



DEPARTMENT OF STATE
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
WASHINGTON

October 14, 1948

~~TOP SECRET~~
SUMMARY OF TELEGRAMS

FRANCE French Prime Minister Queuille has informed Caffery that he feels that the strike situation has taken a turn for the better though the Communists will still make a desperate effort to prevent a government success with the coal miners. The French Ministry of the Interior has informed our Embassy that the danger of a railway strike has been averted, the steel strike is on the point of settlement and the coal miners strike will soon be over owing to lack of enthusiasm and the union's shortage of funds, the extent of Soviet strike aid having been disappointing to the CGT. Caffery says that French officials believe that the government will emerge from the present crisis considerably strengthened.

ERP We have informed our Embassy in Brussels that we fear that the lack of effective leadership in OEEC will jeopardize the success of ERP and have serious repercussions in Congress but that the best interests of this government would be served by Belgian Prime Minister Spaak exercising his influence from his present post of Chairman of the OEEC Council rather than by accepting the post of Director General of OEEC as proposed by Harriman. We feel that his withdrawal from the political leadership of Belgium would have an unfortunate effect in Belgium and upon the Benelux union and would result in minimizing the dominant role he is now playing in the Western Union and the UN.

BERLIN Our UN delegation reports that Vishinsky has insisted to the Argentine Foreign Minister who is acting as President of the Security Council that the Council has no jurisdiction in the Berlin case and that the Soviet Zone currency be introduced in the western sectors of Berlin as a condition for lifting the blockade. The Argentine Foreign Minister recognizes that Vishinsky's position is entirely unsatisfactory. The representatives on the Council of the six powers not involved in the Berlin dispute have assured our delegation that no resolution will be introduced by any of them without prior consultation with our representatives and our delegation believes that the six powers fundamentally support our position and will vote with us when the time comes.

DECLASSIFIED

E.O. 12065, Sec. 3-402

State Dept. Guidelines, June 12, 1979

By NLT-HC NARS, Date 11-13-80