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15/ Warren A. Henderson

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INDICATE: CORRECT
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Origin
Info

SENT TO: AMEMBASSY PARIS TOCAH *14* PRIORITY

We have been consulting with agencies concerned re ungrounding ~~ungrounding~~ of U-2's which NASA on May 3 announced were being grounded to check oxygen equipment. U-2's involved are three: two in Japan, two in Turkey, and three at Edwards Field, California. NASA has been receiving almost daily newspaper inquiries when flights may be resumed.

Also pertinent to matter is fact that U-2's under command of SAC have continued to fly. Also public announcement made May 13 by DOD of/upper atmosphere research flights in Argentina operating under name of project Crowflight as part of high altitude sampling program conducted by Defense Atomic Support Agency. In addition it is planned that U-2's from Edwards will depart ~~from~~ ^{for} Ramey (Puerto Rico) on May 19 to participate in AFTAC upper air sampling program undertaken by Air Force on world-wide basis between May 20 and June 15. These aircraft will not fly over major land masses but over Atlantic Ocean with UK or US island bases selected as emergency alternates.

Initialed by RR/2

*1 - Paris
Tocah 14
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Dated by:

EUR:RHD *RR* /s:bsm

Telegraphic transmission and distribution approved by:

The Acting Secretary *CR*

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Telegram to Paris

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In view of this and of President's statement in Paris
 re U-2 flights, we believe that on May 19 or later and
 only in response to queries NASA should be authorized to state
 simply that U-2's have been released from grounding for
 weather research missions. U-2's in Turkey would only ~~xxx~~
 engage in routine training flights within Turkish borders.
 U-2's in Japan would resume ^{training and} weather research flights
 if Japanese have no objection.

We are cabling MacArthur in Tokyo for his judgment
 on resumption ~~weather research~~ flights in Japan.

Also requesting Embassy Ankara to comment.

~~Also requesting Embassy Ankara to comment.~~

Request approval this course of action.

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