



DEPARTMENT OF STATE
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
WASHINGTON

April 5, 1949

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SUMMARY OF TELEGRAMS

MILITARY AID Agreement has been reached with the Western Union Foreign Ministers on the terms of their request to us for military aid and of our reply to the request. The request follows in general the lines of the memorandum given to Douglas on March 16 by the Western Union Foreign Ministers but avoids any implication of US "participation" in the Western Union as such, makes clear instead that what is being requested is material and financial assistance and removes a phrase that we had felt implied that we could not refuse, if necessary, to furnish arms to the Dutch in the event that a solution to the Indonesian question is not reached. The request also spells out more clearly the nature of mutual aid, saying that each party, consistent with its situation and resources, will contribute in the most effective manner such mutual aid as can reasonably be expected of it. Our reply will underline that we are extending assistance to the Western Union powers in meeting the materiel requirements of their defense program in recognition of the principle of self-help and mutual aid contained in the Atlantic Pact, reiterate the necessity for reciprocal aid and make clear that the allocation of assistance will be effected by common agreement between the Western Union countries and the US.

The Western Union request will be submitted today, our reply will be made tomorrow, and the two documents will be made public on April 8. At the same time we are discussing with the Norwegians, Danes and Italians the text of their request and of our reply. At present it is not being planned that the Portuguese or Icelanders will submit a request.

GREECE According to the Greek Foreign Office, the Yugoslavs have empowered one of their representatives to meet with a high ranking Greek officer to determine the place, conditions and personalities for a meeting between the two countries to settle their differences.

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