DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Memorandum of Conversation

DATE: May 11, 1949

SUBJECT: Visit of Judge Lee, Chairman, House Foreign Affairs Committee.

PARTICIPANTS: The Secretary
Judge Lee
Mr. Gross

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The Secretary advised Judge Lee that the Department was not certain at the moment when it would be able to send the Military Assistance Program Bill to the Congress and that it therefore would be preferable to set the ITO hearings to begin Monday, May 17. Judge Lee agreed. The Secretary stressed the importance of prompt action on Economic Assistance to Korea due to the necessity of the Bill clearing Congress by June 30, when the present assistance program lapses. Judge Lee expressed his willingness to interrupt the ITO Hearings at any time the Korean Aid Bill reached his Committee.

The Secretary urged Judge Lee to be as forceful as possible in getting the Committee to report out the UN Participation Act without damaging amendments. It was agreed however to make certain changes proposed by the Department and others proposed by the Committee which were not objectionable to the Department.