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THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

STAFF NOTES NO. 116

May 20, 1957

1. Shah to Visit Fleet. -- State and Defense have approved arrangements for the Shah of Iran to visit the SIXTH Fleet on June 10 to 13 following his state visit to Spain. (S)
2. Intelligence Agreement with Turkey. -- Defense reports that implementation of the long-sought agreement which the Turks approved in March is proceeding satisfactorily and that substantial U.S. intelligence elements are now employed in Turkey for COMINT, ELINT, and RADAR intelligence operations against high priority Soviet targets, [REDACTED] An atmosphere of cordial cooperation has been furthered by a visit to the U. S. of the Turkish Chief Signal Officer this month. (S)
3. Price of Farm Land. -- Agriculture reports that farm real estate prices rose 2% from November 1956 (the previous record high) to March 1957, primarily because of a high level of business activity, slowly rising prices, a growing population's need for space, and the ability of established farmers to farm larger units with modern machinery. (Adm. Conf.)
4. Paperwork Management. -- Interior is launching an aggressive program to improve correspondence and paperwork management throughout the Department. GSA is assisting in an inventory and appraisal of the problem. (Adm. Conf.)
5. Highway Program. -- a) In view of recent disclosures, reimbursement for right-of-way acquisition costs in Indiana will not be resumed until the State has submitted the information which is requested from all states covering their regulations and procedures. Indiana is expected to comply shortly. Prompt acquisition of rights-of-way for the interstate system at a fair price is receiving special attention by Commerce's Bureau of Public Roads, which recently



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held a series of meetings on all aspects of this problem at Chicago. b) As of April 30, 1957, highway contracts advertised and funds obligated total \$1.8 billion as the Federal share of projects for all systems, of which \$1.144 billion is for the interstate system. Estimated obligations for the entire fiscal year 1957 total \$2,225 billion of which 1.4 involves interstate obligations. Three-fourths of the states have obligated one-half or more of their 1957 interstate system funds, and all have obligated at least part. c) The Federal-aid highway construction price index for the first quarter of Calendar Year 1957 rose from 140.7 in the previous quarter to 142.6 (1946 equal 100) a rise of 1.4 per cent. (Adm. Conf.)

6. Saudi-GRC Relations. -- Embassy Jidda learns from the Republic of China's Consul there that his government will soon establish embassy-level diplomatic relations with Saudi-Arabia on the immediate initiative of Crown Prince Faisal. (C)

7. Soviet Weather Information. -- USSR and Poland have recently begun to cooperate in furnishing climatological data for inclusion in the publication "Monthly Climatic Data for the World" issued by the U.S. Weather Bureau in cooperation with the World Meteorological Organization. (Adm. Conf.)



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