

FROM: American Embassy, London
 TO: Secretary of State, Washington
 DATED: September 13, 1944
 NO: 7522

SECRET

Reference is made herewith to Department's cable of September 5, No. 7189.

We discussed with Ronald of the Foreign Office the Department's desire to address a note to certain neutral governments concerning the implementation of resolution 6 of the Bretton Woods Conference. While reiterating his statement, reported in Embassy's cable of August 11, No. 6472, that the Foreign Office wanted to cooperate with the Department in any measures it might take, he nevertheless said that he could see difficulty in going along in the manner suggested.

It was pointed out by Ronald that the resolutions of the Bretton Woods Conference were not "adopted" by the Governments but merely by the delegates who referred them to the various signatory governments for their consideration and that the Government of the United Kingdom had not yet fully considered Resolution 6 and he could not say yet what the final attitude of his Government on this question would be. Therefore, the British Government has ~~not~~^{not} decided what steps would be appropriate or expedient for implementing this resolution and he expressed considerable doubt as to the efficacy or appropriateness of calling upon neutral governments, at this stage, to institute all the measures which the resolution mentioned. Ronald said that he did not believe that the United Kingdom Government would be ready to associate itself with the demarche in the proposed form but that the Foreign Office was anxious to bring about the results which the Department wanted. Therefore, he suggested informally and subject to later confirmation after consultation with the other concerned Government Departments, that the United Kingdom Government might at a date somewhat later than September 19, be willing to join in an approach to the neutral governments along the following lines: begin statement (1) (draw attention to resolution six of the Bretton Woods Conference and quote its terms).

(2) Having regard to the terms of the above resolution, the United States/United Kingdom Governments call upon the blank government to take all possible steps (a) to prevent the entry into or transfer to any person in blank territory of any property or assets which an enemy government or national acquired from persons in United Nations territory which is or has been in enemy occupation, and also to suspend all further dealings in any such property or assets already in or lodged with any institution or person in blank territory pending consultation with the United Nations; (b) to prevent the concealment in blank territory by means of fictitious transfers to institutions or persons therein, or otherwise, of any property or assets of an enemy-government or national or of institutions or persons in enemy territory.

This message only to the Department but we repeated to Moscow Department's No. 7189.

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Distributed to: Secretary (Mr. Bernstein); Mr. Bell (Mr. Dietrich); Mr. White (Mr. Taylor-Orig); Mr. Luxford; Mr. Casaday; Mr. Tomlinson; Mr. Fisher; Mr. Bernstein; Mr. Glasser; Mr. Taylor; Mr. Ness.

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cc: 9/26/44 For Information- Messrs. Bennett, Ball, Gilbert, Day, Feig, Blake, Miss Scullen, Sachs, Mrs. R. Shwartz, Robinson, Lunn, Brenner, O'Flaherty, Alk, General Records: "Gold", NY Fed.

JD/t