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THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

STAFF NOTES NO. 431

September 30, 1958

1. Tunisian Economic Development. -- ICA notes that after meeting with President Bourguiba, Under Secretary Dillon commented that he was impressed by: The importance of increasing to the extent possible the number of American technicians working on specific projects in Tunisia, the goodwill toward Americans shown by the whole populace, and the excellent work being accomplished through P. L. 480 Title II work relief projects. (C)

2. Military Survey for Jordan. -- At the King's request, and with State and Defense concurring, Army will early in October send a small military survey mission to survey Jordanian forces needs. It will stay about a month. State is providing an economic advisor. (S)

3. USAF Withdrawal from Iraq. -- Just prior to the coup d' etat, we sent about 70 USAF personnel to Iraq on temporary duty to augment the MAAG and help train Iraqi for F-86F aircraft. When training was stopped after the coup, some returned to home station, but about 60 remained idle in Iraq. With State, Defense and JCS concurrence, we have notified Iraq that we are withdrawing all USAF personnel. We are expediting the return of all personnel not needed to care for US training equipment or to advise the Chief MAAG. (C)

4. Arab Development. -- Arab League Secretary General Hassouna said recently that he would like to see some regional economic development organization set up soon. He said that the Arab League's 1957 proposal has been signed by Egypt, Jordan and Saudi Arabia, that Libya has also agreed to it, and that one more adherence would permit the agency's establishment. He favors its immediate formation, with modification later if necessary in the light of other area development proposals. While he was still awaiting Hammarskjold's plan, Hassouna agreed with the principle expressed by President Eisenhower and Hammarskjold that the agency must be basically Arab, regardless of the extent of outside technical aid. (C)
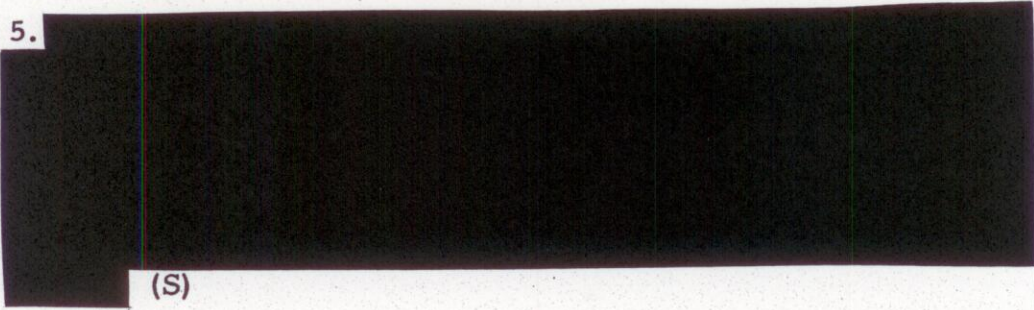
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