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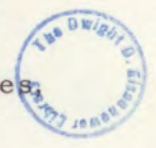
THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

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STAFF NOTES NO. 174

August 19, 1957

1. Anti-missile Missile Briefings for Canadians. -- Army has approved a Canadian request for a briefing on its development programs for anti-missile missile (AMM) systems. The briefings will be on the NIKE-ZEUS - project to develop an anti-ICBM capability; and the PLATO - project to develop a weapons system to protect field forces against enemy tactical ballistic missiles. Closer collaboration with Canada in defense matters is considered necessary so that foreseeable requirements for Canadian participation in U. S. AMM program may be adequately planned, at least the furnishing of sites for early warning and forward acquisition radars. Canadian AMM defenses could furnish depth to U. S. defenses particularly against low trajectory ICBMs. (S)



2. Peruvian Newspaper Attacks US Fishing Vessels. -- A Peruvian newspaper has complained in two recent front-page stories that US "pirate ships" are fishing for tuna within the 200 mile limit off the Peruvian coast without paying the required fee. Embassy Lima, noting that this is the first such press comment in many months and that there is probably no new fishing activity, suspects that the newspaper, which has been particularly bitter over the lead and zinc tariff increase issue, may be trying to retaliate against the US in this way and to force the government to make a public statement. (Adm. Conf.)

3. First Meeting of US-Japan Security Committee. -- Ambassador MacArthur reports that at the first meeting of the committee on August 16, the Japanese requested advance detailed information on the planned withdrawals of the 1st Cavalry and 3rd Marine Divisions, as well as on other force reductions. Foreign Minister Fujiyama explained this as necessary to arrange for the orderly assumption of defense responsibilities by Japan, the transfer of facilities to the defense agency in the face of requests for non-military uses,

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measures to cope with prospective dislocations in US employed Japanese labor, and meeting the decline in dollar expenditures. We explained that the redeployment involved complicated considerations which often made early notification difficult but that we intended to continue to provide the information as soon as it was available. (C)

4. Magsaysay "Champion of Liberty" Stamp. -- On August 30, Post Office will dedicate the issuance of the first stamp at a ceremony to which Government officials and the diplomatic corps have been invited. Ambassador Bohlen will present autographed albums of stamps to Magsaysay's family and prominent Filipino leaders at another ceremony in Manila. (U)

5. Defense Cutbacks Progress. -- Clarence Randall notes that decisions and announcements are going steadily ahead, with the program progressing extraordinarily well, considering the obvious difficulties. The economy seems to be absorbing the shocks and taking the situation in its stride; the Navajo closing, about which there was such apprehension, has resulted in employers swooping down on the district to pick up released technicians. He believes that a growing and solid body of public opinion supports the cutbacks as reflecting the Administration's determination to meet budgetary limitations. He is urging the Pentagon to move as rapidly as possible so that each day will have fresh evidence of their decisiveness; having many announcements in a short time also makes the impact general rather than local. (C)

6. Highway Program. -- General Bragdon has forwarded the attached July progress report from the Bureau of Public Roads, which comments that the \$70 million gap between actual and scheduled "funds obligated" is partly due to several States having already obligated substantially all of their interstate apportionments. The August 1 apportionment of \$2 billion interstate funds authorized for Fiscal 1959 will enable the States to resume obligating interstate money and result in some catching up during August. (U)



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