

INCOMING TELEGRAM

DEPARTMENT OF STATE—DIVISION OF COMMUNICATIONS AND RECORDS

TELEGRAPH BRANCH

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By NLT/4, NARS Date 6-30-75

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FROM: Paris

TO: Secretary of State

NO: 1155, March 16, 1 p.m.

The reaction in Paris political circles (except Communists) to the President's message continues to be highly favorable and as a result, our prestige is high. Radical, MRP, Independent Republican and Socialist leaders have all been making special occasion to speak to me about it. These leaders of the Center and Left are unanimous in their conviction that the President's policy message will, more than anything which has occurred since the Liberation, serve to unite different Democratic French elements which are opposed to Communism. They make no bones about the fact that the Communist party "because it is directly backed by Soviet Russia, one of the two greatest powers", has had the Indian sign on other political parties to such an extent that they have been neutralized or rendered impotent through fear and a sense of inferiority. The President's message has served to make them feel that they are not isolated and alone. They see in the message a clear indication that the United States understands and is assuming its new responsibilities which they had feared we might be unwilling to shoulder.

The above reaction is not limited to Paris alone. I have received telegraphic reports from the different consulates in France indicating that the reaction throughout the country is similar to that set forth above.

Repeated US Delegation Moscow, 145, London 222, Rome 65, Brussels 28.

CAFFERY



MH:FAE

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