet your January and February requirements for Italy as stated in your communication, ~~of~~ ~~9 December~~. A broad review of the combined shipping position is being undertaken in which your requirements for subsequent months will be considered. A decision will be made on the basis of that review regarding the shipping that can be provided from British and U. S. sources to cover UNRRA programs after February. UNQUOTE.

NOTE FOR CAPTAIN GRAHAM: Lehman's message, to which this is a draft reply, was sent to the President by State Department by pouch. It was returned by pouch to Admiral Leahy on 13 December for preparation of reply in consultation with Admiral Land. Doubt if you have copy available but the President will remember it.

G.M.E.

151930Z

# Signal Corps, United States Army



Received at

## TOP SECRET

DEC 15 1944 PM

15 DECEMBER 1944.

MR-OUT-659:

TO THE PRESIDENT FROM ADMIRAL LEAHY:

THE FOLLOWING DRAFT REPLY TO GOVERNOR LEHMAN'S MESSAGE 10939  
DECEMBER 9, IS FORWARDED FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION. JERRY LAND CONCURS:

QUOTE: PRESIDENT TO GOVERNOR LEHMAN, VIA STATE DEPARTMENT,  
REPLYING TO YOUR MESSAGE OF DECEMBER 9, I AM INFORMED THAT THE  
W.S.A. CONTEMPLATES ALLOCATING SHIPPING SPACE DIRECTLY TO UNRRA TO MEET  
YOUR JANUARY AND FEBRUARY REQUIREMENTS FOR ITALY AS STATED IN YOUR  
COMMUNICATION. A BROAD REVIEW OF THE COMBINED SHIPPING POSITION IS  
BEING UNDERTAKEN IN WHICH YOUR REQUIREMENTS FOR SUBSEQUENT MONTHS WILL  
BE CONSIDERED. A DECISION WILL BE MADE ON THE BASIS OF THAT REVIEW  
REGARDING THE SHIPPING THAT CAN BE PROVIDED FROM BRITISH AND U.S.  
SOURCES TO COVER UNRRA PROGRAMS AFTER FEBRUARY. UNQUOTE.

NO SIG.

*Leahy*  
*Your 659*  
*Approved here and*  
*forwarded*

## TOP SECRET

PREPARING OFFICE  
WILL INDICATE WHETHER

TELEGRAM SENT

TO BE TRANSMITTED

Collect  Full rate  
 Day letter  
 Night letter

Charge Department:  Full rate  
 Day letter  
 Night letter

Charge to

\$

SECRET

MR-OUT  
65B

TO THE PRESIDENT FROM THE SECRETARY OF STATE

SECRET

SECRET  
CONFIDENTIAL  
RESTRICTED  
CLEAR  
AIRGRAM

Washington, December 15, 1944

WB

Harriman has just advised us that he saw Stalin last night and presented your message on voting procedure in the Security Council. Stalin had Dekanasov present as Molotov is ill and in Stalin's words must undergo an "inconsequential stomach operation." Vyshinski is also ill and Dekanasov is presently senior officer of the Soviet Foreign Office.

Harriman presented in detail the arguments that we reviewed with him. Stalin stated, however, that the proposal would have to be analyzed before he could make a reply.

If we do not hear from Harriman favorably by the time of your return, I shall have awaiting for your consideration a suggested message for you to send to Stalin calling attention to the importance of reaching a conclusion as promptly as possible in order that invitations may be issued to the United Nations Conference.

I am concerned that if we postpone calling a conference until after your meeting, it will be delayed until spring which will result in little likelihood of getting a charter before the Senate for consideration until the summer. Several Senators have recently told us the longer the delay the more difficult will be their part of the job.

S:HR:ALW

Enciphered by .....

Sent by operator AMW M., ..... 19.....

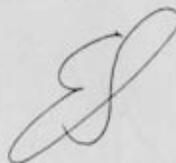
151910Z

THE SECRETARY OF STATE  
WASHINGTON

December 15, 1944

MEMORANDUM FOR THE MAP ROOM

Will you be good enough to have  
the attached message despatched to the  
President promptly?

A handwritten signature in dark ink, consisting of a stylized, cursive 'E' or 'S' shape.

TOP SECRET

15 December 1944

From: U.S. Military Attache, London

To: President of the United States

Nr: 852

Prime Minister to President Roosevelt person and TOP  
SECRET number 852.

Following is text of letter, dated December 14th, mentioned  
in my immediately preceding telegram. Begins My Dear Prime Minister,

I feel I must convey to you the deep sorrow produced in my by  
yesterdays discussions. After a common effort of so many years,  
during which I did not spare myself or my people, I never expected  
that the time would ever come when I should hear what I heard yesterday.

I have pondered with all possible detachment on the arguments  
you advanced in support of the immediate establishment of a Regency,  
and I have studied anew Mr MacMillan's views, to which you seemed to  
subscribe.

What you demand of me really amounts to this: that I should  
entrust the regency to the Archbishop, with all the consequences  
implicit in such an action, without my being told what precisely are  
the obligations the Rebels would undertake against this concession.

Recd 11/0700Z  
Sent us OUT-657

TOP SECRET

Regraded Unclassified

TOP SECRET

You have not assured me that the disarming of the Guerillas would necessarily follow or that General Scobies terms would be accepted, not even do you inform me of the terms of the agreement now being sought with Rebels. What would be the position if, after the announcement of the Regency, the Guerillas were to persist in their refusal to disarm or were to put forward new terms? And what would be my own responsibility if I were now to surrender my authority to a Regent who would be able to take decisions in my name, without my being sure that the large but unarmed majority of my people would not be handed over tomorrow to the tender mercies of an armed minority?

I do not know whose views Mr Macmillan is referring to when he says that the demand for the Archbishops appointment as Regent constitutes "a general hope and wish of the people". What I can tell you, from my own information and on the strength of 10 years experience at the head of my people, is that such a course of action would be regarded as an abandonment of the struggle, would bring confusion to the front of resistance to the extreme left, would disgust the Royalists and the Conservatives, and would immediately give birth to innumerable intrigues around the person of the Archbishop, who does not by any means enjoy the general confidence of the political world. We have had many similar disappointments in the past over the choice of persons.

TOP SECRET

TOP SECRET

Yet you expect me to take such a momentous decision simply on the strength of Mr Macmillans recommendation, without even my government being consulted-indeed, against the views of my own Prime Minister and many other political leaders. In considering such a grave matter concerning the future of the crown and bound also with a vital political problem on the settlement of which will depend the future of my country, I think it would constitute no excessive caution on my part if I wished to ascertain the views of all the representatives of the political parties, who should first be made cognisant of all the advantages that would accrue to the people from such a sacrifice on the part of their King.

From my attitude so far you have no reason to believe that I have ever thought of my own self when it came to a question of serving my country. You will no doubt have in mind all the declarations by which I specifically and irrevocably undertook to submit myself to the will of my people. I left the government entirely in the hands of persons known for their anti-dynastic sentiments, without once pressing for the appointment of any minister faithful to the crown. I agreed not to proceed to Greece without the previous consent of my government, and I accepted without demur your own counsel not to raise this issue at a time when the liberation was being joyfully celebrated throughout Greece. Surely you are in a position to

TOP SECRET

TOP-SECRET

know whether there was ever in my heart the disposition to insist on anything that concerned my person. I am ready for any sacrifice; but this sacrifice must be for my peoples benefit and at my peoples demand. I have never solicited anyones help to safeguard my throne, and you know-you more than anybody else, my dear Prime Minister-how wronged I am by those who think I would wish to rely on anything other than the will of my people. But is it a "self-defense policy" that I should wish to retain intact all my rights and duties towards my people until such time as they can freely express their will?

What hurt me most of all during these discussions was your remarks about the sacrifices the British troops are undergoing in Greece today to impose order. I can assure you that a feeling of horror goes through me when I think of this unbelievable tragedy. What purpose would it serve now to examine how this has come about, and how so many arms are found in the hands of people who, after using them to seize power, have no compunction now in turning them against Greece's best friend? What I would like to say to you once again, after mature reflexion during the night, is that in my desire to help the position of your government and yourself, to whose assistance Greece owes so much, I would not ask your troops to remain in Greece one minute longer than is absolutely necessary for the liberation of the capital and its environs and for the arming of the population so that it can defend itself. Beyond this, it is

TOP SECRET

~~TOP-5-SECRET~~

purely a matter for the occupation authorities, and will depend exclusively on the general policy which your government intends to follow with regard to countries liberated by British arms. But until the arming of the government forces is effected and the safety of the people is ensured, I cannot believe that there is any man in this country who would be willing to abandon the Greek government and that part of the population loyal to it to the mercy of armed bands equipped by the British authorities. Because quite apart from all considerations of fair play in a situation where British initiative is so deeply committed, quite apart also from the most elementary sense of humanity towards an unarmed mass of human being, the government which you recognize today is your ally: it was formed at your recommendation; and it derives its legal status from me, who did not grudge you any sacrifice when my contribution to the allied cause was still of some weight. I did not stop to consider the Greek soldiers would die by the side of your won men in Macedonia and Crete in a military enterprise doomed in advance, nor that Greece would have to suffer the tragedy of occupation. And when, after the German attack, the political leaders faltered and none came forward to assume responsibility, I took that responsibility on my shoulders, acting as my own prime minister for some time.

This country, where you have so hospitably given me shelter

TOP SECRET

~~6~~  
TOP SECRET

and which I have come to love as my own native land, cannot forget these things quickly, and I feel sure that if it were to see my government being abandoned to this fate, a shock would go through it much stronger than that produced by the present anxiety over the fact that British troops are implicated in Greece. More than that: the whole of Europe would soon appreciate that full significance of such a failure.

With most cordial feelings,

Yours very sincerely,

George II

TOP SECRET

15 December 1944

MR-OUT-656

FOR THE PRESIDENT FROM ADMIRAL BROWN.

✓

Philippines

A landing by Southwest Pacific forces was made shortly after sunrise, 15 December, at San Augustin, southwest Mindoro Island. Preliminary reports indicate no enemy opposition was met at the three landing beaches and that everything is going according to plan. No casualties were received by our forces on the initial landing. Later in the morning, our heavy covering naval support forces and carrier groups came under continuous air attack. The latest reports from this group indicate that there was no known damage as yet though there were some casualties. In these attacks, the enemy lost eight planes to the combat air patrol, four to ship's gunfire, and three suicide planes crashed. So far in the operation we have lost two LST's.

An amplifying report, covering the damage sustained by the NASHVILLE as a result of being crash-dived by a Japanese suicide plane, indicates that she has received extensive damage. Apparently the plane crashed broad on the NASHVILLE'S starboard quarter and skidded across her stern to the port side, where one of the two bombs that the plane was carrying exploded. Another bomb exploded on the starboard side and an intense fire was started in the five-inch ready ammunition which was brought under control after five minutes. Considerable topside damage has been incurred but no casualties resulted in her engineering plant. Officers killed in action included two ship officers, five of the Staff of Amphibious Group 9, making a total of seven. Three ship's officers were wounded and four officers of Amphibious Group No. 9, were wounded -- a total of seven. 125 enlisted personnel of the NASHVILLE were killed in action and 175 injured.

The USS BERGALL reports sinking a heavy cruiser off the Coast of French Indo-China on the 13th of December.

Motor torpedo boats from Leyte sank an enemy destroyer or destroyer escort off Palompon, Western Leyte.

#### Western Front

Since yesterday there have been no important changes in front line although small hard fought gains continue to be made.

Both in the Cologne sector and in the Saar, enemy is covering his withdrawal to new positions with vigorous delaying action by infantry. Few Panzer or Panzer Grenadier type divisions are in contact along entire front, and it may be assumed that these are being held back for future action.

#### Greece

British report that captured document shows that the EAM plan of attack on Athens was previously prepared and originally intended for use against the Germans.

Following the lull reported yesterday, ELAS has resumed shelling of Athens. A report on action during 13 December states that offensive action on city by ELAS continued. Road between Athens and Piraeus still open but subject to harassing fire. ELAS hold northern shore of harbor at Piraeus and British are attacking in that direction. British naval gunfire has marked effect whenever delivered.

#### B-29's

In the B-29 raid on Bangkok reported yesterday, 4 aircraft were lost due either to explosion in the bomb bay or immediately after bombs were released.

The 34 planes which bombed railroad bridge at Bangkok reported unobserved to fair-to-good results. Thirteen planes which bombed rail yards at Rangoon

and dock area at Bassein reported excellent results.

Correction -- Yesterday's news stated results of Nagoya raid were fair to poor. This has been corrected to good.

Eastern Front

Soviet pressure against Budapest mounts. From Leningrad to Lubin the terrain is now suitable for offensive operations. The Vistula River, however, does not freeze solid enough for heavy equipment and crossings will require bridging equipment. A large Soviet bridgehead has been long established in the Sandomirez area and it is from here the offensive is most likely to be launched.

London

Radio broadcast says Churchill, in an address to Parliament, on subject of need for Polish-Russian agreement stated U.S. has not clearly stated its views, re-iterates need for early conference of three Heads of State, says he and Eden are ready to go any place any time but would prefer meeting in the U.K.

SENT: 151523Z

TOP SECRET

15 December 1944

MR-OUT-654

From: U. S. Military Attache, London, England

To : The President of the United States

Unnumbered

Filed 151034Z

Here is a note received from originator regarding the following message:

Prime Minister to President Roosevelt Personal and TOP SECRET Number 851.

We received the following:

"I regret there was a mistake in the message sent you last night Number 851. Para two last sentence should read, 'I know nothing to the credit of the Archbishop except that our people on the spot think he might stop a gap or bridge a gully'. You will have 'the people on the spot'."

Please forward.

End.

Sent: 151245Z

TOP SECRET

TOP SECRET

15 December 1944

From: U.S. Military Attache, London

To: President of the United States

Nr: 851 Filed 142325Z

Prime Minister to President Roosevelt personal and TOP  
SECRET number 851.

Your number 673.

I will send you a considered answer to your telegram, for the kindly tone of which I thank you, over the weekend. I hope that the British reinforcements now coming steadily into Attica may make a more healthy situation in Athens. You will realize how very serious it would be if we withdrew, as we easily could, and the result was a frightful massacre, and an extreme left wing regime under Communist inspiration installed itself, as it would, in Athens. My cabinet colleagues here of all parties are not prepared to act in a manner so dishonourable to our record and name. Ernest Bevin's speech to the labour Conference won universal respect. Stern fighting lies ahead, and even danger to our troops in the centre of Athens. The fact that you are supposed to be against us, in accordance with the last sentence of Stettinius press release, as I feared has added to our difficulties and burdens. I think it probable that

Recd 150305Z  
To W/S OUT 654

TOP SECRET

Regraded Unclassified

TOP SECRET

I shall broadcast to the world on Sunday night and make manifest the purity and disinterestedness of our motives throughout and also of our resolves.

Meanwhile I send you a letter I have received from the King of Greece, to whom we have suggested the policy of making the Archbishop of Athens Regent. The King refuses to allow this. Therefore an act of constitutional violence will be entailed if we finally decide upon this course. I know nothing to the credit of the Archbishop, except that ~~the~~<sup>our</sup> people on the spot think ~~it~~<sup>it</sup> might stop a gap or bridge a gully.

End

TOP SECRET

**TOP SECRET DISPATCH**

DRAFTER	EXT.	ADDRESSEES	PRECEDENCE
FROM: <b>ALUSNA MOSCOW</b>		ASTERISK (*) MAILGRAM ADDRESSEE	
RELEASED BY _____		<b>CNO</b>  <i>WNL</i>	PRIORITY <b>PPPPPPPP</b> ROUTINE DEFERRED BASEGRAM
DATE <b>15 DECEMBER 1944.</b>			
TOP CODEROO: <b>0050/15.</b>			
DECODED BY <b>GERMAN</b>			
PARAPHRASED BY <b>GERMAN</b>	CHECKED BY <b>MILLER</b>	<b># 653</b> <i>W.B.</i>	PRIORITY ROUTINE DEFERRED BASEGRAM
BY <b>GERMAN</b>	DITTOED BY <b>GERMAN</b>		
ROUTED BY <b>GERMAN</b>	BY <b>GERMAN</b>		

UNLESS OTHERWISE INDICATED THIS DISPATCH WILL BE TRANSMITTED WITH DEFERRED PRECEDENCE AND AS ADMINISTRATIVE.

**(SHEET ONE OF TWO) 142334Z NCR 3975**

IF OPERATIONAL CHECK BELOW

Originator fill in DATE AND TIME GROUP (Use G. C. T.)

ON OUTGOING DISPATCHES PLEASE LEAVE ABOUT ONE INCH CLEAR SPACE BEFORE BEGINNING TEXT

**(PERSONAL AND TOP SECRET FOR THE PRESIDENT FROM HARRIMAN)**

I TALKED WITH MARSHAL STALIN THIS EVENING ABOUT THE PROPOSED MEETING AND EXPLAINED THAT YOU WISHED THE MEETING TO TAKE PLACE SOMEWHERE IN THE MEDITERRANEAN. HE SAID HE KNEW THAT AND HAD ANSWERED YOU THAT HE COULD NOT GO TO THE MEDITERRANEAN. HE SUGGESTED ODESSA WHERE HE WAS ALREADY HAVING PREPARED SUITABLE FACILITIES ASHORE. HE SAID IF YOU PREFERED TO GO TO THE CRIMEA OR THE EASTERN PART OF THE BLACK SEA WHERE IT WAS WARMER ANYWHERE DOWN TO BATUM HE WOULD BE AGREEABLE. I EXPLAINED THE MANY REASONS WHY YOU WERE INSISTING ON THE MEDITERRANEAN AND THE DIFFICULTIES OF THE BLACK SEA EMPHASIZING PARTICULARLY THAT YOU WISHED TO BE ON A NAVAL VESSEL AND NOT TO FLY. HE SAID EVENTUALLY THAT HE WOULD CONSULT HIS DOCTORS AS TO WHETHER THEY WOULD ALLOW HIM TO FLY TO THE MEDITERRANEAN. HE SAID THAT HE WOULD SEE ME AGAIN IN ABOUT A WEEK TO GIVE ME SOME INFO ON CERTAIN MILITARY MATTERS AND I HOPE TO HAVE ANOTHER CHANCE TO DISCUSS THE MATTER.

No. 1 ADMIRAL. No. 2 FILE. No. 3F-1 OR CHARTROOM. No. 4 SPECIAL.

*Recd 150700 z  
to w/s*

**TOP SECRET**

Regraded Unclassified

**TOP SECRET DISPATCH**

DRAFTER		EXT.	ADDRESSEES	PRECEDENCE
FROM <b>ALUSIA MOSCOW</b>			ASTERISK (*) MAILGRAM ADDRESSEE	1
RELEASED BY _____		FOR ACTION	<b>CNO</b>	PRIORITY 2
DATE _____				ROUTINE 3
TOR CODEROM _____				DEFERRED 4
DECODED BY _____				BASEGRAM 5
PARAPHRASED BY _____	CHECKED BY _____	INFORMATION		PRIORITY 9
ROUTED BY _____	DITTOED BY _____			ROUTINE 10
				DEFERRED 11
				BASEGRAM 12

UNLESS OTHERWISE INDICATED THIS DISPATCH WILL BE TRANSMITTED WITH DEFERRED PRECEDENCE AND AS ADMINISTRATIVE. IF OPERATIONAL CHECK BELOW

**(SHEET TWO OF TWO SHEETS) ALUSNA MOSCOW 142330Z**

Originator fill in DATE AND TIME GROUP (Use G. C. T.)

ON OUTGOING DISPATCHES PLEASE LEAVE ABOUT ONE INCH CLEAR SPACE BEFORE BEGINNING TEXT

**STALIN APPEARED WELL.**

**ORIGINAL NCR DISTRIBUTION:**

**NAVAIDE (#1, #2).....ACTION (FOR DELIVERY TO THE PRESIDENT) FILE.**

no. 1 ADMIRAL.                      No. 2 FILE.                      No. 3F-1 OR CHARTROOM.                      No. 4 SPECIAL.

**TOP SECRET**

Regraded Unclassified

TOP SECRET

651

652

TELEGRAM TO THE PRESIDENT

December 14, 1944.

WAL  
W.B.

I arranged to see Lord Halifax at the Department immediately upon my return from the Capitol. I explained to him the extreme seriousness with which we viewed the leak of Kirk's report on the Prime Minister's instructions to Scobie and told him confidentially in as much detail as I thought advisable the steps we have taken to tighten up on the control of secret messages which have implications affecting other governments, especially his own. I also assured him that from our intensive investigation we were certain the leak had not occurred in the Department of State and that he could depend on it that this sort of thing was going to be stopped and that all measures necessary for that purpose would be taken immediately.

He said the Prime Minister was considerably upset and he felt that it would be very helpful to be able to report what I had told him and he seemed satisfied for his own part that we had taken every step possible to prevent the recurrence of this sort of thing.

I am proceeding along the lines of your authorization as telegraphed today.

ES

142303 Z

651

TOP SECRET

TELEGRAM TO THE PRESIDENT

WS.

December 14, 1944.

The Senate Foreign Relations Committee asked me last night to bring Rockefeller and Dunn before their meeting this morning. When we arrived there, they decided it was not necessary to question Rockefeller again but they did question Dunn and myself in executive session for some time. The Committee generally appeared to be thoroughly satisfied with the information and answers given to their questions. I am sure the press reports have kept you up on the decisions the Committee arrived at with respect to reporting out the nominations.

I feel I should report particularly the impression I received that the Committee as a whole were considerably aroused over the action the British are taking in Greece and were very insistent that we follow the policy of permitting the free expression of people in the liberated countries as their freedom is restored. They seemed very apprehensive that this Government might become involved in the action being taken by the British military forces against the Greeks.

142303Z.

ES

14 December 1944

MR-OUT-650

W.S.

FOR THE PRESIDENT FROM ADMIRAL BROWN.

Philippines

Carrier-borne aircraft from Task Force 38 struck airfields in Central Luzon. Incomplete reports, covering the first three of six scheduled flights, state that 14 enemy planes were destroyed in the air, 77 on the ground and 37 were damaged by strafing.

The latest casualty summary for Leyte reflects the heavy fighting. Allied: 2,121 killed; 7,907 wounded; 215 missing. Jap: 34,023 killed; 253 prisoners.

SENT: 142145Z

T.P. SECRET.

WDL (E)

Telegram from the Secretary of State to the President.

MR-OUT-649

I think you will be interested in the following message from Eden to the British Embassy here in regard to the Greek situation:

WDL

"General Alexander and Mr. MacMillan arrived in Greece on December 11. After consultation with MacMillan and Ambassador Leeper it was suggested that the Archbishop of Athens be appointed Regent by the King with full authority. The Archbishop could undertake consultations amongst various Greek parties and could make any changes in the Greek Government which might assist in bringing the present conflict to an end. The War Cabinet approved this proposal and on their authority the Prime Minister and I (Mr. Eden) pressed the King to accept it. The King did not feel able to agree that the Archbishop should be made Regent but is ready to approve the appointment forthwith of the Archbishop as Prime Minister in place of Mr. Papandreou. He is also willing that the Archbishop be sworn in as Prime Minister by Papandreou without reference to him, the King. The King is also prepared to agree that the Archbishop as Prime Minister should have all the necessary powers to deal with the situation whether by way of measures to restore order or by way of entering into negotiations.

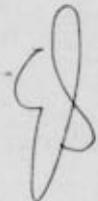
Sent: 142048Z

Regraded Unclassified

The British authorities in Athens have been authorized to arrange matters on these lines with Papandreou and the Archbishop without further reference to London. His Majesty's Ambassador has been asked to do all he can to insure that any new government set up under the Archbishop should be as broadly based as possible. At the same time he has been instructed to avoid action which can be interpreted as interference in Greek internal political affairs."

This is at least a step in the right direction, but whether or not it will be ~~completely~~ acceptable to the Greeks remains to be seen.

I don't believe the Prime Minister would have had time to consider your message of December 13 to him when the War Cabinet approved the above proposal. I am hopeful that your message will be of real help to the Prime Minister in this situation.



MR-OUT-648

14 December 1944

WB

FROM MAP ROOM TO CAPTAIN GRAHAM.

Your MR-IN-229. Mr. McCloy's office states that subject memo will be sent down this afternoon by regular White House Pouch.

1416492.

14 December 1944

MR-OUT-647

FOR THE PRESIDENT FROM ADMIRAL BROWN

Western Front

Continued German counterattacks in vicinity of Colmar indicate intention to hold this bridgehead on west bank of Rhine. North of Strasbourg U.S. Seventh Army is approaching border in direction of Karlsruhe, following up German withdrawals which are being covered by resistance at selected points. In spite of heavy opposition Maginot Line defenses have been penetrated by U.S. Third Army armor. Enemy reported unhappy in Maginot bunkers as exits face wrong way.

Continued stiff resistance and counterattacks have contained our bridgeheads across the Saar in Saarlautern area. In the Cologne sector, enemy continues attacks on southern flank of our drive for Duren. Germans now hold this sector largely with infantry, having withdrawn armor, presumably for rest.

Fog and rain are forecast for today in the battle area.

The only bottleneck in the supply situation for the Western Front exists in hauling stores away once they are unloaded at Antwerp.

Leyte

General MacArthur reports "extraordinarily heavy" enemy losses in pocket formed by junction of our two divisions near Ormoc. Our forces driving towards Ormoc from the north are meeting increasingly heavy opposition.

The following additional information has been received in connection with the damage sustained by the NASHVILLE:

The Mindoro assault force was heavily attacked at 3:00 p.m., 13 December, by enemy aircraft about 20 miles southeast of Negros Island. A Japanese suicide plane carrying a bomb crashed into the port side of the NASHVILLE. Fires started

aboard the vessel but they were brought under control and the cruiser escorted by the destroyer STANLY, was ordered to return to Leyte. Rear Admiral Struble, the attack force commander, transferred from the NASHVILLE to the destroyer DASHIELL.

At 6:30 p.m., 13 December, the destroyer HARADEN was damaged during an air attack about 32 miles south southwest of Negros Island. The details of the attack are unknown.

The CALDWELL, reported yesterday, was previously reported badly damaged at the north entrance of Suriago Strait, suffered 32 enlisted dead or missing, 8 officers and 33 enlisted wounded. LSM-42, a straggler from the convoy which the CALDWELL was escorting, was damaged by an enemy bomb and beached on the west coast of Leyte. The extent of damage and personnel casualties are unknown at this time.

The 7th Fleet is scheduled to land 2 Regimental Combat Teams today on southwest tip of Mindoro.

#### Greece

Radio reports fighting in Athens has ceased while opposing forces confer. No official details have been received.

#### China

Japs south of Kweiyang are withdrawing to Hochih-Ishan area, burning villages and removing livestock as they withdraw.

#### Air Warfare

Further details on yesterday's Nagoya raid indicate 74 planes bombed primary target with fair to poor results. Eight planes bombed secondary target. One squadron encountered heavy enemy air opposition and the other eight squadrons

slight to nil opposition. No claims were made against fighters. One B-29 was damaged by enemy action and crash landed on return. Two were ditched and one is missing.

Reports fragmentary as yet on 20th Bomber Command raid on Bangkok reported over radio.

SENT: 141515Z

131400

WCR 3054

K1

ONLY TO BE USED IN DATE AND TIME GROUP (See G. C. 7.2)

(COMMANDER CHINA PASSES THIS FOR PRESIDENT ALONE FOR HURLEY)  
MY CREDENTIALS HAVE NOT YET ARRIVED BUT I TOOK THE OATH OF OFFICE AND ASSIGNED CHARGE OF THE EMBASSY TODAY. I APPRECIATE THE CONFIDENCE YOU HAVE ALWAYS SHOWN IN ME. I ASSURE YOU THAT I AM ENTERING UPON THE DIFFICULT TASK BEFORE ME WITH BOTH CAUTION AND ENTHUSIASM. I INTEND TO JUSTIFY YOUR CONFIDENCE.

WCR ORIGINAL DISTRIBUTION:  
NAVAIDE (R1422).....ACTION

OUT

14/12/40

TOP SECRET

Regraded Unlassified



SECRET

13 December 1944

4R-OUT-645

WE

TO: MISS TULLY:

I am sending by courier a memorandum to the President which outlines in some detail the plan which has been agreed upon by the Army and the Justice and Interior Departments for the lifting of the mass exclusion of persons of Japanese ancestry from the West Coast. All such persons whose loyalty is suspected by the Army will continue to be excluded on an individual basis. It also should be noted that there will be a continuation of the efforts to relocate these Japanese in other parts of the country.

It was agreed at a recent Cabinet meeting that such a plan would be put into effect, but it has taken quite a bit of time to work out an agreed program. It is proposed to put this program in effect on the responsibility of the Army so the President need not feel that we are requiring him to make the decision; it is merely that we do not want to go ahead with it ourselves unless we know that he has no objection to it. Justice and Interior both feel that, because of the court cases and because of our relations with Congress, it would be advisable to announce the plan on December 15, or as soon thereafter as possible. It would be of great assistance to us if we could hear whether the President has any objection to our making the announcement on the 15th, the plan being effective a few days thereafter.

If feasible we would like to have the President's approval by the 14th. If the President wants to examine the plan in detail, my memorandum to him will arrive by the next courier.

From HENRY L. STIMSON

Secretary of War

Sent: 140317Z, NUTS

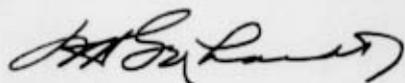
SECRET

Regraded Unclassified

ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF WAR

Memo for Lt. Soye:

would you please  
have the attached message  
called to Miss Grace  
Sully tonight



HARRISON A. GERHARDT  
Colonel, General Staff Corps  
Executive to Ass't Secretary of War

Capt Fincher

PREPARING OFFICE  
WILL INDICATE WHETHER

TO BE TRANSMITTED  
SECRET XXX  
CONFIDENTIAL  
RESTRICTED  
CLEAR  
AIRGRAM

# TELEGRAM SENT

Collect { Full rate  
Day letter  
Night letter

Charge Department:  
Full rate *44*  
Day letter  
Night letter

## Department of State

Washington,

Charge to  
\$ TOP SECRET

December 13, 1944

*MR-OUT-644*  
To the President.

Drew Pearson's publication of a close paraphrase of a telegram to the State Department from Kirk reporting Churchill's instructions to General Scobie in Athens has caused us the gravest embarrassment. The paraphrase published by Pearson was one prepared in the Department by representatives of War, Navy and OSS for dissemination in those agencies. It appears clear therefore that the leak was from one of those three agencies. Pending the completion of the investigations which each of these agencies is conducting in its own shop and the establishment of more effective security regulations there, I am cutting off the rather generous dissemination of State Department telegrams to those agencies which has been permitted in the past. I shall of course permit the principal officers of those agencies to continue to receive the information they need.

In view, however, of the long series of leaks of this kind which has occurred, I should like to supplement these immediate measures by a thorough-going impartial investigation of each of the Departments and agencies concerned, including the State Department. For reasons which I shall explain to you orally when I see you next, I believe this investigation could be most effectively carried out by Post Office Inspectors. I should therefore greatly appreciate it if you would authorize me to request the Postmaster General to have these Inspectors make a thorough investigation of this and similar leaks in the State, War and Navy Departments and in OSS and to report their findings to you and to me.

PG: CWY: KEL

*EUR J*

Enciphered by *amc*

Sent by operator *amc* M., 132300Z, 1944 Dec

*ES*

643  
out  
MR-~~11~~-643

TOP SECRET

WS

TELEGRAM FROM THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE PRESIDENT

I am attaching for your consideration a draft of a suggested telegram from you for the Prime Minister on the Greek question. The two memoranda we sent you this morning will, I believe, make it clear to you why some message from you to the Prime Minister appears necessary. The situation in Greece is developing so rapidly, and with as yet no signs of any solution despite MacMillan's presence in Athens. There is also the very real probability that the Soviet Union may find it necessary to declare itself on the Greek situation. I feel, therefore, we cannot delay much longer your making your position clear to the Prime Minister.

We have considered most earnestly the suggestion in regard to the King and have come to the conclusion that since this seems to lie at the heart of the difficulties it is the most helpful one that you can make.

132108Z.

D R A F T

Personal and Secret - from the President to the Prime  
Minister

I have been as deeply concerned as you have yourself in regard to the tragic difficulties you have encountered in Greece. I appreciate to the full the anxious and difficult alternatives with which you have been faced. I regard my role in this matter as that of a loyal friend and ally whose one desire is to be of any help possible in the circumstances. You may be sure that in putting my thoughts before you I am constantly guided by the fact that nothing can in any way shake the unity and association between our two countries in the great tasks to which we have set our hands.

As anxious as I am to be of the greatest help to you in this trying situation, there are limitations imposed in part by the traditional policies of the United States and in part by the mounting <sup>adverse</sup> reaction of public opinion in this country. No one will understand better than yourself that I, both personally and as head of state, am necessarily responsive to the state of public feeling. It is for these reasons that it has not been ~~and I am afraid will~~ . *CMB* . ~~not be~~ possible for this Government to take a stand along with you in the present course of events in Greece.

Even

Even to attempt to do so would bring only temporary value to you and would in the long run do injury to our basic relationships. I don't need to tell you how much I dislike this state of affairs as between you and me. My one hope is to see it rectified so we can go along in this as in everything, shoulder to shoulder. I know that you, as the one on whom the responsibility rests, desire with all your heart a satisfactory solution of the Greek problem and particularly one that will bring peace to that ravished country. I will be with you wholeheartedly in any solution which takes into consideration the factors I have mentioned above. With this in mind I am giving you at random some thoughts that have come to me in my anxious desire to be of help.

I know that you have sent MacMillan there with broad powers to find such a solution and it may be that he will have been successful before you get this. I of course lack full details and am at a great distance from the scene, but it has seemed to me that a basic reason - or excuse, perhaps - for the EAM attitude has been distrust regarding the intentions of King George. I wonder if MacMillan's efforts might not be greatly facilitated if the King himself would approve the establishment of a  
regency

regency in Greece and would make a public declaration of his intention not to return unless called for by popular plebiscite. This might be particularly effective if accompanied by an assurance that elections will be held at some fixed date, no matter how far in the future, when the people would have full opportunity to express themselves.

Meanwhile, might it not be possible to secure general agreement on the disarmament and dissolution of all the armed groups now in the country, including the Mountain Brigade and the Sacred Battalion, leaving your troops to preserve law and order alone until the Greek national forces can be reconstituted on a non-partisan basis and adequately equipped.

I shall be turning over in my mind this whole question and hope you will share your thoughts and worries with me.

TOP SECRET

~~EE:CEB:LIS~~

~~NE:FK:ET~~

# Signal Corps, United States Army

Received at

**TOP SECRET**

MR-OUT-643:

13 DECEMBER 1944.

FOR THE PRESIDENT FROM THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

I AM ATTACHING FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION A DRAFT OF A SUGGESTED TELEGRAM FROM YOU FOR THE PRIME MINISTER ON THE GREEK QUESTION. THE TWO MEMORANDA WE SENT YOU THIS MORNING WILL, I BELIEVE, MAKE IT CLEAR TO YOU WHY SOME MESSAGE FROM YOU TO THE PRIME MINISTER APPEARS NECESSARY. THE SITUATION IN GREECE IS DEVELOPING SO RAPIDLY, AND WITH AS YET NO SIGNS OF ANY SOLUTION DESPITE MAC MILLAN'S PRESENCE IN ATHENS, THERE IS ALSO THE VERY REAL PROBABILITY THAT THE SOVIET UNION MAY FIND IT NECESSARY TO DECLARE ITSELF ON THE GREEK SITUATION. I FEEL, THEREFORE, WE CANNOT DELAY MUCH LONGER YOUR MAKING YOUR POSITION CLEAR TO THE PRIME MINISTER.

WE HAVE CONSIDERED MOST EARNESTLY THE SUGGESTION IN REGARD TO THE KING AND HAVE COME TO THE CONCLUSION THAT SINCE THIS SEEMS TO LIE AT THE HEART OF THE DIFFICULTIES IT IS THE MOST HELPFUL ONE THAT YOU CAN MAKE.

DRAFT OF PERSONAL AND SECRET MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT TO THE PRIME MINISTER FOLLOWS.

GD-7103

**TOP SECRET**

The killed twenty-one and wounded one hundred and fifty of the demonstrators. On Monday Greek Premier Papandreu, on advice of British Ambassador Leeper, offered his resignation and proposed that a new Government be formed by the war-time leader, President of the Liberal (Venizelist) Party. The answer came on Tuesday, when Mr. Churchill telegraphed Papandreu regarding any governmental change and ordering the

Signal Corps, United States Army

Received at

TOP SECRET

-2-

"I HAVE BEEN AS DEEPLY CONCERNED AS YOU HAVE YOURSELF IN REGARD TO THE TRAGIC DIFFICULTIES YOU HAVE ENCOUNTERED IN GREECE. I APPRECIATE TO THE FULL THE ANXIOUS AND DIFFICULT ALTERNATIVES WITH WHICH YOU HAVE BEEN FACED. I REGARD MY ROLE IN THIS MATTER AS THAT OF A LOYAL FRIEND AND ALLY WHOSE ONE DESIRE IS TO BE OF ANY HELP POSSIBLE IN THE CIRCUMSTANCES. YOU MAY BE SURE THAT IN PUTTING MY THOUGHTS BEFORE YOU I AM CONSTANTLY GUIDED BY THE FACT THAT NOTHING CAN IN ANY WAY SHAKE THE UNITY AND ASSOCIATION BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES IN THE GREAT TASKS TO WHICH WE HAVE SET OUR HANDS.

AS ANXIOUS AS I AM TO BE OF THE GREATEST HELP TO YOU IN THIS TRYING SITUATION, THERE ARE LIMITATIONS IMPOSED IN PART BY THE TRADITIONAL POLICIES OF THE UNITED STATES AND IN PART BY THE MOUNTING ADVERSE REACTION OF PUBLIC OPINION IN THIS COUNTRY. / <sup>NO</sup> ONE WILL UNDERSTAND BETTER THAN YOURSELF THAT I, BOTH PERSONALLY AND AS HEAD OF STATE, AM NECESSARILY RESPONSIVE TO THE STATE OF PUBLIC FEELING. IT IS FOR THESE REASONS THAT IT HAS NOT BEEN POSSIBLE FOR THIS GOVERNMENT TO TAKE A

GP-7103

TOP SECRET

was killed twenty-one and wounded one hundred and fifty of his dependents. On Monday Great Premier Papademos, on advice of British Ambassador Loeper, offered his resignation and proposed that a new Government be formed by the venerable Karamanlis, President of the Liberal (Venizelist) Party. The message came on Tuesday, when Mr. Churchill telegraphed Loeper regarding the governmental change and ordering the

Regraded Unclassified

# Signal Corps, United States Army

Received at

**TOP SECRET**

-3-

STAND ALONG WITH YOU IN THE PRESENT COURSE OF EVENTS IN GREECE. EVEN TO ATTEMPT TO DO SO WOULD BRING ONLY TEMPORARY VALUE TO YOU AND WOULD IN THE LONG RUN DO INJURY TO OUR BASIC RELATIONSHIPS. I DON'T NEED TO TELL YOU HOW MUCH I DISLIKE THIS STATE OF AFFAIRS AS BETWEEN YOU AND ME. MY ONE HOPE IS TO SEE IT RECTIFIED SO WE CAN GO ALONG IN THIS AS IN EVERYTHING, SHOULDER TO SHOULDER. I KNOW THAT YOU, AS THE ONE ON WHOM THE RESPONSIBILITY RESTS, DESIRE WITH ALL YOUR HEART A SATISFACTORY SOLUTION OF THE GREEK PROBLEM AND PARTICULARLY ONE THAT WILL BRING PEACE TO THAT RAVISHED COUNTRY. I WILL BE WITH YOU WHOLEHEARTEDLY IN ANY SOLUTION WHICH TAKES INTO CONSIDERATION THE FACTORS I HAVE MENTIONED ABOVE. WITH THIS IN MIND I AM GIVING YOU AT RANDOM SOME THOUGHTS THAT HAVE COME TO ME IN MY ANXIOUS DESIRE TO BE OF HELP.

I KNOW THAT YOU HAVE SENT MAC MILLAN THERE WITH BROAD POWERS TO FIND SUCH A SOLUTION AND IT MAY BE THAT HE WILL HAVE BEEN SUCCESSFUL BEFORE YOU GET THIS. I OF COURSE LACK FULL DETAILS AND AM AT A GREAT DISTANCE FROM THE SCENE, BUT IT HAS SEEMED TO ME THAT A BASIC REASON

GD-7103

**TOP SECRET**

who killed twenty-one and wounded one hundred and fifty of the demonstrators. On Monday Greek Premier Papandreu, on advice of British Ambassador Leeper, offered his resignation and proposed that a new Government be formed by the venerable Karamanlis, President of the Liberal (Venizelist) Party. The impasse came to Tuesday, when Mr. Churchill telegraphed Leeper advising any governmental change and ordering the

Regraded Unclassified

# Signal Corps, United States Army



Received at

## TOP SECRET

DEC 13 1944 M

-4-

--OR EXCUSE, PERHAPS-- FOR THE EAM ATTITUDE HAS BEEN DISTRUST REGARDING THE INTENTIONS OF KING GEORGE. I WONDER IF MAC MILLAN'S EFFORTS MIGHT NOT BE GREATLY FACILITATED IF THE KING HIMSELF WOULD APPROVE THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A REGENCY IN GREECE AND WOULD MAKE A PUBLIC DECLARATION OF HIS INTENTION NOT TO RETURN UNLESS CALLED FOR BY POPULAR PLEBISCITE. THIS MIGHT BE PARTICULARLY EFFECTIVE IF ACCOMPANIED BY AN ASSURANCE THAT ELECTIONS WILL BE HELD AT SOME FIXED DATE, NO MATTER HOW FAR IN THE FUTURE, WHEN THE PEOPLE WOULD HAVE FULL OPPORTUNITY TO EXPRESS THEMSELVES.

MEANWHILE, MIGHT IT NOT BE POSSIBLE TO SECURE GENERAL AGREEMENT ON THE DISARMAMENT AND DISSOLUTION OF ALL THE ARMED GROUPS NOW IN THE COUNTRY, INCLUDING THE MOUNTAIN BRIGADE AND THE SACRED BATTALION, LEAVING YOUR TROOPS TO PRESERVE LAW AND ORDER ALONE UNTIL THE GREEK NATIONAL FORCES CAN BE RECONSTITUTED ON A NON-PARTISAN BASIS AND ADEQUATELY EQUIPPED.

I SHALL BE TURNING OVER IN MY MIND THIS WHOLE QUESTION AND HOPE YOU WILL SHARE YOUR THOUGHTS AND WORRIES WITH ME."

60-7101

*See State - I think your proposed message to Churchill is all right at this time. Please send it Roosevelt*

## TOP SECRET

NO SIG.

MR-OUT-642

13 DECEMBER 1944

MS

EVENING NEWS, ADMIRAL BROWN TO THE PRESIDENT.

PHILIPPINES

Admiral Struble in a late report indicates that the NASHVILLE was damaged as result of suicide plane attack in the Mindanso Sea. As reported this morning, she is under her own power. Further details are not available at this time.

GREECE

Determined resistance by ELAS continues, with little progress reported on either side.

132035Z - amc

British GOC to clear Athens of all ELAS forces. Bitter  
 MR-OUT-641 continued ever since, without conclusive  
 results. The most the British can hope to win, without  
 large-scale reinforcements, is control of the Athens area,  
 with EAM-ELAS forces elsewhere in the country.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

It seems clear that the serious turn of affairs  
 resulted in the resignation of Papandreou's  
 resignation, which made further political negotiations  
 impossible.

SUBJECT: The Situation in Greece

Serious armed conflict is raging in Athens today  
 between some 16,000 British and Greek Government troops  
 and an unknown proportion of the 50,000 EAM-ELAS guer-  
 illas.

Public opinion has been stirred to an unprecedented  
 degree. Basic causes of this dispute lie in EAM's distrust  
 of the intentions of the British-backed Government, as  
 regards, first, the holding of fair elections and a plebi-  
 scite on the question of the King; and, second, EAM's  
 desire to exercise its share of power. While agreeing to  
 a general program of disarming all irregular forces and  
 reestablishing a regular Greek Army, EAM insisted that the  
 Greek Mountain Brigade (4,000 men) remaining after the purge  
 of the "mutinous" Greek forces in Egypt last spring and  
 Sacred Battalion (500 officers trained as commandos) be dis-  
 armed simultaneously with the ELAS guerilla forces. The  
 Government offered instead to incorporate its units and an  
 equal number of ELAS troops in the National Army. Fearing  
 Government stacking of the units, the resistance groups  
 refused and on December 1 the four EAM and two Communist  
 Ministers resigned from the Cabinet (of twenty-three members).

A crisis arose on Sunday December 3 when an EAM protest  
 demonstration, which had first been authorized, then disap-  
 proved by the Government, was fired on by Greek gendarmes,  
 who killed twenty-one and wounded one hundred and fifty of  
 the demonstrators. On Monday Greek Premier Papandreou, on  
 advice of British Ambassador Leeper, offered his resignation  
 and proposed that a new Government be formed by the venerable  
 Sophoulis, President of the Liberal (Venizelist) Party. The  
 impasse came on Tuesday, when Mr. Churchill telegraphed  
 Leeper vetoing any governmental change and ordering the

British GOC to clear Athens of all ELAS forces. Bitter fighting has continued ever since, without conclusive results. The most the British can hope to win, without large-scale reinforcements, is control of the Athens area, with EAM-ELAS remaining in power elsewhere in the country.

It seems clear that the serious turn of affairs resulted from Churchill's arbitrary veto of Papandreou's resignation, which made further political negotiations impossible. The Department has made a public statement favoring a free Greek choice of future Government and attempting to disassociate us from British policy.

Public opinion has been stirred to an unprecedented degree by the Greek crisis. In England a vote in Parliament was notable for abstentions. King George, who has aggravated the difficulties by refusing to appoint a Regency in Greece or to make any personal commitment regarding his return to Greece, has remained silent. In this country the public has strongly supported the Department's declared position, but many demands are accumulating for: 1) strong representations to the British; 2) United States mediation; and 3) establishment in Greece of a United States-Soviet-British Commission to ensure a fair deal.

In the Department's opinion, the situation would be considerably eased if King George would consent to the establishment of a Regency in Greece and make a statement clarifying his intention not to return to Greece unless recalled by a popular plebiscite.

MIR-OUT-640

13 December 44.

SECRET

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

SUBJECT: Suggested American Mediation  
in the Greek Crisis.

I transmit herewith a copy of Ambassador MacVeagh's telegram of December 8 proposing the formation of an international commission of British, Russian and American representatives to oversee the holding of a plebiscite on the Greek regime and generally supervise an impartial settlement of the Greek crisis.

It seems likely that Mr. Churchill would immediately veto Russian participation, as he appears acutely to fear Russian penetration into Greece, and I think we should refuse any possible counter-proposal to intervene on a purely Anglo-American basis. I should also have some hesitancy in participating in an international commission unless we are prepared to send some civil affairs troops into Greece so that we could actually be sure of what was going on.

You may consider Ambassador MacVeagh's proposal impracticable, for the foregoing or other reasons. However, in communicating our reaction to his proposal, we might well ask the Ambassador to report whether he or the British there have any suggestions to submit as to any way in which we could be helpful.

Enclosure:

Copy of telegram no. 132,  
dated December 8, 10 a.m.,  
from Athens.

Regaded Unlcassified

13 December 1944

MR-OUT-639

FOR THE PRESIDENT FROM ADMIRAL BROWN. WSB.

Western Front

In Mulhouse area Loeschile, last enemy bridgehead over Rhine between Swiss border and Kembs has been taken. Stubborn defense of approaches north of Colmar and floods held Allies to small gains in direction of that town.

North of Strasbourg enemy has withdrawn to northeast and our troops have advanced up to 8 miles toward German border west of Karlsruhe penetrating former Maginot line defenses and reaching Seltz, near the Rhine. Hagenau has been cleared. SHAEF G-2 states that lack of contact with enemy in Hagenau sector most noticeable since night of 10/11 December and gives some color to statements by Prisoners of War that 245 Volksgrenadier division in this area was ordered to hold on until 13 December and then fall back to Westwall.

On northern sector of front fighting on approaches to Duren continues severe with gains limited.

In continued heavy air raids against rail and synthetic oil targets in Western Germany some bomber crews were able to aim bombs visually for the first time in weeks.

Leyte

Communique reports Allied planes intercepted an enemy convoy of some 11 ships approaching northwest Leyte with fighter cover and claim 3 transports, totalling 19,000 tons and 3 destroyers sunk. Also one destroyer and 2 medium sized transports were left dead in water and burning. In addition light naval units sank a cargo transport of 5,000 tons. Enemy troop losses by drowning believed heavy. Fifty enemy planes were destroyed in combat against our losses of 8 planes. Rains continue but mopping up operations proceeding.

On 12 December, the destroyer CALDWELL was badly damaged at the north entrance to Suriago Strait by a suicide crash when escorting a re-supply echelon en route to Ormoc Bay. The vessel returned unescorted to San Pedro Harbor. The CALDWELL was reported yesterday as sustaining negligible damage in an air attack 11 December, when a suicide plane crashed 20 feet from her bow.

A report from Admiral Struble suggests something has happened to the NASHVILLE which he is returning to Leyte Gulf. The Admiral has transferred from the NASHVILLE to a destroyer.

#### B-29's

Approximately 90 aircraft dispatched to bomb Nagoya, Japan's third largest city. Primary target Mitsubishi Aircraft engine plant and secondary target urban and port areas of Nagoya. So far approximately 60 planes have reported bombing primary target visually with heavy explosions and fires observed. Fighter opposition was nil to moderate but AA was moderate to intense and accurate. No losses as yet but some 30 aircraft still to report.

#### Italy

Canadian troops of the 8th Army have established two bridgeheads across the Lamone River southwest of Ravenna. After a day of heavy fighting the two bridgeheads have joined and advances up to 1½ miles along a 4 mile front against light opposition were made.

#### Greece

Situation still confused with contradictory reports being received as to fighting and progress of any negotiations towards cessation of hostilities.

#### Burma

Theater states information available indicates disintegration of Burma puppet troops as effective pro-Japanese force. Their morale is smashed and they concede

Allied superiority.

Clipperton

Weather station Clipperton established 11 December. ARGUS (converted yacht) supporting. LST 563 leaving San Diego 12 December with construction materials and crew.

SENT: 131525Z

PREPARING OFFICE  
WILL INDICATE WHETHER

TELEGRAM SENT

TO BE TRANSMITTED  
SECRET  
CONFIDENTIAL  
RESTRICTED  
CLEAR  
AIRGRAM

Collect { Full rate  
Day letter  
Night letter

Charge Department:

Full rate  
Day letter  
Night letter

Charge to \$ MR-OUT-638

The President

The White House

In conversation yesterday with Rabbi Silver, he urged me to obtain your approval to the issuance of a statement on the Palestine resolutions which he has drawn up as follows:

"With respect to action on the Palestine Resolution pending in Congress, I informed you that the position of the State Department was that it felt that action on the Resolution should be deferred for the time being. But, I wish to assure you that this position is in no wise to be construed as indicating that the State Department is not in accord with the line of clear policy laid down by the President on October 15th in his statement to the Zionist Organization of America through Senator Wagner. That statement representing, as the President made clear, the will of the American people is necessarily the policy of the State Department."

I am strongly of the opinion that it would be a mistake to issue such a statement at this time since it would most likely re-open the whole question in Congress. I therefore suggest that you authorize me to inform Rabbi Silver, as you recently had me

Enciphered by .....

Sent by operator ..... M., ..... 19.....

Sent!-1223242

PREPARING OFFICE  
WILL INDICATE WHETHER

TELEGRAM SENT

TO BE TRANSMITTED  
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RESTRICTED  
CLEAR  
AIRGRAM

Collect { Full rate  
Day letter  
Night letter

Department of State

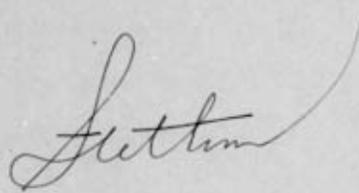
Washington.

Charge Department:  
Full rate  
Day letter  
Night letter

Charge to  
\$

- 2 -

inform Rabbi Wise, that he and his associates will have to trust to your judgment and leave the matter in abeyance for the present.



S:NR:ALW

Enciphered by .....

Sent by operator ..... M., ..... 19.....

THE SECRETARY OF STATE  
WASHINGTON

MR-OUT-638

638

December 12, 1944

MS

MEMORANDUM FOR THE MAP ROOM

Will you be good enough to  
have the attached message despatched  
to the President as promptly as  
possible.



1223747. RMB

12 December 1944

MR-OUT-637

FOR THE PRESIDENT FROM ADMIRAL BROWN

Japan

Axis broadcasts said today that a mass evacuation of Tokyo is under way and that buildings are being torn down throughout the city to create "fire breaks" in a hurried attempt to prepare the capital against an all-out American bombing offensive. Radio Tokyo admitted that the Superfortress strikes on the Japanese homeland have become "vigorous operations" and warned the people that more raids are on the way, including "machine-gun strafings" of their cities.

China

As of 10 December 4,424 personnel, 102 animals and 6 jeeps have been flown into China as part of airlift of two Chinese divisions. Of this total, over 2,000 personnel were moved in a single days' operation.

South of Kweiyang, Japs have apparently withdrawn as far as Nantan as advancing Chinese report no contact.

Leyte

General MacArthur's communique has confirmed the junction of the U.S. 7th Division with the U.S. 77th Division in the Ormoc beachhead. The number of enemy destroyed and cut off in this drive has not yet been reported.

SENT: 122243Z

12 December 1944

WESTERN FRONT

Rain and snow with temperatures just over freezing point. <sup>US</sup>

Radio reports 1st Army troops now within 1 mile of Duren.

Seventh Army elements now mopping up in Hagenau, taken yesterday, while other units have advanced up to five miles to the north and northeast of that place.

French state flooded rivers are greater obstacle than enemy resistance in mopping up Mulhouse-Colmar pocket.

Senior NCO, PW from 19th Army, states Army has issued order there will be no withdrawal across Rhine. (This seems inconsistent with other reports.) Westwall along upper Rhine under SS command and anyone crossing river from west to east without special permit is shot.

Since 1 November, enemy has made available 24 divisions in battle area. Of these, 12 have been committed in Cologne sector plus 4 held in reserve and 8 in Saar-Palatinate sector.

Enemy casualties for week ended 10 December estimated at 2700 per day of which prisoners account for half.

AIR WARFARE

Heavy raids reported yesterday involved more than 2000 U.S. heavy bombers escorted by some 1200 fighters. Of these the approximately 1600 B-17's and B-28's which left England made a stream of formations nearly 300 miles long. No enemy opposition was encountered which may have been due to adverse weather conditions which also prevented observation of results. Our losses to other causes were small.

EASTERN EUROPE

According to radio, Soviets now confirm all-out assault on Budapest is underway. No confirmation yet of yesterday's German reports of major offensive by Soviets shaping up in South Poland.

GREECE

Reports confused. Some say situation is more serious for British than previously with troops in Athens surrounded by estimated 25,000 ELAS. Latter's artillery fire hit ATC base there but no casualties reported. ELAS stated to be in complete control of Salonika.

In face of these reports are suggestions that some compromise may be worked out if no punitive measures taken against ELAS if they agree to a truce. Alexander and MacMillan have arrived in Athens according to radio.

TELEGRAM SENT

Department of State

LEYTE

7th Division moving north, now less than 1 mile from junction with 77th Division which has taken Ormoc. Enemy compressed in narrow pocket in Southern Leyte are unable to extricate themselves and are being destroyed with little opportunity for effective retaliation.

Rains continue. (1220-42)

The Destroyer HUGHES, on picket duty in Suriago Strait, was struck amidships by a suicide crash dive and by a bomb. Her engine room and fire-rooms were flooded and she was towed to an anchorage in San Pedro Harbor (north of Leyte Gulf). Seven of her personnel were reported killed, one missing and 15 injured.

Four of our PT boats in Suriago Strait were attacked by 4 Zeros. Two of the enemy planes made suicide dives and PT-323 was struck by a crash dive. One officer was killed, one officer is missing and 11 men were wounded. The other suicide plane crash-dived close to PT-528, but the boat escaped damage.

A Liberty ship in the Leyte Gulf was struck by an enemy bomb and set on fire. Further details are not available at this time.

BURMA

Allied troops have moved into Indaw and Katha without any enemy opposition.

Theater G-2 states that delaying tactics only enemy capability on all fronts unless reinforced.

PACIFIC SUBMARINES

The submarine SEA OWL hit a DE (which had already been hit by a torpedo) with a MARK 27 torpedo (U.S. version of acoustic torpedo). Target presumed sunk.

IWO JIMA

Photos of Iwo Jima on 11 December show all runways operative except one strip on one airfield. Photos on 9 December showed all airfields inoperative.

ATLANTIC

The 7,000 ton U.S. freighter DAN BEARD was damaged by an underwater explosion (cause unknown) in the Irish Sea and broke in two. Both halves still afloat. 35 survivors landed.

121510Z - amc

PREPARING OFFICE  
WILL INDICATE WHETHER

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AIRGRAM

Collect { Full rate  
Day letter  
Night letter  
Charge Department:  
Full rate  
Day letter  
Night letter

Department of State

Washington, *HR*

December 11, 1944

Charge to  
\$

*MR-OUT-635 (112204Z)*

TELEGRAM TO THE PRESIDENT FROM THE SECRETARY OF STATE

At the request of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee I appeared before them today to give further information regarding the Palestine Resolution. For the benefit of Senators who were not present during my appearance on December 6, I went over the ground covered then, as reported in my telegram to you. I also read for their confidential information the communication you received through our Legation at Cairo from a number of Arab organizations. I emphasized that you and I felt that any resolution on this subject now would be a mistake.

The Committee decided by a close vote not to take any action this session on the Palestine matter. However, they asked that the Department's statement, quoted in my telegram of December 8 to you, be issued at once, and this has been done.

*Stettinius  
(R)*

*635*

*CS*  
S/GC:CS:AMH

NOTE TO CAPT GRAHAM.

*Message of December 8 referred to in above message was transmitted to Warm Springs via Telegraph Office and no copy exists in Map Room. Believe it was transmitted in the clear.*

Enciphered by .....

Sent by operator .....

M.

THE SECRETARY OF STATE  
OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

December 11, 1944

MEMORANDUM FOR THE MAP ROOM

Will you be good enough to have  
the attached wire despatched to the  
President?

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to be the initials 'EJ'.

MR-OUT-63A (112118Z)

PERSONAL AND SECRET FROM PREMIER J. V. STALIN  
TO PRESIDENT FRANKLIN ROOSEVELT

Thank you for your reply on the French question. Together with General De Gaulle we came to a decision that the conclusion of the Franco-Soviet Pact of mutual assistance will be beneficial to the cause of the French-Soviet relations as well as for the European security in general. Today the Franco-Soviet Pact was signed.

As to the post-war border of France, the consideration of this question, as I have already written to you, has been postponed.

December 10, 1944.

11 December 1944

WAT

WESTERN EUROPE

Steadily expanding inundations by Germans north and northwest of Nijmegen suggests a well thought out policy is being pursued which probably aims at ultimate expulsion of Allies from Nijmegen. Todate inundations from the Lower Rhine are about three miles from the town. The dykes south of the Waal to the west of Nijmegen and the dykes of the Meuse at Odyk constitute two danger points. If cut successfully, inundations south of Nijmegen might well become so broad and deep as to render retention of Nijmegen unprofitable.

EASTERN EUROPE

According to radio reports from Moscow Germans are setting fire to Budapest in preparation for fleeing city. No confirmation yet from Moscow that Soviets have entered this city as has been stated by other sources. This does not seem improbable as latest reports indicated they were closing in from three sides.

German radio claims that a vast Soviet offensive is taking shape in South Poland. No confirmation from the Soviets as yet.

AIR WARFARE

Radio reports "huge" air fleets from Britain and Italy are out over Germany, in what may prove to be most massive raids of war todote.

ITALY

Communique states large scale German counterattack against Eighth Army bridgehead over the Lamone River SW of Faenza has been decisively defeated with heavy loss to enemy.

LEYTE

Our casualties todote: 1863 killed; 7032 wounded; 238 missing. ✓

Jap casualties estimated at 28,000 killed and 13,000 ineffectives. Remaining Jap strength estimated at 26,000.

Re airfields: At Dulag 5,000 feet of steel matting is now in use. At Tanauan grading of 6,000 feet strip now complete and laying of steel mat commenced. At Bayug work continuing.

LEYTE (Cont'd)

The Destroyer REID (1408 tons--1934) was sunk off the southwest tip of Leyte by suicide plane while escorting a re-supply echelon to Ormoc. The REID sank in two minutes. 152 men, including the commanding officer, executive, and 12 officers, were rescued out of a complement of 209.

GREECE

British position in Athens and Piraeus grave. Large scale attacks by ELAS expected tonight or tomorrow. Field Marshal Alexander expected to arrive today.

112118Z - amc

11 December 1944

MR-OUT-632

FOR THE PRESIDENT FROM ADMIRAL BROWN.

Western Front

There is substantially no change in the ground situation.

Light snow and rain with colder weather hampered movements along most of the front. The bombers are over Germany today, however.

U.S. bridgeheads over the Saar River expanded. Enemy resistance is very determined.

Another U.S. division -- the 75th -- is now in France. Total U.S. divisions of all types on Continent is now 43. This is two-thirds of all Allied divisions.

Three Armored, 1 Airborne, 3 full infantry divisions and the residue of 3 others are all that remain in U.S.

Prisoner of war total now 766,000.

China

Sino G-2 states that possible clue to Jap withdrawal south of Kweiyang and consequent Chinese reoccupation is that Jap troops are still in summer uniforms plus recent extremely cold weather with snow in the combat area.

Philippines

General MacArthur's communique reports that the 77th Division has captured Ormoc. This operation should be decisive in winding up Leyte campaign although there are many thousand Japs still to be accounted for.

The 34th U.S. Regiment now located near the northwest tip of Leyte is reported in contact with about 200 Nips assumed to be the remnants of the 11-ship convoy sunk several days ago.

Tokyo

Last B-29 weather plane over Tokyo reported Tokyo blacked out.

### Pacific Submarines

Submarines reported sinking a tanker, a transport, three freighters and damaging another freighter. Two hits were scored on a carrier.

### Greece

CinCMed reports situation in Athens and Piraeus area well under control. Issue reported to be hinged on capital and ELAS said to be unlikely to commit themselves deeper elsewhere until that issue settled. December 9 was a quiet day with Army consolidating and Navy providing close support on call.

Admiral King has withdrawn his prohibition against the U.S. LST's carrying military supplies and men to Greece. (Reported Saturday).

### India

When Admiral Fraser brings the British Pacific Fleet from Ceylon to Australia he will attack Sumatran oil refineries and make operational strikes against the Mandalay Peninsula and Singapore. The final attack will be on Palambang in January.

SENT: 111510Z

SECRET

10 December 1944 *JS*

DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
WASHINGTON

MR-OUT-631

FOR THE PRESIDENT FROM ADMIRAL BROWN.

No news tonight other than that which is being put  
out over radio on usual broadcasts.

ENCLOSURE FOR THE PRESIDENT

Subject: Exchange of Messages With Mr. Eden

SENT: 102058Z *dkf*

You will find attached an exchange of personal  
messages between Anthony Eden and myself, in which  
you will be interested.

Enclosures:

- 1. Message to Mr. Eden  
December 6, midnight.
- 2. Message from Mr. Eden  
received December 9.

*MR-OUT-631*  
*102058Z*  
*(with Enclosures)*

SECRET

DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
WASHINGTON

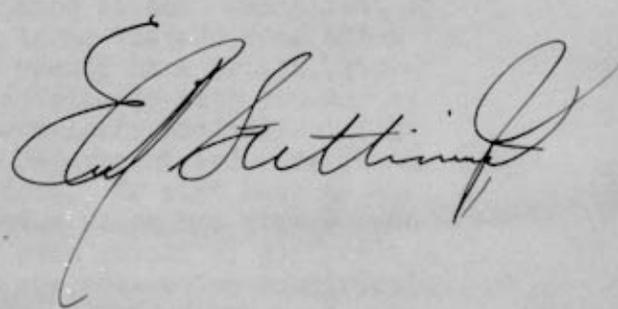
December 10, 1944

NB

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

Subject: Exchange of Messages With Mr. Eden

You will find attached an exchange of personal messages between Anthony Eden and myself, in which you will be interested.



Enclosures:

1. Message to Mr. Eden  
December 6, midnight.
2. Message from Mr. Eden  
received December 9.

sent as OUT-630  
10 20532 Hwd

(with Enclosures 1+2)

SECRET

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

no other choice than TELEGRAM  
be sure that had there been prior consul  
have worked the matter out together as  
the past and, I feel sure, we will be able to do in the  
U.S. URGENT - NIACT  
December 6, 1944  
Midnight

U.S. URGENT - NIACT

AMERICAN EMBASSY,

LONDON.

10226

STETTINIUS

SECRET FOR THE AMBASSADOR

Please deliver immediately the following personal message from me to Mr. Eden:

"Your personal message was read to me this afternoon and I wish to let you know without delay that it is a source of deep regret to me that so soon after taking office a difference should have arisen between us. I have always worked so closely with you and my British friends, both as Lend-Lease Administrator before coming into the State Department and more particularly since I have been here. We must keep up the close and intimate association which has always been so helpful in getting over even points of difficult discussion in dealing with our respective countries' interests. I count upon, as one of my greatest supports in the tasks ahead, your close friendship. I know, and you must feel, that anything which we put up to each other for cooperative working out can be solved to the entire satisfaction of both our responsibilities. Let us resolve that we will see that everything of any importance comes right up to the two of us for approval.

"If the reaffirmation of our policy with regard to Italy has caused you embarrassment I am truly sorry. The feeling is such in this country, however, and the inquiries from all quarters so pressing, following your public statement in the House of Commons, that we had

sent as OVT-630 (Encl. 1)  
1020532 Hurl

SECRET

no other choice than to make clear our position. I am sure that had there been prior consultation we could have worked the matter out together as we have done in the past and, I feel sure, we will be able to do in the future. Michael Wright has told me of the debate on Greece which has been set for Friday and which you anticipate will cause the Prime Minister and you some embarrassment. We are working up a friendly statement to be given out tomorrow which I sincerely hope will be helpful."

It is my keen desire that we should work close together.

STETTINIUS

Revert as OUT-620 (Enclosure 2)  
10 20 52 4/5

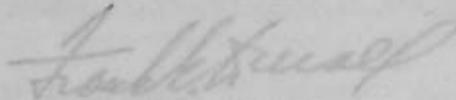
DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
THE SECRETARY

SECRET

Personal Message from Mr. Eden  
to Mr. Stettinius.

Major Patrick

Thank you so much for your helpful and understanding message which I received through Winant. It is my keen desire that we should work close together. *transmitted by wire to the President.*



Frank E. Duvall  
Watch Officer

*Reut as OUT-620 (Enclosure 2)*  
*1020532 Herb*

DEPARTMENT OF STATE  

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THE SECRETARY

December 10, 1944

Major Putnam  
The Map Room

W

The Secretary would appreciate  
it if these two messages could be  
transmitted by wire to the President.



Frank E. Duvall  
Watch Officer

**TOP SECRET**

DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
WASHINGTON

December 10, 1944

WS

TOP SECRET

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

Subject: Zones of Occupation in Austria

I have your memorandum of December 8, 1944, respecting zones of occupation in Austria. We are taking this up urgently with the Joint Chiefs of Staff and have informed Ambassador Winant of your decision.



Reutas OUT-629

10 20532 Hux

TOP SECRET

10 December 1944

OUT-628

WFS  
WAL

From: U. S. Military Attache, London  
To: President of the United States  
Nr: 850 Filed 101628Z

Prime Minister to President Roosevelt, personal  
and TOP SECRET Number 850.

My telegram Number 849 of December 8th.

*Re visit of MacMillan on  
Italian grain — was  
sent to WFS as OUT-621*

I am sorry that circumstances which I know you  
will understand now compel me to send MacMillan accom-  
panying Field Marshal Alexander to Athens and he will,  
therefore, be unable, to his great regret and mine, to  
make his visit to Washington for some time. I want to  
send another minister to Washington in his place and  
will let you know about this as soon as possible.

Meanwhile, as regards Italy, Halifax will tell  
you what we have in mind. We are briefing him fully  
and he will have the assistance of the officers who are  
already waiting to meet MacMillan in Washington.

Halifax will tell you how much we all regret this  
change of plan.

End

*Recd 10/18/44  
Sent 10/18/44 as OUT-628 Hwd  
Copy to Adm Leahy per MR-1X-111*

TOP SECRET

Regraded Unclassified

10 December 1944

MR-OUT-627

FOR THE PRESIDENT FROM ADMIRAL BROWN.

Western Front

There is little change in the ground situation.

The enemy has flooded large areas in northern Holland from Nijmegen west. British and Canadian troops hold generally line of River Maas but little activity.

In Cologne-Aachen area battle is largely at a standstill on opposite banks of the Roer.

Enemy very sensitive in Saar area where U.S. Third and Seventh Armies' gnawing in West Wall approaches has not been stopped.

Upper Rhine picture unchanged with enemy keeping Colmar-Breisach escape route across Rhine. SHAEF estimates enemy will treat this area as low priority static defense sector as field troops are more needed in the north.

106th U.S. Division now in forward area from U.K. and assigned to First Army. Total U.S. Divisions in combat now 39.

Antwerp tonnage 32,000 on 8 December.

Philippines

First re-supply echelon arrived Ormoc Bay very early 9 December and unloaded in darkness. Torrential rains restricted enemy air activity and our ground operations.

The destroyer LAMSON was hit by Jap suicide fighter near Leyte. She was damaged considerably but is apparently under own power.

China

General Wedemeyer has reported that Chinese have re-occupied several points

southeast of Kweiyang without opposition, following up Jap withdrawal. Also reported, but not confirmed, that Jap forces from Nanning and from French Indo-China have joined.

#### Japan

Alusna, Moscow reports that a "personal observer" in Tokyo stated that he counted 920 houses burned down as result of November 29-30 B-29 raid. Jap stated 2,000 houses burning throughout city. Jap AA can't cope with high altitude and night raids particularly effective. Counter-measures failed against incendiaries and Jap morale resistance low. Both factors increase casualties. Population was evidently beaten in spirit as result of ineffectiveness of AA and notable lack of air raid shelters.

December 3 raid on aircraft factories in western section Tokyo resulted in large fires lasting until 1800. Japs say seasoned flyers were brought from Kyushu for defense of Tokyo.

#### Pacific Submarines

The Submarine PLAICE operating west of Kyushu probably sank two destroyers on 8 December.

#### Iwo Jima

Photos of Iwo Jima indicate all runways inoperative as result of combined air and surface assault. Five large fires were burning the following day.

#### Greece

Alusna, Greece reports conditions have deteriorated during last three days. American Flag respected everywhere. He strongly recommends against sending any Americans to "become embroiled in this political mess." "Our Allies have a tiger by the tail and cannot turn loose." The British Ambassador informed Alusna that he had received instructions from London to the effect that there should be no political change at this time and that the British had undertaken to protect

Athens against armed attack. Alusna has ordered all members of his mission to move into the Embassy for the time being.

Local

COMINCH evaluates V-3 attack on Eastern Sea Board from Europe impossible now. V-3 may possibly be a rocket of smaller size and shorter range than the V-2. Possibly it is a small rocket launched from U-boat, but attack would be for propaganda effect rather than military. Joint Staff has instructed Army and Navy to take precautions practicable within capacity of forces available.

Miscellaneous

ComPhibsPac has asked to make Colonel James Roosevelt Intelligence Officer for Pacific Amphibious Group 13.

The ULVERT M. MOORE has been ordered to report to Ulithi December 28.

SENT: 101605Z

TOP SECRET

# Signal Corps, United States Army

Received at

**TOP SECRET**

MR-OUT-627:

10 DECEMBER 1944.

FOR THE PRESIDENT FROM ADMIRAL BROWN:

MORNING NEWS:

WESTERN FRONT. THE ENEMY HAS FLOODED LARGE AREAS IN NORTHERN HOLLAND FROM NIJMEGEN WEST. BRITISH AND CANADIAN TROOPS HOLD GENERALLY LINE OF RIVER MAAS BUT LITTLE ACTIVITY.

IN COLOGNE AACHEN AREA BATTLE IS LARGELY AT A STANDSTILL ON OPPOSITE BANKS OF THE ROER.

ENEMY VERY SENSITIVE IN SAAR AREA WHERE U.S. THIRD AND SEVENTH ARMIES, GNAWING IN WEST WALL APPROACHES HAS NOT BEEN STOPPED.

UPPER RHINE PICTURE UNCHANGED WITH ENEMY KEEPING COLMAR-BREISACH ESCAPE ROUTE ACROSS RHINE. SHAEF ESTIMATES ENEMY WILL TREAT THIS AREA AS LOW PRIORITY STATIC DEFENSE SECTOR AS FIELD TROOPS ARE MORE NEEDED IN THE NORTH.

106TH U.S. DIVISION NOW IN FORWARD AREA FROM U.K. AND ASSIGNED TO FIRST ARMY. TOTAL U.S. DIVISIONS IN COMBAT NOW 39.

**TOP SECRET**

# Signal Corps, United States Army

Received at

TOP SECRET

-2-

ANTWERP TONNAGE 32,000 ON 8 DECEMBER.

PHILIPPINES. FIRST RE-SUPPLY ECHELON ARRIVED ORMOC BAY VERY EARLY 9 DECEMBER AND UNLOADED IN DARKNESS. TORRENTIAL RAINS RESTRICTED ENEMY AIR ACTIVITY AND OUR GROUND OPERATIONS.

THE DESTROYER LAMSON WAS HIT BY JAP SUICIDE FIGHTER NEAR LEYTE. SHE WAS CONSIDERABLY DAMAGED BUT IS APPARENTLY UNDER OWN POWER.

CHINA. GENERAL WEDEMEYER HAS REPORTED THAT CHINESE HAVE RE-OCCUPIED SEVERAL POINTS SOUTHEAST OF KWEIYANG WITHOUT OPPOSITION, FOLLOWING UP JAP WITHDRAWAL ALSO REPORTED, BUT NOT CONFIRMED, THAT JAP FORCES FROM NANNING AND FROM FRENCH INDO-CHINA HAVE JOINED.

JAPAN. ALUSNA, MOSCOW REPORTS THAT A "PERSONAL OBSERVER" IN TOKYO STATED THAT HE COUNTED 920 HOUSES BURNED DOWN AS RESULT OF NOVEMBER 29-30 B-29 RAID. JAP STATED 2,000 HOUSES BURNING THROUGHOUT CITY. JAP AA CAN'T COPE WITH HIGH ALTITUDE AND NIGHT RAIDS PARTICULARLY EFFECTIVE. COUNTER-MEASURES FAILED AGAINST INCENDIARIES AND JAP MORALE RESISTANCE LOW. BOTH FACTORS INCREASE CASUALTIES. POPULATION WAS

40-7103

TOP SECRET

Regraded Unclassified

# Signal Corps, United States Army

Received at

**TOP SECRET**

-3-

EVIDENTLY BEATEN IN SPIRIT AS RESULT OF INEFFECTIVENESS OF AA AND NOTABLE LACK OF AIR RAID SHELTERS.

DECEMBER 3 RAID ON AIRCRAFT FACTORIES IN WESTERN SECTION TOKYO RESULTED IN LARGE FIRES LASTING UNTIL 1800. JAP SAY SEASONED FLYERS WERE BROUGHT FROM KYUSHU FOR DEFENSE OF TOKYO.

PACIFIC SUBMARINES. THE SUBMARINE PLICE OPERATING WEST OF KYUSHU PROBABLY SANK TWO DESTROYERS ON DECEMBER 8.

IWO JIMA. PHOTOS OF IWO JIMA INDICATE ALL RUNWAYS INOPERATIVE AS RESULT OF COMBINED AIR AND SURFACE ASSAULT. FIVE LARGE FIRES WERE BURNING THE FOLLOWING DAY.

GREECE. ALUSNA, GREECE REPORTS CONDITIONS HAVE DETERIORATED DURING LAST THREE DAYS. AMERICAN FLAG RESPECTED EVERYWHERE. HE STRONGLY RECOMMENDS AGAINST SENDING ANY AMERICANS TO "BECOME EMBROILED IN THIS POLITICAL MESS." "OUR ALLIES HAVE A TIGER BY THE TAIL AND CANNOT TURN LOOSE." THE BRITISH AMBASSADOR INFORMED ALUSNA THAT HE HAD RECEIVED INSTRUCTIONS FROM LONDON TO THE EFFECT THAT THERE SHOULD BE NO

GP-703

**TOP SECRET**

Regraded Unclassified

Signal Corps, United States Army



Received at

TOP SECRET

DEC

-4-

POLITICAL CHANGE AT THIS TIME AND THE BRITISH HAD UNDERTAKEN TO PROTECT ATHENS AGAINST ARMED ATTACK. ALUSNA HAS ORDERED ALL MEMBERS OF HIS MISSION TO MOVE INTO THE EMBASSY FOR THE TIME BEING.

LOCAL. COMINCH EVALUATES V-3 ATTACK ON EASTERN SEA BOARD OF EUROPE IMPOSSIBLE NOW. V-3 MAY POSSIBLY BE A ROCKET OF SMALLER SIZE AND SHORTER RANGE THAN THE V-2. POSSIBLY IT IS A SMALL ROCKET LAUNCHED FROM U-BOAT, BUT ATTACK WOULD BE FOR PROPAGANDA EFFECT RATHER THAN MILITARY. JOINT STAFF HAS INSTRUCTED ARMY AND NAVY TO TAKE PRECAUTIONS PRACTICABLE WITHIN CAPACITY OF FORCES AVAILABLE.

MISCELLANEOUS. COMPHIBSPAC HAS ASKED TO MAKE COLONEL JAMES ROOSEVELT INTELLIGENCE OFFICER FOR PACIFIC AMPHIBIOUS GROUP 13.

THE ULVERT M. MOORE HAS BEEN ORDERED TO REPORT TO ULITHI DECEMBER 28.

NO SIG.

GD-7103

TOP SECRET

**TOP SECRET**

December 9, 1944

For the President from Admiral Leahy:

Reference MR-in 217

Possibility of V-3 stratospheric bomb attack on U. S. was discussed at a meeting of the Joint Chiefs of Staff yesterday. General Marshall and Admiral King have sent messages to defense commands, sea frontiers and the First Air Force at Mitchell Field ordering precautionary measures taken.

*William D. Leahy*

MR-OUT-626

9 December 1944

M

FROM ADMIRAL BROWN TO THE PRESIDENT.

No news to report this evening.

092105Z -  
osc

TELEGRAM FROM THE SECRETARY OF STATE TO THE PRESIDENT

RS

Yesterday the British Embassy in Washington informed us that Marshal Badoglio had sought asylum in the British Embassy in Rome on December 6. He informed the British Ambassador that he was about to be arrested by the special police of the Italian High Commissioner for the Punishment of Fascist Crimes (Count Sforza). The British Ambassador saw Prime Minister Bonomi, who said he would request Badoglio's dossier from the High Commissioner and would give orders that Badoglio should not (repeat not) be arrested. Despite these assurances and in view of Badoglio's apprehension, the British Ambassador permitted him to spend the night at the Embassy in Rome.

Eden has requested me to concur in instructions, through the Combined Chiefs of Staff, to General Alexander that the arrest of Badoglio cannot be tolerated. We informed General Marshall yesterday that we had no objection to the U. S. Joint Chiefs' concurring in a directive of this nature on purely military grounds. At the meeting of the Combined Chiefs yesterday afternoon, however, the U. S. Chiefs took the view that there were insufficient military considerations involved to concur in instructions of this nature to Alexander without instructions from the United States Government.

By this time we had received word that Bonomi had obtained promises of support from four of the six political parties and was proceeding to form a government immediately. Consequently we suggested to the British Embassy last evening that (1) since the U. S. Joint Chiefs of Staff had felt unable to concur in instructions to Alexander on military grounds and (2) since Bonomi, who had assured the British Ambassador that he would prevent Badoglio's arrest,

appeared

Sent: - 091853Z

Approved - 092355Z by 1N-220

Notified Mr. Flood, duty officer in Secy's office, of this 10 0010Z  
dud

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appeared to be forming a new government with adequate party support, we were not prepared at this time to go along with them in any joint instructions to the Theater Commander.

Last evening we sent an urgent telegram to Kirk in Rome asking him to see the Italian Prime Minister immediately and obtain assurances similar to those which Bonomi gave the British Ambassador on December 6 that he would not (repeat not) permit Badoglio's arrest. Kirk was also requested to report, after making discreet inquiries, his views as to the likelihood of Badoglio's arrest at this time.

I feel that the American and British Governments have a certain moral responsibility for Badoglio's safety since it was he who signed the Italian armistice terms and brought Italy into the war on the side of the United Nations. While we, of course, have no political interest in Badoglio or in his political future, we might find it highly embarrassing to have him arrested and brought to trial for Fascist crimes during our military occupation of Italy.

Under the circumstances <sup>may I have your permission to</sup> ~~perhaps you would give me authority~~ to request the U. S. Joint Chiefs of Staff, should Kirk's reports indicate that Badoglio's arrest is imminent, to send permissive instructions to General Alexander to intervene on behalf of Badoglio only as the last resort to prevent his arrest.

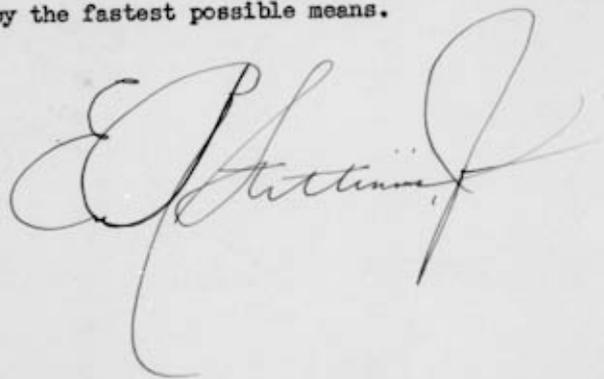
THE SECRETARY OF STATE  
OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

December 9, 1944

WB

MEMORANDUM FOR THE MAP ROOM

I should appreciate it if you would  
have the attached message sent to the  
President by the fastest possible means.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "E. A. Tamm". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the typed text.

9 December 1944

MR-OUT-624

WJ

FOR THE PRESIDENT FROM ADMIRAL LEAHY.

Marshall suggests changing your draft message to Prime to the following. Marshall's proposed changes bear on a persistent British Staff effort to support Mountbatten at the expense of China, and also on anticipated efforts by Prime to move into the Balkans at Eisenhower's expense.

I recommend Marshall's changes.

(See attached for remainder of message. Only part embodied in Quotes transmitted)

December 8, 1944.

TO: ADMIRAL LEAHY ✓  
FROM: THE PRESIDENT

I propose the following telegram to Former Naval Person instead of the draft you sent me. Please clear with Marshall and King and send unless you have objections:

*President to Prime*

QUOTE Your 844. I am at Warm Springs in Georgia taking ten days off after the campaign and everything in the personal line is going well.

Perhaps I am not close enough to the picture to feel as disappointed about the war situation as you are and perhaps also because six months ago I was not as optimistic as you were on the time element.

On the European front I always felt that the occupation of Germany up to the left back <sup>N(1)</sup> of the Rhine would be a very stiff job. Because in the old days I bicycled over most of the Rhine terrain, I have never been as optimistic as to the ease of getting across the Rhine with our joint armies as many of the

Commanding Officers have been.

However, our agreed broad strategy is developing according to plan. You and I are now in the position of Commanders-in-Chief who have prepared their plans, issued their orders, and committed our resources to battle according to those plans and orders. For the time being, even if a little behind schedule, it seems to me the prosecution and outcome of the battles lie with our Field Commanders in whom I have every confidence. We must remember that the winter season is bringing great difficulties but our ground and air forces are day by day chewing up the enemy's dwindling manpower and resources, and our supply flow is much improved with the opening of Antwerp.

General Eisenhower estimates that on the Western Front line he is inflicting losses in excess of the enemy's capability to form new units. I still cannot see clearly just when, but soon a decisive break in our favor is bound to come.

As to the Italian Front, Alexander's forces are doing their bit in keeping those German divisions in

Italy, and we must remember that <sup>the Germans are really</sup> they have always had

~~the probable chance of moving their troops north of the~~

~~Alps whenever they wanted to do so.~~  
*free to withdraw to the base of the Alps if they so decide*

The same thing applies to their troops in the

Balkans. I have never believed that we had the power to

capture any large German forces in the Balkans. <sup>without</sup>  
*assistance by the Russians.*

On the Russian Front we must also give full

allowance to the vile weather and the Russians seem to

be doing their bit at the present time. This, of course,

you know more about than I do.

The Far Eastern situation is, of course, on a

somewhat different footing and I am not at all happy

about it.

From the long range point of view <sup>other than the measures</sup> we can do

very little <sup>Wiedemann is now taking</sup> ~~at this time to keep China together~~  
*Japan*

*to* ~~conducting~~ a worthwhile defense, but Japan is suffering

losses in men and ships and materials in the Pacific

area that are many times greater than ours and they, too, cannot keep this up. Even the Almighty is helping. This magnificent <sup>earthquake and</sup> tidal wave is a proof.

The time between now and spring when the freeze is over will develop many things. We will know a lot more than we know now.

My Chiefs of Staff are now devoting all of their abilities and energies in directing their organizations toward carrying out the plans we have made and in supporting our forces throughout the world. Practically all of these forces are, for the time being, committed. That is why I do not feel that my Chiefs should leave their posts at this time since no requirement exists for broad strategic decisions to guide our Field Commanders.

I think I can leave after Inauguration Day. I hoped that Uncle Joe could come to Rome or Malta or Taormina or Egypt but if he will not -- and insists on the Black Sea -- I could do it even at great

difficulty on account of Congress. Harriman suggested Batum which has an excellent climate. You and I could fly there from Malta or Athens, sending ahead one of my transport Flagships on which to live. Yalta is also intact, though the roadstead is open and we should probably have to live ashore.

*Congratulations*

~~Good luck~~ on the vote.

ROOSEVELT UNQUOTE

*JWR*

F. D. R.

9 December 1944

MR-OUT-623

FOR THE PRESIDENT FROM ADMIRAL BROWN.

Western Front

Center of activity continues to be in the American Third and Seventh Army sectors. Seventeen divisions of these two armies are now in line, with one corps of the Third Army well across the Saar. Progress has been steady but gains limited, as enemy resistance becomes more determined.

There is no indication that the enemy is shifting any of his forces from the Ruhr area in the north where his main weight is concentrated.

To the south, in the French sector, there are further indications that the enemy Nineteenth Army is making a general withdrawal out of Alsace across the Rhine.

Improved but by no means good flying weather is forecast for today and tomorrow.

Reported "demolishing" of Antwerp by German DNB being investigated.

Philippines

The force which landed in the Jap rear in Ormoc Bay on 7 December has extended its perimeter and according to this morning's communique, is now on the outskirts of the town of Ormoc.

A few remaining Jap paratroopers of the 200 which landed a couple of days ago on the Bursauen air strip on Leyte are still holding out on the strip itself.

Units of the U.S. 38th Division have landed on Leyte. This Division, from Pearl Harbor, staged at Buna and has not been employed heretofore in Pacific Operations.

Japan

A B-29 weather plane, dropping two and one half tons on Tokyo, reported that

the city did not observe a blackout.

#### Eastern Front

Marshall Zhukov is now in command of the Soviet Armies from Warsaw to the Carpathians. This is particularly interesting in that the Marshall always appears in the area of the greatest effort and tends to confirm the supposition that the Red Armies will commence their winter offensive in January and that the main drive will be in Poland.

#### Greece

Naval Observer reports situation still very bad with fighting going on in many parts of Athens and sniping everywhere. The entire 4th Indian Division is now in Greece. In addition, a battalion of the Leicestershire Regiment has been flown in from Italy in American planes.

Fighting may continue a week or 10 days more. Meanwhile the food situation is becoming critical and public health is menaced by numbers of unburied dead and inadequate distribution of medical supplies.

Admiral King has directed that no U.S. LST's shall be used to transport troops or material to Greece.

#### Murmansk

A 31 ship convoy arrived in North Russia. One intercepting U-boat and two others attacked by Russian surface units at Murmansk approaches.

#### Pacific Submarines

The submarine BLACKFIN sank a medium freighter and damaged a 10,000-ton tanker in the Philippine area.

SENT: 091515Z

FLASH

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