October 15, 1948

Urgent

Summary of Telegram

Soviet

Our UN delegation reports that the Soviets, in their reply to the President of the Security Council on the Berlin question, are insisting that the matter be referred to the Council of Foreign Ministers which, they claim, should resolve the problem of Germany as a whole in addition to the situation in Berlin. These Soviet demands are in addition to their previously reported insistence that the Security Council renew the Berlin question from its agenda prior to any negotiations and that the Soviet zone currency be introduced in Berlin simultaneously with the lifting of the blockade.

France

Our Embassy in Moscow believes that the current disturbances in France are probably deliberately calculated by the Communists to bring de Gaulle to power with the primary object of invalidating the London decisions on Germany and disrupting the unity of the western powers. They apparently believe that, in the light of de Gaulle's clearly expressed views, he would be second best only to a Communist government in France in achieving these Communist objectives and the French Communists who might be liquidated by him are clearly regarded by Moscow as being expendable.

Tibet

Embassy Moscow comments that the open publication of an anti-Tito Yugoslav newspaper in Praga and the recent criticism of Tito himself in an official Yugoslav newspaper eliminate any possibility of a reconciliation, if the possibility of one ever existed. The Embassy believes that Tito's present isolation will in the long run force him inexorably toward better relations with the west.