

FRANCE - 1ST ADD 1800 INTRO - DE GAULLE (CN-120) XXX QUESTION

HE SAID THE DIVISION COULD BE TRACED BACK TO THE YALTA AGREEMENTS OF 1945, FROM WHICH, HE ADDED, FRANCE HAD BEEN BARRED.

THE PRESIDENT RECALLED THAT FRANCE HAD OPPOSED A DIVISION OF EUROPE FROM THE BEGINNING.

IN 1944, HE SAID, IT HAD, FOR EXAMPLE, REFUSED TO CONSENT TO PUTTING POLAND UNDER WHAT HE CALLED THE SUZERAINTY OF STALIN, BY MEANS OF A GOVERNMENT BY THE SOVIET UNION.

TURNING TO LAST SPRING'S FRENCH CRISIS, THE PRESIDENT SAID THAT THE WAVE OF STRIKES AND VIOLENCE HAD SHOWN THE NEED FOR REFORMS COUPLED WITH PUBLIC ORDER, SINCE THE STATE COULD NOT RPT NOT TOLERATE ANY OTHER AUTHORITY THAN ITS OWN IN ITS OWN AFFAIRS.

HE WARNED THAT ANY THREAT TO PUBLIC ORDER WOULD BE SMASHED.

DE GAULLE ALSO TOLD THE PRESS CONFERENCE OF HIS GOVERNMENT'S INTENTION TO MERGE THE SENATE--THE UPPER HOUSE OF PARLIAMENT-- WITH THE ADVISORY ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL TO FORM A NEW CONSULTATIVE BODY.

THE MERGER WOULD BE SUBJECT TO A NATIONAL REFERENDUM, HE SAID.

THE PRESIDENT TOLD REPORTERS THAT HIS GOVERNMENT HAD NOT RPT NOT RECOGNIZED THE BREAKAWAY AFRICAN STATE OF BIAFRA, BUT DID NOT RPT NOT EXCLUDE SUCH ACTION IN THE FUTURE.

HE EXPRESSED DOUBT THAT FEDERATIONS SUCH AS NIGERIA WERE VERY GOOD OR PRACTICAL SINCE THEY INVOLVED COMPULSORY ASSOCIATION OF PEOPLES WHO WERE SOMETIMES VERY DIFFERENT.

IN ANOTHER ASPECT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, DE GAULLE SAID THE RECENT ELECTION OF A NEW CANADIAN GOVERNMENT UNDER PIERRE TRUDEAU WOULD NOT RPT NOT ALTER RELATIONS BETWEEN FRANCE AND CANADA.

ASB/BG/L 1802/68 SEPT 9

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