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International Organizations

Every Inland Transport *Files*
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Paraphrase of Telegram Received
from SECSTATE, Washington.

The following telegrams which are self-explanatory have been exchanged between the Department and the American Embassy, London, and have been repeated to this office for the unofficial information of the American members of the Allied Control Commission in Italy:

"From London, No. 7323, dated September 13:

"It has been suggested by the Foreign Office that the Allied Control Commission in Italy be invited to appoint a representative or representatives to attend the forthcoming EITO conference, in view of the important part which the Italian transportation system will play in problems affecting the inland transport in Europe. The Foreign Office has no objections if the Allied Control Commission wishes to bring along, in a subordinate capacity, an Italian technician. 230

"Request Department's views."

Following is reply from Department:

"The Foreign Office's suggestion that the Allied Control Commission in Italy be invited to send representatives to the EITO conference the Department concurs in, and offers no objection if the ACC desires to include on the staff of ACC representative an Italian technician.

"It is assumed by the Department that the Foreign Office will transmit, under cover of the same letter as sent to Allied Government, a copy of the draft agreement to ACC. This communication should be on behalf of the Governments of the United States and Kingdom."

PARAPHRASE

of

Telegram from Secstate, Washington.

First of Two Sections.

With reference to the establishment which has been proposed of a European inland transport organization the following telegraphic message has been sent to Schoenfeld in London, American Mission in Algiers, and McVeigh in Cairo for their information and to inform them that an invitation to attend and take part in a conference which will be held soon will be extended to the authority or to the governments to which they are accredited.

Between the U.S.S.R., United States, and United Kingdom there is an agreement in principle that it would be expedient for the carrying out of common United Nations military needs and in interest of economic and social progress in Europe after the liberation of occupied territories in Europe that a European inland transport organization be established to provide for coordination both in allocation of transport material and equipment and in control of traffic. Recently approval has been given by the United States and United Kingdom Governments (1) to a draft agreement for a European inland transport organization (EITO) which, as a basis for discussion, is to be submitted to the continental Allied governments and (2) a draft directive for a tripartite interim commission which would operate until the establishment of that organization. Documents were drafted by United States and United Kingdom representatives and by an observer representing the U.S.S.R. Government.

Instructions have been given to the United Kingdom and United States Ambassadors in Moscow to approach the U.S.S.R. Government in concert for the purpose of obtaining on the aforementioned documents the concurrence of the Soviet Government. If this can be obtained forthwith it is proposed that acting on behalf of the United States, U.S.S.R. and United Kingdom, the British Government on or about September 5th issue invitations to a conference to discuss a draft agreement as a basis for the establishment of a European inland transport organization, which will be attended by representatives of Allied Governments, which conference would be held in London about September 25th. Should the Soviet Government not be prepared at present to formally

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participate in the invitation the proposal is made to the continental Allied Governments on behalf of the United Kingdom and United States Governments, by the British Government, with a statement that at a conference to be held in London around the end of September the draft agreement would be used as a basis for discussion.

Second Section.

Notification will also be given to the Allied Governments that the Soviet Government has been advised fully of the action taken and that importance to the coordination and restoration of European Inland Transport after end of hostilities in Europe is attached to it by that Government. The draft agreement, it would also be pointed out, to a large extent was based on the work which Allied experts did on the technical advisory committee on Inland Transport of the Inter-Allied Requirements Bureau.

The French Committee of National Liberation, accordingly, may receive an invitation shortly issued by the British Government on behalf of the U.S.S.R., the United Kingdom and the United States to take part in a conference where the organization of European Inland Transport along the lines of the draft agreement will be discussed. You are to make arrangements with your British colleague to be informed of the issuance of such an invitation and the text of the documents which are transmitted. If there are any new developments in this matter you are to keep the Department informed.

For your information: as presently approved, the draft agreement would give (EITO) the proposed organization the powers to provide for fair allocation and distribution of transport material and equipment in order that the movement of traffic of common concern in Europe may be facilitated. Power would also be given EITO to allocate equipment for essential traffic to areas where it was needed most urgently and power to direct the movement of traffic of common concern. It is also proposed in the draft agreement that EITO consist of a council including all member governments. Besides, it would have an executive board of five members, three of whom would be nominated by the United Kingdom, U.S.S.R., and United States governments. The agreement would be valid for a period of two years, at least, after hostilities with Germany are generally suspended. As soon as a member government became the effective authority for transport in its territory, EITO would begin to exercise its functions, under the condition that the Allied Commanders in Chief are convinced that military necessities allow, and under whatever

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conditions they might place.

As, pending the establishment of EITO, a stop-gap organization will be necessary, there will be established an interim commission. This is to be composed of United Kingdom, U.S.S.R. and United States representatives; it is to act in an advisory and consultative capacity to the military and to study different pertinent matters with regard to the operation and administration of the proposed EITO. In order to maintain liaison with this interim commission the continental Allied governments would probably be called upon to assign representatives.

For their information and that of other American members of ACC please inform Schott and O'Dwyer of the proposed EITO. It is our understanding that an informal communication on this subject is being addressed by the British Foreign Office to a civil member of the British staff in Italy. The ACC will, in due time, be formally advised through proper channels of EITO.

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