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THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

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STAFF NOTES NO. 163

August 6, 1957

1. India on Hungarian Report. -- Embassy New Delhi has learned that India is agreeable to a UN discussion on the Special Committee's Report on Hungary. The Indians cite Nehru's descriptions of the revolt as genuine, and express concern over recent Hungarian death sentences and other extremes. However, they feel that UN discussion and conclusions should be moderate, to avoid intensifying Russian repression of the Hungarians, and that an early special UN session on the question would be inadvisable. (C)
2. Indian Comment on Nasser. -- The Indian Ambassador in Cairo has expressed disappointment at the violent tone of two recent speeches by Nasser despite previous counsel by Nehru, Menon, and the Ambassador that he adopt a moderate tone and stress domestic improvement plans. Although the Indians still believe Nasser is a man of basic integrity and future possibilities, the Ambassador noted that Nasser seems to be obsessed by his fear of Israel after UNEF is withdrawn and by a conviction that the US, after acting on principle during the Suez crisis, has had second thoughts and is now operating in collusion with the British, French, and Israelis. (C)
3. Foreign Press Coverage of Atom Tests. -- Although only ten of the forty-seven countries invited to send correspondents to the Nevada tests have done so, USIA reports that this innovation has resulted in excellent overseas coverage, emphasizing such topics as safety precautions and minimizing fallout. Generally, large countries like UK, France, Germany, Italy and Japan, accepted the invitation. The smaller countries apparently lacked sufficient travel funds. (C)



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4. Baltic Allied Naval Command Organization. -- SACEUR has proposed to NATO Standing Group that Commander Allied Naval Forces, Northern Area Central Europe (COMNAVNOR-CENT) relocate to Holtenau, near Kiel, Germany in order that his integrated staff of German, UK, US, and French naval officers can provide NATO guidance to the rapidly developing German Navy. Russian sensitivity toward the Baltic and political differences among Germany, Denmark, and Norway preclude establishment of a regular allied naval command in the Baltic area. As drafts of the proposal have been cleared in principle with the Defense Ministers of the countries concerned, Defense expects that SACEUR's activation deadline of September 1 may be met. (S)

5. Federal-State Relations. -- Today Secretary Anderson chaired a successful off-the-record meeting of the Federal representatives to the Joint Federal-State Action Committee, in preparation for that body's first meeting Friday and Saturday at Hershey, Pennsylvania. Agreement was reached on a tentative agenda for the Hershey meeting, on a list of Federal taxes appropriate for State use, and on a limited, initial list of functions which the States might reasonably be expected to assume. A press release will probably be issued by the Joint Committee Friday night or Saturday. (Adm. Conf.)

6. Highway Program. -- The first full year of activity under the Federal-aid Highway Act of 1956 came to an end on June 30. General Bragdon has obtained from the Bureau of Public Roads the attached summary of progress as of that date. (U)



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