

# Lend-Lease Goods Slated For Russia May End Up In Greece And Turkey Relief

WASHINGTON, Aug. 6 (AP)—Part of a \$25,000,000 tag end lot of lend-lease goods originally destined for Russia may wind up in Greece and Turkey under the American aid program designed to ease Soviet pressures on those countries.

The rest is likely to be dumped on the surplus property market where, conceivably, Russia could buy it again at cut-rate prices. This situation came to light today as officials disclosed privately that congressional action in blocking the shipments is causing an epidemic of headaches in both the state and treasury departments.

The state department pleaded with the lawmakers to let the deal itself open to charges of "flagrant discrimination" and "wishing" on its contract with the Russians.

But congress took the position that Soviet actions in Eastern Europe in the last few months needed some sign of official American disapproval.

The situation goes back to V-J Day when the United States ordered a halt to the wartime mutual aid program under which this country supplied its allies with more than \$50,000,000,000 worth of fighting and homefront equipment.

But while the lend-lease arrangement as such came to an abrupt halt, various nations contracted on a time payment basis for materials costing \$1,201,000,000. Under this deal Russia was to receive \$250,000,000 worth.

All were to be delivered by last December 31. Because of strikes and other delaying factors, however, some \$34,000,000 worth remained in this country when the deadline fell.

Thereupon the comptroller general ruled that unless congress decreed otherwise no more appropriated moneys could be used to pay the operating expenses of the program. Hence the goods began piling up in warehouses across the country.

Contesting the ruling, the Moribund lend-lease administration asked the 11 nations involved to put up \$73,211 in operating funds. Russia contributed \$725,000 of this amount.

Simultaneously the agency appealed to congress for the specific approval of the comptroller general demanded.

This came—for all countries save Russia—just before the lawmakers recessed for the year late last month. Australia, Belgium, Guatemala, China, France, Saudi Arabia, Brazil, Peru, the United Kingdom and The Netherlands were named specifically in a clause appropriating \$500,000 for lend-lease liquidation expenses. But Russia was pointedly omitted.

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