

General Collins: I would be against setting up a formal combined staff. The Russians could make such good propaganda out of that by saying that we were fully engaged in planning for war and it probably would worry our other Allies.

General Bradley: Could we leave it this way. Why don't I say to Elliott that he is free to come and talk to me at any time, that he is free to come and talk with any one of the Chiefs at any time and that if he has a special officer on non-NATO matters, that officer would be free to talk to the operations officer of anyone of the three services.

Admiral Fechteler: I have no objection, but I don't know what real use it would be.

Mr. Matthews: It might at least educate the British to realize that we really don't keep things from them.

[Here follows discussion dealing with Iran.]

No. 94

780.5/10-1352. Telegram

*The Acting Secretary of State to the Embassy in France*¹

SECRET
PRIORITY

WASHINGTON, October 15, 1952--11:30 a. m.

2155. Fol is abbreviated text Note delivered Fr Emb Oct 14 commenting on Fr *aide-mémoire* to UK dated Aug 15.²

"The Secretary presents his compliments His Excellency Amb Fr and refers to his Note No. 461 Aug 15 transmitting text *aide-mémoire* of Fr Govt to Brit Emb in Paris in reply UK memo Aug 7 with respect proposals estab MEDO.

USG studied with care *aide-mémoire* of Fr Govt on UK proposals. Although *aide-mémoire* presented Dept for info, it concluded with suggestion certain pts shld be made subj exchange of views through dipl channels among USG, Fr and UK. Subsequently, Fr FonOff

¹ Also sent to London priority as 2666.

² This text is substantially the same as the draft transmitted to the Department of Defense under cover of the Secretary of State's letter (signed by Byroade) of Sept. 22, Document 88.

The Department of Defense response was made in a letter of Oct. 13 from Deputy Under Secretary of Defense Foster to the Secretary of State, under which was transmitted a Joint Chiefs of Staff memorandum of Oct. 6, neither printed. (780.5/10-1352)

Two substantive revisions were recommended by the Joint Chiefs in their Oct. 6 memorandum, which were concurred in by the Deputy Under Secretary of Defense in his letter of Oct. 13 with the request that the JCS views be incorporated into the reply to the French *aide-mémoire*. These revisions are noted in footnotes below.