

WEEKEND READING FOR THE PRESIDENT

REFER TO DOS

24 - 25 January 1970

Contents

DOS reviewed. Unclassified. Release in full

BRITAIN AND EUROPE

1. Philippe Simonnot, "Britain and the EEC: Hesitations on the Threshold," LE MONDE (Weekly Selection), December 31, 1969.
2. John P. Mackintosh, "Britain in Europe: Historical Perspective and Contemporary Reality," International Affairs, April 1969.

These two articles may be of interest in view of Prime Minister Wilson's forthcoming visit. In the first article, a French journalist discusses the uncertainty that still exists among British officials, economists, and bankers on the economic advantages of entering the Common Market. The writer's own analysis leads him to the conclusion that, while there will be costs in membership, Britain will gain on balance from the expanding market which she needs for her technologically advanced industries. In the second article, a British political scientist and Member of Parliament describes clearly and perceptively the deeper political and historical changes that lie behind Britain's present desire to join Europe. Occasional hints of British reluctance should not be given exaggerated importance, he argues, because a strong and irreversible European orientation has already become the dominant feature of Britain's foreign policy. More lies behind this new orientation than her short-term economic problems.

THE US. AND EUROPE

3. Christopher Hollis, "Europe: Will U.S. Influence Decline?" Wall Street Journal, January 14, 1970.

A British writer disputes the Servan-Schreiber thesis that the U.S. is about to dominate Europe economically or politically. He debunks some of the notions of American educational superiority and efficiency, and sees significance in the new generation's lack of enthusiasm for economic growth for its own sake. He foresees, as a result, a weakening of American economic power at home and abroad. Thus he welcomes a strong Europe, not (as Mr. Servan-Schreiber does) because otherwise

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we would dominate Europe but because he fears we may desert her.

FRANCE, THE USSR, AND NORTH AFRICA

4. Philippe Herreman, "The North African Campaign: Pompidou's Diplomatic Offensive," LE MONDE (Weekly Selection), December 31, 1969.

A short article commenting on France's vigorous efforts to "strengthen the French presence in the Western Mediterranean" by increasing her military aid to North African countries. Recent French initiatives in this direction, it reports, are prompted by a belief that the cause of peace in this area will be helped if a monopoly of arms supplies is not left to the superpowers. The author believes the North Africans themselves to be somewhat suspicious of French motives, and also suggests that in general the U.S. may not be displeased to see France forestalling further Soviet penetration. On the other hand, the haste with which France moved in Libya is probably less palatable to the U.S.

5. Guy deCarmoy, "France, Algeria and the Soviet Penetration in the Mediterranean," Interplay, October 1969.

A French scholar examines how Soviet penetration into the Mediterranean since 1967 has affected relations between France and Algeria, between Algeria and the USSR, and between the USSR and France. He finds that France's relations with Algeria are strained because of the increasing demands that Algeria is making upon her; that Algeria's growing dependence on the USSR in the field of arms supplies could well be reducing, and not expanding, Algeria's freedom of action; and that Soviet penetration into the Mediterranean and the invasion of Czechoslovakia have led France to strengthen her ties with the Atlantic Alliance.

MIDDLE EAST

6. Gordon H. Torrey, "Instability in Syria," Current History, January 1970.

The author, one of the top Arab analysts in the U.S. Government and an expert especially on Syria, examines the political situation within Syria and how this relates to Syria's radical role in the Middle East and to its other international relations. He foresees no change

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in basic Syrian policies and thinks that Syria's hard stance toward Israel may even intensify if the prospects for an Arab-Israeli settlement further diminish.