



DEPARTMENT OF STATE
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
WASHINGTON

February 27, 1950

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SUMMARY OF TELEGRAMS

ATLANTIC PACT Embassies Paris and Brussels have expressed the view that there exists in France and Belgium a spirit of real cooperation toward the Military Assistance Program and an intelligent approach to the problems arising in the implementation of that program. Embassy Paris believes that there has been no resurgence of the "neutrality complex" in France, that the French government is still motivated by the considerations which prompted its participation in the program, and that we must not reveal any doubts or misgivings about the determination of our partners in the Atlantic Pact. Embassy Brussels states that the Belgian government is firmly committed to the Treaty concepts, and that, while Belgium would fight now only if assured that such a fight would save Belgium from being overrun, energetic US action can instill in Belgium confidence that the Atlantic Pact, supported by the Military Assistance Program, will ultimately afford adequate defense against aggression.

Meanwhile, our Charge in Oslo reports the view of Norwegian Foreign Minister Lange that despite rumors of increasing tension Lange's general information supports the belief that the USSR is not preparing for any move likely to lead to hostilities. Lange said that while the cold war may be stepped up in certain sectors, there is no evidence that the USSR is willing to risk an open break in the foreseeable future.

BERLIN High Commissioner McCloy reports increasing evidence that the USSR will make an effort to gain heavy advantages in Berlin this year -- if not making an endeavor to take over the city before the year is out -- instituting an offensive which will include greater Communist agitation in the city, violence and political pressures, and continued blockade harassments. McCloy suggests a specific ECA program and a US public works program in Berlin to counter the unemployment trend, which has been depressing the morale of the West Berliners.

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