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The Soviet Government is not represented on any of the Combined Boards nor has it close contact with their operations. It is in a position distinct from that of all the other United Nations. There is frequent complaint in Washington and London that the Russians tell them little or nothing. The Soviet authorities have shown no disposition to take part in joint deliberations, preferring to make their position known through diplomatic channels. Their attitude may in part be occasioned by a desire to give no pretext to Japan to open hostilities against them. Such strategic consultation as takes place is outside the sphere of the Combined Chiefs of Staff. Supplies for Russia are furnished in accordance with special arrangements negotiated directly with the United States and the United Kingdom. The provision of these supplies, however, inevitably is a principal concern of the Munitions Assignments Boards, the Raw Materials Board, the Food Board and the Shipping Adjustments Board. It is understood that the fulfillment of commitments to Russia is granted the highest priority by these boards. Should the Soviet Government at any time decide to seek membership on any or all of the Combined Boards, it would seem to be almost certain that the United States and the United Kingdom Governments would promptly have to grant their request.