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> POLAND.

February 25, 1943.

CONFIDENTIAL

SECTION 1.

[C 2098/231/55]

Copy No. 068_a

Viscount Halifax to Mr. Eden.—(Received February 25.)

(No. 88.)

Sir,

Washington, February 15, 1943.

I HAVE the honour to inform you that Sir Ronald Campbell recently enquired of Mr. Dunn, Adviser on Political Relations in the State Department, whether he could inform him of the views of the United States Government on the questions raised in the Polish Government's memorandum of the 1st December on the future western and north-western frontiers of Poland, and of their reaction to the Polish Government's memorandum on the problem of Central and South-Eastern Europe, a copy of which was communicated to you by the Polish Ambassador on the 17th December last. Copies of these documents were enclosed in your despatches No. 1080 of the 19th December and No. 1112 of the 28th December, 1942. Mr. Dunn said that he would inform himself and give a reply later.

2. Mr. Dunn sent for Sir Ronald Campbell on the 2nd February and, by way of reply to his enquiry, read to him a record of a conversation between the Under-Secretary of State and General Sikorski during his recent visit to Washington. General Sikorski having apologised for flooding the State Department with documents, Mr. Welles replied by thanking him for the information imparted, and stating that the Department of State had read the detailed views set forth by the Polish Prime Minister with much interest. It was not, however, possible for the United States Government to express any definite views or enter into any commitments on territorial adjustments during the war. Moreover, the questions discussed were of great interest to other members of the United Nations, and this alone excluded any commitment on the part of the United States Government in advance of discussion with the Governments of those countries. Mr. Welles went on to say that the United States Government were inclined to sympathise with the view of the Polish Government that the Polish Corridor and the arrangements for supplying Poland with access to the sea after the last war were not satisfactory. Further than this it was not possible to go. Agencies of the United States Government were at present examining the possibility of some form of federation of the nations of Eastern Europe, of which Poland might form a part, but the matter was still in the stage of study, and again the United States Government were not ready to make any commitment or express any views.

3. Mr. Dunn suggested to His Majesty's Minister that this supplied him with the answer to his enquiry. In reply it was pointed out that Mr. Welles's conversation with General Sikorski made clear that the United States Government were not ready to make any commitments to the Government of Poland, but that it did not give any indication of how the contents of the Polish memoranda were viewed in Washington. Sir Ronald Campbell enquired whether it would be possible for Mr. Dunn to give him any indications on this point. Mr. Dunn answered, however, that all these matters were being examined by groups charged with the study of such matters, but that the work had not reached the stage where it was possible for any opinions to be expressed.

4. Mr. Dunn then read through to Sir Ronald Campbell the text of a letter sent by the President to General Sikorski, "about the 5th January," in reply to a request from the general that some such letter should be furnished to him. In this document the President expressed sympathy with Poland and admiration for her struggle, as well as the determination of the United Nations, in accordance with the Atlantic Charter and the United Nations Declaration, to restore the independence of Poland. He also stated that if the nations of Eastern Europe should, between themselves, study their mutual problems and produce agreed proposals for their solution, in the light of the political, ethnic and economic elements involved, he would be ready to consider them within the framework of a general settlement. Mr. Dunn said that he thought it was as well

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