

1247.

DEA/3126-40

*Le secrétaire d'État aux Affaires extérieures
à l'ambassadeur aux États-Unis
Secretary of State for External Affairs
to Ambassador in United States*

TELETYPE EX-2863

Ottawa, July 10, 1944

Following for Pearson from Robertson, begins: Wheat for Greek relief.

The Greek Minister told me a few days ago that his Government was very worried about the interruption of the supplementary wheat supplies for famine relief in Greece which have been received from the Argentine Government. I have been informed by a telegram from our Chargé d'Affaires in Buenos Aires[†] that the first 50,000 tons of relief wheat offered by the Argentine Government under Ramirez have been sent to Greece but that the present Argentine authorities have held the decree authorizing the promised second allotment of 50,000 tons in abeyance. This suspension will apparently continue until the Greek Government reopens diplomatic relations.

The Greek Government, taking its lead from the Governments of the United States and United Kingdom, is not recognizing the present Argentine Government and, in the circumstances, cannot very well ask the Argentine Government to continue assistance to Greece. Argentina appears to regard the resumption of the wheat shipments as a consideration which may affect the general question of recognition.

I understand that the Greek Minister has been instructed to inquire whether Canada could increase its supplies of wheat to Greece but that he is very reluctant to take the matter up officially with us since he felt that Canada had already done a great deal to aid his country.

Situation as outlined in preceding paragraphs is being reported to Cabinet Wheat Committee today and will be brought informally to attention of International Wheat Council which is only appropriate body on which Argentina is represented. I think Combined Food Board should also be informed of present position, since any further allocation of relief wheat to Greece that may later be agreed upon would in any case have to be cleared through Combined Food Board. Ends.

1248.

DEA/3126-40

*Le sous-secrétaire d'État aux Affaires extérieures
au ministre de Grèce
Under-Secretary of State for External Affairs
to Minister of Greece*

Ottawa, July 21, 1944

Dear Mr. Depasta,