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By NARA Date 6-11-08

Conversation

DATE: April 20, 1956

645W.93/4-2056
ARABIAN COMMUNISM, CHINA
SUBJECT: Sudanese Relations with Communist China and the Republic of China.

PARTICIPANTS: Ambassador Lowell G. Pinkerton
Ralph W. Clough, Deputy Director, Office of Chinese Affairs
Mr. William H. Kalmann, Chinese Affairs
Mr. Paul F. Geren, Officer in Charge, Egypt Sudan Affairs

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Mr. Clough explained that the Sudanese response to the congratulatory message from the Chinese Communists had inspired uneasiness concerning Sudan's intentions.

Ambassador Pinkerton granted that the message could be a cause for uneasiness but recalled that we have traditionally held that recognition must be purposed and does not come about accidentally. Therefore, the Sudanese expression of intention to have good relations with the Chinese Communists is not the equivalent of recognition. Mr. Clough said that the Charge d'Affaires Arthur Beach had made representations in Khartoum and had been informed that the Sudanese did not plan to act precipitously. For his representations, Mr. Beach had been furnished the material which showed the Chinese Communist aggression and their flouting of the UN. He recalled that the Republic of China also congratulated the Sudan on its achievement of independence and had sent their Ambassador from Cairo on a visit to the Sudan. However, the Chinese Ambassador did not appear to have made any noticeable progress toward establishing diplomatic relations.

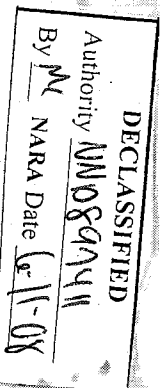
Ambassador Pinkerton inquired whether the Chinese Communists were living up to their contracts made with various countries of the Middle East as the result of trade agreements and visits of trade missions.

Mr. Clough replied that we knew of no complaints. He pointed out that the Chinese Communists are using the trade mission as a substitute for Embassies in countries which do not recognize Communist China. For example, the Chinese Communist trade mission to Cairo is larger than the Embassy of the Chinese Republic there. Ambassador Pinkerton inquired whether the Sudan has signed a trade agreement with the Communist Chinese. Mr. Geren said that he thought the Chinese Communists had only sent a trade mission.

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2

Mr. Clough pointed out that the Chinese Republic had recently sent a trade mission to a large number of countries in the Middle East.

^{XP} Ambassador Pinkerton asked where the British stand regarding Sudanese recognition of Communist China. Mr. Clough and Mr. Geren explained that the British do not see eye to eye with us in this matter, that the British Deputy Chief of Mission in Khartoum is alleged to have said he favored Sudanese recognition of Communist China and that he would not make a strong representation to the Sudan against recognition.

Ambassador Pinkerton commented that we have made our position known to the Sudanese but we have no prizes to offer them as a reward for not recognizing the Chinese Communists.

Mr. Kahmann remarked that we helped in the Sudan's nomination for the UN.

Ambassador Pinkerton asked whether there were other suggestions as to action he could take to prevent recognition of Communist China by the Sudan.

Mr. Clough replied that no additional formal representations seemed necessary at the moment. He suggested that Ambassador Pinkerton might take whatever opportunities offered to remind the Sudanese of our position. Mr. Kahmann inquired concerning the desirability of a visit by a Chinese Republic trade commission to Khartoum.

Mr. Pinkerton remarked that Prime Minister Azhari was trying to prove that he loved everybody and could be all things to all men. This being the case he would probably receive a trade commission from the Republic of China just as he has been willing to receive a mission from Communist China.

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