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*L'ambassadeur aux États-Unis au secrétaire d'État
aux Affaires extérieures*

*Ambassador in United States to Secretary of State
for External Affairs*

DESPATCH 2773

Washington, December 9, 1944

SECRET

Sir,

I have the honour to refer to our teletype WA-6847 concerning the provision and financing of wheat supplies for Greece.

2. As anticipated in the last two paragraphs of that teletype we have had a discussion of the general subject with the appropriate United States and United Kingdom representatives in Washington. An informal memorandum on this discussion is enclosed. This memorandum has been checked with the representatives of the U.K. Embassy who confirm that it reports accurately the sense of the meeting. We are circulating the memorandum to the other U.S. and U.K. representatives who participated in the discussion with a request that they indicate whether or not the memorandum accurately expresses the views put forward at the meeting.

3. You will wish to note particularly that the F.E.A. representative indicated his understanding that the F.E.A. expected that expenses incurred by them in the provision of such relief supplies after a date to be determined will be shared along the lines of the general agreement.

4. Pending completion of the formal agreement concerning the financing of relief supplies provided on a combined basis outside UNRRA it would seem that we shall be unable to secure a firm commitment providing for the inclusion of these particular wheat shipments under this general agreement. On the basis of this discussion however we are confident that the U.S. and U.K. representatives in Washington will be in sympathy with any suggestion which we might make for the inclusion of these shipments in the general financial arrangement.

5. If it is your intention that wheat supplied to Greece through the neutral Swedish-Swiss Commission during the military relief period shall not be a straight gift from Canada, we are convinced on the basis of this discussion that you can now proceed with the provision of the necessary quantities of wheat with the confident expectation that expenses incurred after an appropriate date will be shared among the three governments who will be parties to the general relief agreement, if payment is not received from the Greek Government.

6. I should perhaps add that if it would be found somewhat embarrassing for us to include these shipments subsequent to a certain date in our bill to the Greek Government for relief provided under the arrangement, there is now a suggested provision in the proposed agreement which would make it possible for the expense to be shared among the three governments without the