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GENERAL

1. Turks plan conciliatory reply to USSR--Turkish Foreign Minister Saka has told US Ambassador Wilson that Turkey's reply to the Soviet note will "accord entirely" with US suggestions. The reply will indicate Turkey's willingness to participate in a conference with "interested governments, including the US" to consider "amendment" of the Montreux Convention, will not attempt to limit the points to be discussed, but will express Turkey's opposition to Soviet suggestions for restricting Straits responsibility to Black Sea powers and for joint Soviet-Turkish defense of the Straits.

Secretary General Erkin of the Turkish Foreign Office believes that the USSR intended, in making unacceptable demands upon Turkey for revision of the Straits Convention, to "keep up the diplomatic offensive" against Turkey and to add to the USSR's chance of "gaining something through compromise and concessions." The new Turkish Prime Minister, Peker, has told Wilson that Turkey is very anxious for the "friendliest possible relations with Russia" but has seen no signs of a reciprocal desire on the part of the USSR.

2. Further British reports on troop reinforcements at Basra--US Military Attache Baghdad has been informed by British authorities there that 15,000 British troops "are being moved" from India to replace the small garrison at Basra and that three British cruisers are in Iraqi waters at the head of the Persian Gulf. (According to US MA London the British War Office stated that up to 15 August only 6,000 troops so far had been moved from India to Basra--see Daily Summary of 15 August, item 3.)
3. Rumors of Spanish-Soviet rapprochement "planted"--US Embassy London has been informed by the British Foreign Office representative in Spain that the current rumors of a Spanish-Soviet rapprochement have been "planted" by the Franco Government (see Daily Summary of 16 August, item 3). The representative stated that such a rapprochement is "impossible."
4. Soviets agree to temporary maintenance of USNA at Odessa--US Naval Attache Moscow reports that the Soviet Government has agreed to permit the Assistant US Naval Attache in Odessa to remain until the completion of UNRRA operations in that port.

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5. Soviet press attacks Chiang Kai-shek--US Charge Durbrow at Moscow reports that the first explicit Soviet press attack against Chiang Kai-shek appeared recently in a review characterizing the Generalissimo's book, "Chinese Economic Theory," as a "ready-made philosophy of totalitarianism in a special Chinese edition." Durbrow comments that the Soviet Government may have concluded that Chiang will not "acquiesce to Soviet purposes" in China and that a Chinese coalition government is unlikely.

EUROPE-AFRICA

6. USSR: Soviet "aid" to Tannu Tuva--Durbrow reports that the Soviet press of 17 August devoted a third of its space to glorification of Soviet policy in Tannu Tuva (autonomous district in central Asia) as an example of the "fraternal aid of a great power to a small people." The press asserted that the incorporation of Tannu Tuva into the USSR in 1944 resulted from popular demand among the natives. Durbrow points out that this is the first public explanation of the "completely unilateral incorporation of this supposedly independent state into the Soviet Union."
7. ALGERIA: Communist-Nationalist alliance--US Consul General Algiers has received from Governor General Chataigneau confirmation of the report that the Communists "with Soviet inspiration" are offering to the Algerian Nationalists an alliance which Chataigneau feels the latter will accept. Chataigneau also believes that the Communists will run no candidates in Algeria's October elections, but will support Nationalist candidates.

FAR EAST

8. CHINA: Chiang expects early military victory over Communists--Durbrow has forwarded a British Embassy report that Chiang told the new British Ambassador to China that he is convinced the Communists have no intention of a "genuine compromise" and therefore must be defeated militarily. Chiang stated that defeat of the main Communist forces "should not be a lengthy process" and might be followed by a "compromise" with Communist leaders.

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9. **KOREA: Illegal immigration from Soviet Zone**--Despite repeated protests to the Soviet Commander in North Korea, General Hodge has been unable to halt the illegal entry of Japanese into the US Zone. The US has repatriated approximately 190,000 of an estimated 263,000 Japanese in North Korea.

3.3(h)(2) 10. **PHILIPPINES: Open conflict likely with Hukbalahaps**--The Commanding General Army Forces, Western Pacific reports that,

about 5,000 Huk forces still occupy Masantol, about 20 miles northwest of Manila (see Daily Summary of 13 August, item 12), and that Huk concentrations "of undetermined strength" have been noted near two cities about 20 miles farther north. The Philippine Government has demanded that arms be surrendered by 31 August, one day after the present termination date of the Huk-Government truce. The Commanding General believes that "the present explosive situation appears headed for open conflict."

THE AMERICAS

11. **ARGENTINA: Messersmith deplors US press attacks**--US Ambassador Messersmith reports that unfavorable US press comment, such as the recent New York Times editorial on the proposed immigration policies of the Argentine Government, can prejudice seriously the current US efforts to bring about a satisfactory solution of the Argentine situation. Messersmith adds that there is "no real foundation" for the attitude taken by the Times, and that the Argentine Congress will almost certainly ratify the Acts of Mexico City and San Francisco "next week," opening the way for "adequate" action against Axis property and aliens.

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