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~~INTELLIGENCE REPORT~~

124637

COUNTRY Somalia

DATE:

SUBJECT The Somali Youth League Relations With
Sinclair Oil Company

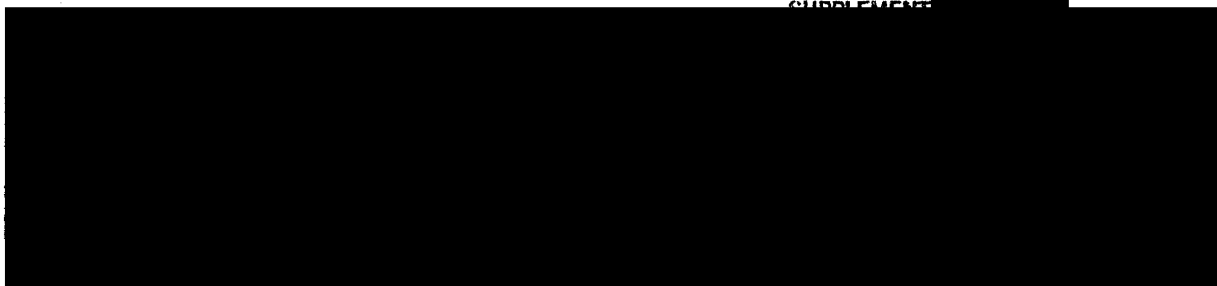
INFO. September 1947

DIST. 5 November 1947

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SUPPLEMENT



1. It is reported that on 16 September 1947, a letter was written to the Sinclair Oil Company, demanding the real nationality of the representatives of the Company; the main objectives of the Company; and from whom permission to work had been obtained. This letter was signed by Hajj Muhammad Hussein and by Suldan Rafle, "For All Somalis."
2. On 22 September 1947, the Sinclair Oil Company received a letter giving it notice to stop exploring for oil, since the future of Somalia was in dispute. The letter stated that the matter would be brought before the UN and that unless the notice were complied with, "necessary measures would be adopted without further notice."
3. It is reported that Marquis W. G. Serra of the Sinclair Oil Company had employed two liaison agents for political work among the Somali tribesmen. Higher officials of the Company discovered this fact and ordered them discharged during the first week in October.
4. Roger MacDonald, a member of the geological party, was reported to have been discharged because he had disclosed important technical information to British officers in Diredawa.
5. In an interview with an official of the oil company, the British Minister is reported to have asked the following:
 - a. That the Sinclair Company furnish him with a copy of its contract with the Ethiopian Government;
 - b. That Marquis W. G. Serra be discharged or withdrawn as consulting geologist, on the grounds that he was working for the Italian AGIP and was an Italian rather than a Belgian citizen (as Serra had represented himself to be);
 - c. That two political agents in the personal employ of Serra be immediately discharged.

This document is hereby regraded to CONFIDENTIAL in accordance with the letter of 13 October 1973 from the Director of Central Intelligence to the Archivist of the United States.
Next Review Date: 2008

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6. On 26 September 1947, Lt. Col. R.E. Thorne, Deputy Commandant of the Somalia Gendarmerie, is reported to have dispatched to the Sinclair Oil Company a letter demanding that it:

- a. Discharge its British Somaliland interpreters and employ others selected by the Gendarmerie;
- b. Get rid of the British Somali Issak boys, and offering to replace them through the Labor Office at Mogadishu if they could not be replaced locally;
- c. Discharge the geological section's liaison agent.

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