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SECURITY INFORMATION

In reply refer to: W-213

December 19, 1951

Alan Valentine  
The Committee for a Free Asia  
San Francisco, California

SUBJECT: Sixth Buddhist Council, Rangoon May 1952.

We are advised that plans are well under way for the holding of the sixth Buddhist Council in Rangoon during May 1952. We are also advised that the fifth Buddhist Council was held in 1870, and the one previous to that 455 A. D, and that in the Buddhist world the council is considered equivalent to the Council of Trent in the Roman Catholic world. Attention is invited to the fact that the Prime Minister of Burma, Thakin Nu, is himself a devout Buddhist and a leader in this Buddhist revival.

It is the feeling here that consideration should be given to the possible exploitation of this council in the furtherance of our joint objectives.

You might want to consider the following:

1. The possibility of Tak Teer's attending the council.
2. Means by which CFA could appropriately assist the council.
3. Means by which the council might spread the word of the Committee.

You may also wish to explore further possibilities with the Buddhist Association of Los Angeles, which we understand may send delegates from the United States.

We should appreciate your reaction to the above.

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