

inal agreement was signed in 1950 under the Fulbright Act.¹

Foreign Minister Thanat Khoman and U.S. Ambassador Kenneth Todd Young, Jr., signed the agreement for their respective Governments. Luang Sukhum Nayapradit, chairman, and other members of the United States Educational Foundation in Thailand attended the signing.

The new agreement is the first with Thailand under the new Fulbright-Hays Act, which was passed by Congress late in 1961. It provides broader and more flexible authority for visits and interchanges by professors, students, and research scholars.

Since 1951 more than 300 Thai nationals have been awarded grants under this program for teaching and study in the United States. Eighty percent of these received advanced degrees in the United States before returning to Thailand. During the same period 131 Americans have gone to Thailand under similar grants.

U.S. Survey Mission To Visit Pacific Islands Trust Territory

The White House announced on May 23 that a U.S. Government survey mission will go to the U.S. Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands in the near future to review the major political, economic, and social problems facing the people of that territory. The mission will gather information and make recommendations needed in the formulation of U.S. policies and programs for a greatly accelerated rate of political, economic, and social development in line with the obligations of the United States under the U.N. trusteeship agreement to prepare the people of the trust territory to exercise eventually their free and informed choice concerning their political future.

The U.S. Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands is one of the three remaining areas in the world administered under the U.N. Trusteeship Council and the only one so administered by the United States. It consists of some 2,100 islands, of which 96 are inhabited, the entire

area covering 8 million square miles and frequently referred to as Micronesia. It includes the Marshall Islands, the West and East Caroline area, and the Marianas.

Anthony M. Solomon has been appointed as consultant to the President to head the mission. Other members of the mission will include individuals from U.S. Government agencies having a responsibility to the trust territory and other experts in development and international problems.

The mission will begin its work in Guam on July 3 and will travel throughout the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands during the following 8 weeks. From Guam it will proceed to the headquarters of the trust territory at Saipan for intensive conferences with the High Commissioner, M. Wilfred Goding, and his staff preparatory to visiting the other islands of the territory.

Annual Foreign Policy Briefing Held for Nongovernmental Organizations

The Department of State announced on May 25 (press release 282) that its annual National Foreign Policy Conference for Nongovernmental Organizations would be held on May 27 and 28.

The purpose of the conference is to provide opportunity for discussion of international affairs between leaders of nongovernmental organizations and senior Government officials. By means of these conferences the membership of nongovernmental organizations, and through them a much broader public, gain deeper understanding of international issues.

Letters of Credence

Bulgaria

The newly appointed Minister of the People's Republic of Bulgaria, Lyubomir Popov, presented his credentials to President Kennedy on June 1. For texts of the Minister's remarks and the President's reply, see Department of State press release 294 dated June 1.

¹ Treaties and Other International Acts Series 2085.

have taken place and are taking place in Eastern Europe, we do so in disregard of the vital security interests of the United States.

at the present time. They are not between communism on the one hand and democracy on the other. Rather, the choices are between governments dominated by and not

Department Supports Discretionary Authority for President on Trade With Poland and Yugoslavia

*Statement by William R. Tyler
Assistant Secretary for European Affairs¹*

I appreciate the opportunity to appear before this committee in support of section 402 of H.R. 5490. This provision is intended to amend section 231 of the Trade Expansion Act of 1962 so as to provide discretionary authority to the President to continue nondiscriminatory tariff treatment to Poland and Yugoslavia. The amended provision would require the President to determine, first, that such treatment was important to the national interest and, secondly, that such treatment would promote the independence of such country or area from domination or control by international communism. The President would be obliged to report his determination and the reasons therefor to the Congress.

Mr. Chairman, I should like to explain briefly to the committee why the administration feels this amendment is so important and how the administration would hope to utilize the authority if granted by the Congress.

Section 231 of the Trade Expansion Act requires the denial of most-favored-nation tariff treatment to all countries dominated or controlled by communism, irrespective of whether such a country may or may not be independent of the international Communist conspiracy, or whether or not that country is seeking to establish or maintain its independence. Section 231

¹ Made before the House Committee on Foreign Affairs on May 27 during hearings on H.R. 5490, a bill to amend further the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961.

thus runs counter to a policy of long standing maintained during the past three administrations—a policy which seeks to exploit opportunities within the Communist world to pursue more active relations in economic, cultural, and political fields, in order to increase the presence and influence of the United States within this area. The record shows conclusively that we can in this way stimulate and support courses of action in this area more favorable to us.

In denying to the President any discretion, the effect of section 231 is to repudiate existing policy and to leave us as an alternative a policy of withdrawal by the United States from the area. This would not isolate Eastern Europe from communism, but would isolate us from Eastern Europe and abandon the field to whatever forces may be at work there. Such an alternative would be a policy of retreat to the detriment of our overall national interests and security.

The developments of the past decade and a half have demonstrated that the situation in Eastern Europe is in increasing flux. Yugoslavia's defection from the Soviet bloc in 1948, the events in Poland and Hungary in the fall of 1956, and the more recent evidence of dispute and dissension within the Communist world all point to the need for imaginative, energetic, and flexible policies which are designed to take advantage of developments to further our interests. If we close our eyes to the changes which

which I mentioned earlier, that Poland was restored to MFN status late in 1960 following its agreement to a \$40 million claims settlement.

eral Agreement on Tariffs and Trade], the IMF [International Monetary Fund], and the IBRD [International Bank for Recon-