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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

ROUTINE

Intelligence Information Cable

COUNTRY CHINA (TAIWAN)/FRANCE/CHINA

DATE OF INFO. 23 JANUARY 1964

DISTR. 25 JANUARY 1964

SUBJECT

RESPONSE OF THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF CHINA TO FRENCH INTENTION TO RECOGNIZE THE PEIPING GOVERNMENT

PLACE & DATE ACQ.

REF

IN 05832

SOURCE AND APPRAISAL:

FIELD REPORT NO.

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1. SUMMARY. GOVERNMENT INFORMATION OFFICE (GIO) DIRECTOR SHEN SAID ON 23 JANUARY 1964 THAT THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF CHINA (GRC) HAD NO PLAN FOR SENDING A HIGH-LEVEL DELEGATION TO FRANCE, AFRICA, OR LATIN AMERICA TO SEEK SUPPORT FOR ITS POSITION. PRESIDENTIAL SECRETARY GENERAL CHANG CH'UN HAS SAID THE GRC WOULD ANNOUNCE SEVERANCE OF RELATIONS WITH FRANCE AS SOON AS FRANCE RECOGNIZES PEIPING. CHANG SAID THE GRC WOULD WITHDRAW TO A "FORTRESS TAIWAN" BEFORE IT WOULD

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GROUP 1
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COMPROMISE ITS REVOLUTIONARY TASK.

2. GIO DIRECTOR JAMES SHEN SAID ON 23 JANUARY THAT THE GRC HAD NO PLANS TO DEFEND ITS INTERNATIONAL POSITION BY SENDING ANY MISSION OR HIGH-LEVEL DELEGATION TO FRANCE, AFRICA, OR LATIN AMERICA. SHEN EXPRESSED SHOCK AND SURPRISE THAT THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS WAS NOT CONSIDERING SUCH ACTION. SHEN SAID HE HAD BEEN TOLD, AND HAD ALREADY ISSUED ORDERS, THAT HIS PARIS OFFICE WAS TO REMAIN EVEN IN THE EVENT THE GRC EMBASSY IS WITHDRAWN.

3. PRESIDENTIAL SECRETARY GENERAL CHANG CH'UN SAID ON 23 JANUARY THAT THE GRC HAS NO PLAN FOR URGENT MEASURES IN RESPONSE TO THE FRENCH INTENTION TO RECOGNIZE PEIPING. CHANG SAID THE GRC POSITION IS CLEAR AND FLEXIBLE AND THAT THE GRC WILL ANNOUNCE SEVERANCE OF DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH PARIS AND WILL WITHDRAW ITS EMBASSY STAFF THE MOMENT FRANCE ANNOUNCES RECOGNITION OF COMMUNIST CHINA. HE SAID THAT NON-DIPLOMATIC PERSONNEL WOULD REMAIN IN PARIS AFTER THE GRC EMBASSY IS WITHDRAWN AND THAT THE GIO WOULD BECOME THE "FREE CHINA NEWS SERVICE." CHANG SAID IT WAS OBVIOUS THE FRENCH DID NOT WANT THE GRC TO STAY AND WOULD MAKE IT SO DIFFICULT THAT EVEN IF THE GRC WISHED TO REMAIN IT WOULD BE DIPLOMATICALLY IMPOSSIBLE. HE ADDED THAT THE GRC, LED BY

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THE KUOMINTANG, IS CARRYING OUT A REVOLUTIONARY TASK CALLING FOR REUNIFICATION OF THE MAINLAND WITH TAIWAN AND AN EARLY COUNTERATTACK. IF CONDITIONS ARE UNFAVORABLE, THE GRC IS FLEXIBLE ENOUGH TO SETTLE DOWN AND CREATE A " FORTRESS TAIWAN" UNTIL A BREAK IN THE INTERNATIONAL SITUATION PERMITS ACTION. THE GRC WOULD NOT HESITATE TO WITHDRAW FROM THE UNITED NATIONS IF COMMUNIST CHINA IS SEATED. CHANG SAID THE UNITED STATES HAS MORE AT STAKE THAN THE GRC SINCE ITS WORLD LEADERSHIP MAY BE ERODED IN THE PRESENT CRISIS. HE SAID THE GRC IS THE BIGGEST ASSET OF THE UNITED STATES IN ASIA AND THAT THE UNITED STATES POSITION IN ASIA WOULD DECLINE AS THE GRC DECLINED.

4. (FOREIGN MINISTER SHEN CH'ANG-HUAN TOLD THE FOREIGN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE OF THE LEGISLATIVE YUAN ON 23 JANUARY THAT FRANCE HAD INFORMED THE GRC OF THE FRENCH INTENTION TO RECOGNIZE COMMUNIST CHINA. THE FRENCH NOTE HAD SAID THE OFFICIAL ANNOUNCEMENT WOULD COME ON 27 JANUARY. SHEN ALSO SAID THE FRENCH NOTE HAD INDICATED THE FRENCH INTENDED TO BREAK OFF RELATIONS WITH THE GRC. [REDACTED] THE FOREIGN MINISTER MAY HAVE BEEN LAYING THE GROUNDWORK FOR BLAMING A FRENCH INITIATIVE IN THE EVENT THE GRC DECIDES TO WITHDRAW ITS PARIS EMBASSY). THE FOREIGN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE WAS

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UNABLE TO AGREE ON A COURSE OF ACTION TO BE RECOMMENDED TO THE GOVERNMENT AND NO VOTE WAS TAKEN.

5. STATE COMUSTDC CINCPAC PACFLT ARPAC PACAF
(END OF MESSAGE)

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