July 2, 1948

SUMMARY OF TELEGRAMS

GERMANY

We have proposed to the British and French that the three western commanders in Berlin see Sokolovsky today to ascertain whether he is in a position to rescind the Soviet blockade measures and when this might be done. If Sokolovsky promises the immediate lifting of the blockade, we would reconsider the question of whether a protest should be sent to Moscow. However, if Sokolovsky indicates further delay, we continue to believe the US, UK and France should dispatch their notes not later than tomorrow.

We have also agreed, following discussions with the British and French, to delete from our proposed note any mention of the possibility of referring the dispute to the Council of Foreign Ministers, though retaining the suggestion that we are still willing to refer the matter to the United Nations. The British and French have accepted our note in this form.

Ambassador Smith in Moscow reports that the treatment given the Berlin situation by the Soviet press during the past week or ten days suggests that Moscow expects no real crisis in the relations of the four occupying powers. Smith points out that while the Soviet press has recently been careful not to alarm the public, the restraint with which the Berlin situation is pictured may indicate the Kremlin's intentions in this matter.

MIDDLE EAST

Our Embassy in Jidda has been officially informed that the recent visit to Saudi Arabia of King Abdullah of Transjordan resulted, thanks to the initiative, in clearing out past misunderstandings and bringing the two governments together on specific agreements concerning the Middle East and Palestine situations. Both Transjordan and Saudi Arabia agreed not to accept the state of Israel or the partition of Palestine, and, if some peaceful solution is not reached during the truce period, to resume fighting in which Saudi Arabia would take a more active part.

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