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OPERATIONS COORDINATING BOARD
Washington 25, D. C.

15 June 1956

INTELLIGENCE NOTES

1. Germany - Adenauer Visit to US

The opposition press has reacted strongly to Chancellor Adenauer's New Haven speech and to the joint US-German communique released after the Chancellor's talks with Secretary Dulles. The comments include allegations that Adenauer and Dulles have adopted a "do-nothing" policy on reunification and that the two leaders merely rehashed old ideas without being prepared to "take practical advantage of world political developments". In Moscow TASS comments that "from the text of the communique it is seen that the talks were started for the purpose of creating additional obstacles in the way of solving the most important international questions, disarmament in particular". (US Embassy Bonn 4734, 13 June, Unclassified; FBIS, 14 June, Official Use Only)

2. Greece - Recommendations for US Action

US Embassy Athens recommends a three point program for strengthening the Karamanlis government and bolstering Greek determination to resist Soviet economic assistance offers. Basing its conclusions on the fact that the basic feature of the Karamanlis economic program is agricultural improvement, the Embassy suggests: (1) Maintaining the Greek defense and investigative budget support at the 1955-56 level; (2) extending economic assistance to include industrial projects of benefit to agriculture—specifically a fertilizer plant and sugar refinery; and (3) reinstatement of direct forces support in an effort to protect the US investment, maintain readiness of forces and strengthen Greek-NATO ties. (US Embassy Athens 3408, 11 June, Secret; 3402, 12 June, Confidential)

3. USSR - Disarmament

In the USSR Investia has played heavily on the Bulganin disarmament letters to the US, UK, France, Germany, Italy and Turkey with the telling argument that the peoples of these countries are demanding that the arms "burden" be reduced. US Ambassador Bohlen comments that these letters will be the keystone of a long-range Soviet propaganda offensive. In London the British Foreign Office thinking on a reply to the Bulganin note is characterized as still "fluid". (US Embassy Moscow 2817, 13 June; London 3745, 13 June; Confidential)

4. Lebanon - Request for Arms

President Chamoun of Lebanon has repeated his request for arms aid and added the suggestion that it might be possible for the US to

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(US Embassy Beirut 1637, 13 June, Secret)

5. Iran - Visit of General Maxwell Taylor

US Embassy Tehran is urging that General Maxwell Taylor's one-day visit to Iran, now scheduled immediately following the return of the Shah from Moscow, be extended to three days and that his entire itinerary be made public before the Shah leaves for the USSR to prevent Taylor's trip being labeled a US propaganda move. The Embassy comments that the Shah is anxious to meet Taylor, that Iran wants equal treatment with Turkey (Taylor is scheduled to stay there three days) and that Taylor's visit at this time will be taken by the Iranians as indicative of US interest in the Iranian army and as a forerunner of increased arms and equipment. (US Embassy Tehran 1907, 14 June, Secret)

6. Laos - Visit to Peking

US Embassy Vientiane urges that before the forthcoming Laotian visit to Peking the US secure an iron-clad agreement from Laos that any proposals made by the Communist Chinese be discussed with the West prior to acceptance by Laos. The Embassy comments that short of the application of strong leverage (i.e., the threat to cut aid) it is now impossible to persuade the Laotians to make the visit contingent upon the settlement of the Pathet Lao problem. (US Embassy Vientiane 1600, 1601, 1594, 17-18 June, Secret)

7. Reaction to Atomic Radiation Reports

London papers have given major coverage to the Medical Research Council and National Academy of Science reports on the effects of atomic radiation. Several papers have commented that the reports reinforce the case for an international agreement to stop or limit nuclear weapons testing and most of them noted the danger from strontium radiation. The Manchester Guardian reports Prime Minister Eden may announce UK willingness to negotiate on a general limitation or abandonment of test explosions. In Tokyo the reports also made headlines and comment stressed the necessity for banning nuclear weapons testing. (US Embassy London TOUSI 535, 13 June; US Embassy Tokyo 2904, 14 June, Unclassified)

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