

thus to the eventual elimination of Western influence in this area. If Western influence were driven out, the vacuum would be filled by Nasser's and pro-Soviet influence.

2. An early and peaceful settlement of the Algerian conflict is the key to the maintenance of Western influence in all of North Africa. If de Gaulle can come up with a liberal and realistic policy which has a good chance of bringing about a peaceful solution, he would have our wholehearted support and we would be prepared to render any assistance that might be feasible, should such be desired

280. Editorial Note

After attending the third emergency special session of the U.N. General Assembly, Foreign Minister Couve de Murville traveled to Washington August 21 for talks with Acting Secretary Herter and President Eisenhower. That afternoon, Eisenhower raised the subject of Algeria. A memorandum of this conversation is scheduled for publication in volume VII

281. Memorandum From the Assistant Secretary of State for Policy Planning (Smith) to the Assistant Secretary of State for European Affairs (Elbrick)¹

Washington, September 12, 1958.

SUBJECT

Algeria

The Staff and I have discussed the Algerian problem at some length in the light of Mr. Jova's memorandum of August 21 (forwarded for S/P consideration under cover of Mr. Long's memoran-

¹ Source: Department of State, PPS Files, Lot 67 D 548. Secret. Drafted by Henry C. Ramsey. Copies were sent to Wilcox and Satterthwaite.