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By DFB NLT, Date 6-7-85

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SUMMARY OF TELEGRAMS

NORTH ATLANTIC
COUNCIL

In the meetings of the North Atlantic Council over the weekend, the Secretary strongly stated our position on the creation of a European defense force, emphasized the necessity for the participation of German units in this force, and stressed the need for agreeing on a common sense of direction for the defense of Europe. The discussions in the Council revealed that all members, except Foreign Minister Schuman, apparently were prepared to take an affirmative decision in principle on the participation of German units. Although Schuman was placed under great pressure from all sides to accede, his instructions from the French Government apparently do not permit him any latitude on this subject. In an effort to break this impasse we instructed our Ambassador in Paris to present in the strongest terms to the French Government the necessity for French acquiescence in this measure as soon as possible, pointing out the extreme gravity with which continued French unwillingness to concur in a decision by the other eleven North Atlantic Treaty governments will be viewed in the US. We have further suggested that the French and the UK Defense Ministers should proceed immediately for discussions on the subject. Meanwhile our Ambassador in Paris reports that the reaction of the French Prime Minister to our representations was one of full awareness of the gravity of the situation and a feeling that such discussions would be helpful. The matter will be presented to the French cabinet today along with a suggestion that the French Finance Minister accompany the Defense Minister in view of the financial questions involved.

In further discussions the Council: 1) took no action on proposal by Portugal that the Council consider the question of Spanish participation, not necessarily membership, in the North Atlantic Treaty; 2) decided that at the present state of development of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) it is not feasible to extend the treaty to Greece or Turkey; however, it would be desirable, if these governments so desire, to make arrangements for them to be associated with such phases of the military planning work of NATO as are concerned with the defense of the Mediterranean;

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3) discussed problems resulting from the impact of increased defense efforts on the economies of the member governments and the prices of primary commodities and the necessity for working out a means of coordinating the work of the various organizations in this field; and
4) discussed the form and content of the final communique.

INDOCHINA

Our Missions in Hanoi and Saigon have informed us of an attack by Viet Minh troops in considerable strength on the town of Dongkhe in Indochina. The headquarters of the French Army in the Far East and our Missions do not consider the attack as the beginning of a general offensive, although the number of Viet Minh troops is estimated at five battalions and are the best armed and trained troops the French have yet encountered. There is no indication the Chinese Communists are directly involved.

FAR EAST

In light of the recent landings of US forces at Inchon and in order to prevent the further extension of war in the Far East, we have requested the Indian Government, through its Ambassador in Peiping, to express to the Chinese Communist regime our view that it is of the utmost importance that the Chinese Communists avoid any intervention in the Korean hostilities. We noted that this expression of views would be more effective if it was presented as India's own views or if the Indian Government could associate itself with them. The Indian Government has replied that it is in full agreement with this approach and would instruct its Ambassador in Peiping at once to present these views to the Chinese Communist regime as those of the Indian Government.

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