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OFFICE OF THE ARMY ATTACHE
American Embassy
20 Grosvenor Square
London, England

Misc. 143-52

12 August 1952

SUBJECT: Coronation of Queen Elizabeth II

TO: See Distribution

1. The period immediately preceding and immediately following the Coronation of Queen Elizabeth II on 2 June 1953 will be one of intense activity in London. Hotel accommodations for this period are already at a premium. Seating space along the Coronation route will be sold at very high rates.

2. It is requested that adequate publicity be given to the effect that individuals should not plan visits to London during the Coronation period unless they have arranged, in advance, for accommodations. The Office of the Army Attache will be unable to make hotel reservations or reserve seating space along the Coronation route.

3. a. Thomas Cook & Sons, 45 Berkeley Street, London, W.1, advise that they will make hotel reservations upon receipt of written application stating number of rooms and period desired. Applications must be accompanied by a deposit of \$2.00 per person per night.

b. The American Express Company, Inc., advise that as yet no policy has been formulated. However, inquiries should be addressed to Mr. H. Wade, American Express Company, Haymarket, London, S.W.1.

c. Lacon & Ollier, ticket agents, 60 South Audley Street, London, W.1, state they will not be able to make firm bookings for observation posts along the procession route for some time, but suggest that applicants write them without delay stating how many seats are desired and the price limit. At the last Coronation, Lacon & Ollier took over a large shop at the corner of Regent Street and Piccadilly, erected stands in the windows, had a running buffet service and charged \$60.00 per person. They hope to do the same next year.

/s/ H. E. KESSINGER
Brigadier General, GS
Army Attache

Approved for Release by NSA on 05-07-2014 pursuant to E.O. 13526

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