DEPARTMENT OF STATE
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
WASHINGTON

September 23, 1948

SUMMARY OF TELEGRAMS

GERMANY

The three western representatives in Moscow have concluded that the Soviet reply to our recent aide memoire contains no basis for any hope that the USSR is willing to seek a satisfactory agreement with the West over Berlin. While the Soviet reply itself and Molotov's attitude during the Saturday meeting were not unreasonable, no satisfaction was given on the three points at issue and in one respect deny an agreement previously made by Stalin. Smith concludes that the USSR is now thinking in tactical terms rather than of genuine agreement and desires to prolong discussions and to shift to the western powers, under the most unfavorable possible circumstances, responsibility for breaking off negotiations.

The three western representatives in Moscow together with General Clay and Ambassador Murphy in Berlin have been instructed to go to Paris for further consultations on the whole Berlin question.

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By MLT. H.C. Black, Jr. 11-13-48