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NYC 143 28 JULY 1961  
TO MILLER INFO SMITH  
FROM WALTER INFO KAUFMANN  
445PM

N Y COMMENTS AND SUGGESTIONS.

1. SPECULATION ON EAST- WEST NEGOTIATIONS. THIS PROBLEM GIVES EVERY INDICATION OF BEING WITH US FOR SOME TIME TO COME. WE DISCUSSED THIS AT SOME LENGTH AT TODAY'S CONFERENCE, AND EARLIER TODAY, I ISSUED THE FOLLOWING NOTE TO ALL DESK CHIEFS:

IN VIEW OF OUR CONTINUING LACK OF FURTHER BACKGROUND WHICH WOULD HELP US TO DETERMINE THE REAL MEANING OF THE ODER- NEISSE LINE MAY BE AN ITEM OF EAST - WEST NEGOTIATION, NO PRESS REVIEWS OR COMMENTARIES SHOULD BE DEVOTED IN TOTO TO THIS ONE QUESTION. MENTION MAY BE MADE OF THE REPORTS ON INTEREST IN THE ODER- NEISSE QUESTION WITHIN THE CONTEXT OF BROADER REVIEWS OR DISCUSSIONS OF POSSIBLE AREAS OF NEGOTIATION OR OF DEVELOPMENTS ON THE BERLIN CRISIS FOLLOWING PRESIDENT KENNEDY S SPEECH. WE SHOULD BEAR IN MIND THAT ALL REPORTS OF POSSIBLE NEGOTIABLE AREAS ARE SPECULATIVE AT THIS TIME. VARIOUS STATEMENTS BY KENNEDY AND OTHERS HAVE INDICATED THOSE AREAS WHICH ARE NOT NEGOTIABLE (WESTERN RIGHTS IN BERLIN , THE FREEDOM OF WEST BERLINERS, ETC.), BUT WE HAVE VERY LITTLE OF AN AUTHORITATIVE CHARACTER ON WHAT AREAS MAY BE NEGOTIABLE.  
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THE AMOUNT OF JOURNALISTIC DISCUSSION ON POSSIBLE NEGOTIABLE AREAS IS RAPDILY REACHING LANDSLIDE PROPORTIONS. SO FAR, IT HAS PROVEN IMPOSSIBLE FOR US TO GET AUTHORITATIVE BACKGROUND. IT IS MORE THAN LIKELY THAT NO CLEAR LINES HAVE AS YET BEEN DRAWN ANYWHERE, AND WE MUST ANTICIPATE A PERIOD OF SOME UNCERTAINTY. THE PRELIMINARY DISCUSSIONS NOW GOING ON IN PARIS, PLUS THE FOREIGN MINISTERS MEETING SCHEDULED TO BEGIN AUGUST FIFTH SHOULD FORWARD THE UNDERSTANDING AMONG THE WESTERN ALLIES, BUT THE SHAPE OF DIPLOMATIC MOVES MAY BE A LONG TIME IN CLARIFICATION. THEREFORE WE WILL HAVE TO READ WITH CAUTION, AVOID OVERSTRESSING THE AMOUNT OF COVERAGE WE GIVE TO NEGOTIATION PROSPECTS, AND BE CAREFUL TO SEPARATE OFFICIAL AND NON-OFFICIAL POSITIONS.

2. BIZERTE PROBLEM AT UN. ALL DEKS WILL HAVE PROGRAMS ON THIS TOMORROW MORNING. WE WILL USE FACTUAL APPROACH, REPORTING THE EVENTS AS THEY HAVE BEEN TAKING PLACE.

3. BALEWA'S US VISIT. WE HAVE NOT DEVOTED AS MUCH ATTENTION TO THIS AS IT HAS PROBABLY RESERVED. BALEWA HAS MADE EXCELLENT IMPRESSION AS INTELLIGENT, RESPONSIBLE LEADER OF ONE OF AFRICA'S MOST IMPORTANT NATINS. HE WILL BE HONORED AT OVERSEAS PRESS CLUB ON MONDAY, WHICH WILL GIVE US OPPORTUNITY FOR COVERING HIS STATEMENTS, AND REVIEWING HIS VISIT AS WELL AS THE QUIET PROGRESS EVIDENT IN NIGERIA.

4. LATIN AMERICA. WE HAVE BEEN GETTING VERY GOOD MATERIAL FROM ENDRST OF NEWSROOM WHO HAS BEEN MAKING EXTENSIVE TOUR OF LATIN AMERICA.  
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WE HOPE TO BEGIN WORKING SOME OF THIS MATERIAL INTO A SERIES OF PROGRAMS OVER COMING WEEKS. FORTHCOMING MONTEVIDEO CONFERENCE WILL INCREASE TIMELINESS OF THIS CONTRIBUTION.  
END MSG