

31 May 1946 #90

EUROPE-AFRICA

- 1. USSR: Ukraine crop failure reported—US Military Attache London has learned from "a reliable source" that a three-month drought in the Ukraine will result in loss of half the planned grain harvest (see Daily Summary for 24 May, item 1). The source "indicated" that Stalin's recent refusal to promise grain for relief was prompted by the expected crop deterioration.
- 2. RUMANIA: US protests arrest of employees—General Schuyler, US delegate ACC, reports that (a) the Rumanian Government has arrested and jailed two Rumanian civilians employed by the US and (b) a "show of force" was necessary to prevent the arrest of another Rumanian on Schuyler's staff. Schuyler states that (a) none of the Rumanians involved was engaged in any political activities; and (b) a protest to the Soviet Deputy Chairman ACC elicited the reply that the situation "primarily involved the US mission and the Rumanian Government", which as a sovereign nation must have full jurisdiction over all its citizens. Schuyler believes that the matter can be settled locally. The State Department has formally protested to the Rumanian Government against this "outrageous" interference in US activities, and has demanded "the immediate cessation of such molestation" and the release of the arrested employees.
- 3. YUGOSLAVIA: Significance of Tito visit to Moscow—US and British military authorities in Caseria point out that (a) the Yugoslav demands for closing the US Embassy radio in Belgrade and suspension of US and UK air operations in Yugoslavia coincide with Tito's visit to Moscow, and (b) Tito was accompanied by his Chief of Staff and other officers of such importance that the object of their visit "could reasonably be regarded" as the discussion of "operational matters."

The US Naval Attache Belgrade believes that Tito's visit (a) indicates a possible offensive against Trieste, and (b) is connected with a Yugoslav order for registration by 8 June of all reserve officers and men.

The US Commanding General, Mediterranean Theatre, has instructed the US Military Attache Belgrade to continue operation of the US Embassy radio unless he receives contrary orders from the State Department.

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