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OPERATIONS OPERATING BOARD
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DAILY INTELLIGENCE ABSTRACTS No. 349.

1. SALK VACCINE. The Embassy in Oslo comments that the announcement of the effectiveness of the Salk vaccine has had an exceptionally fine initial goodwill effect in Norway. The Embassies in both Oslo and Stockholm express concern that the stringent restrictions on the export of the vaccine may offset this goodwill. The Oslo Embassy strongly recommends that liberal export quotas for Norway and other countries be announced as soon as possible to take maximum advantage of the situation. Meanwhile, USIS Rome urgently requests samples of the Salk polio vaccine and all available background display material for use at the US pavilion at the Milan Trade Fair, which ends April 25. This display material will offer the US a splendid opportunity to exploit the "teamwork of science and industry for the betterment of mankind". Oslo 671, 14 April 55, C.; Stockholm 894, 14 April 55, LOU.; Rome TOUSI 421, 14 April 55, U.

2. ATOMIC ENERGY. The increasing world anxiety about the effects of atomic test explosions, particularly its genetic effects, should be dealt with promptly, the US delegation to the UN comments. This question will probably arise during the forthcoming UN General Assembly session with the result that the President's program for peaceful uses of atomic energy may be lost in the controversy. The Delegation recommends that an early "positive" proposal for an international scientific consensus on the effects of radiation would be the best move to counter such anxieties. The study of the National Academy of Sciences will not be sufficient to forestall propaganda manipulations in the UN, and would be criticized as exclusively US, thus not reflecting the views of foreign scientists. The Delegation suggests that the US take the initiative in the UN by calling for an international survey of possible radiation effects. New York 680, 13 April 55, S.

3. AUSTRIAN TREATY. Ambassador Bohlen reports that the Soviets have discussed Austrian neutrality along the lines of Switzerland's. Although the position of the USSR has not been made absolutely clear, the idea of neutrality apparently appeals to the Austrian delegation. According to a West German official, if Austria accepts the idea of permanent neutrality, the people of West Germany will tend to increase pressure on West German officials for their own neutrality. The official also stated that he felt that the USSR was adopting its present position, regarding Austria, for the effect it would have on the Germans. However, almost all the papers of West Germany have rejected as dangerous the idea of drawing any parallel between the Austrian and German situations. Moscow 1796, 13 April 55, S.; Bonn 3026, 14 April 55, C.; Bonn West German Political Weekly No. 116, 7 April 55, C.

4. BERLIN. HICOG Bonn proposes a meeting of the four High Commissioners of Berlin to settle the GDR road toll problem. Until now, all negotiations have taken place within the Office of Interzonal Trade where the East Germans have insisted that they were not competent to discuss the toll problem. Although

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the East some representatives have mentioned a meeting at the ministerial level, thus advancing East German sovereignty causes, HICOG Bonn believes that a High Commission meeting would have the following advantages: (1) it would be the most effective measure at the disposal of the US to show the West Germans US determination to pursue the problem; (2) it would counteract tendency of West German press to complain of Allied inaction; and (3) it would reemphasize to the German public and the Soviets the Western High Commissioners firm intention to discharge their responsibilities on matters affecting Berlin. Bonn 3020, 14 April 55, C.; Bonn Despatch 241 (West German Political Weekly No. 116), 7 April 55, C.

5. LATIN AMERICA. Late in March, according to press accounts, President Peron announced that Argentina and foreign oil companies had reached an agreement to help develop its oil resources. Such action by Argentina could be an important step in reversing a strong nationalistic and socialistic trend in Latin America toward government monopoly, the State Department comments. This new Argentine policy runs counter to the anti-US Communist tactic of supporting the ultra-nationalists (See DIA 341). Policy Information Statement for USIA (ARA-192), 12 April 55, C. NOFORN.

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