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24 March 1960

# CURRENT INTELLIGENCE WEEKLY SUMMARY



CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

OFFICE OF CURRENT INTELLIGENCE

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Communist China's recent threat to break diplomatic ties with Guinea if Conakry received another Chinese Nationalist delegation reflects Peiping's concern that the "two Chinas" concept may be gaining acceptance in Africa. Competition between Taipei and Peiping for recognition by emergent African republics was sharpened by

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the recent success of Nationalist China in establishing relations with Cameroun and the favorable impression made by Nationalist delegations on several African nations which will become independent this year.

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# TAIWAN AND PEIPING COMPETE FOR AFRICAN RECOGNITION

Communist China recently threatened to break diplomatic relations with Guinea if Conakry again officially received a visiting Chinese Nationalist delegation as it did last January. The harshly worded note, delivered by a chargé only a few weeks after the Chinese Communist Embassy was opened in Conakry, shows Peiping's apprehension that the concept of "two Chinas" may be gaining acceptance among emerging African republics.

communist China is spending a good deal of time, money, and effort bidding for recognition in Africa. Peiping solicits governmental contacts with those nations which have achieved independence and, as the "true friend of national liberation," is actively supporting those Africans still engaged in the "anticolonial struggle." The Communists view this support as an investment in future recognition. Despite the appeal Peiping holds for many Africans, however, the competition with Taipei has become keener, and the Chinese Communists have real cause for concern.

Last year Libya recognized Taipei. In January 1960 the new Cameroun Republic did likewise, and last month the Chinese Nationalist Legation in Liberia was raised to embassy status. Ethiopia reportedly has put off a Chinese Communist bid for recognition on the grounds the moment is not opportune. Reluctance of these countries to accept Peiping or their preference for Taipei may stem in part from Communist China's bellicosity in Asia, but political considerations for relations with the West and renewed efforts by Nationalist China in the area seem largely responsible.

The Chinese Nationalists, just as bitter opponents of the "two Chinas" concept as the Communists, realize the potential value of recognition by new African republics—each of which will eventually vote on the Chinese representation issue in the United Nations. Taipei has sent two official delegations to Africa in recent months in an effort to promote recognition and expand contacts.

Nationalist Minister of Economic Affairs Yang Chi-tseng established the diplomatic relations with Cameroun, received an invitation to Togo's independence ceremonies on 27 April, and was surprised at the friendly reception given him in Guinea and in Dakar, where the Nationalists hope to open a consulate general before the Mali Federation becomes independent late this spring. Only in Ghana, which maintains it inherited

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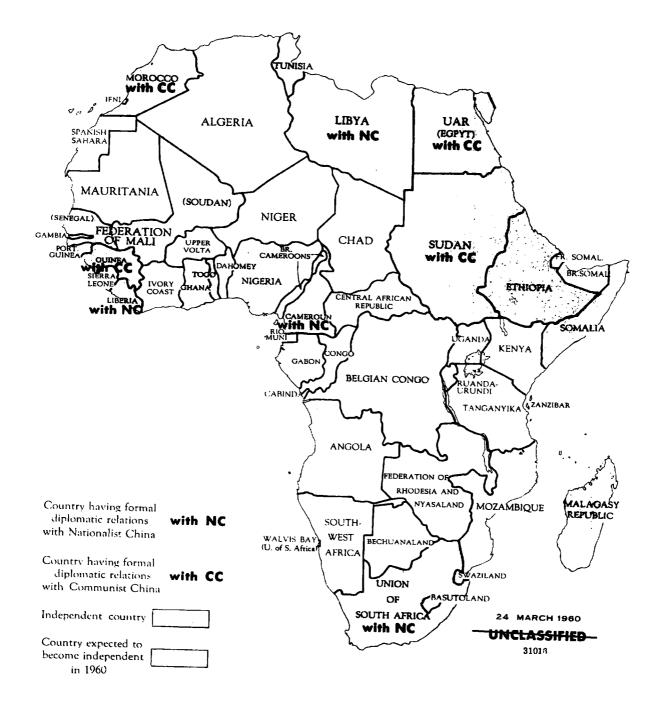
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recognition of Peiping from the UK, but has not yet established formal ties, did the Yang mission receive really unfriendly treatment, although officials in Nigeria and Tunisia were cool.

A mission headed by Minister Yang Hsi-kun, director of African Affairs in the Nationalist Ministry of Foreign Affairs, was warmly received in Somalia and assured of an invitation to the independence celebration there on 1 July. The mission also was favorably received in Ethiopia, where the Chinese Communist ambassador to the Sudan was soliciting recognition. The Nationalists are planning to follow up these visits by sending agricultural advisers to various African states and have hopes of promoting trade.



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Peiping's note to Guinea indicates the seriousness with which the Chinese Communists view the Nationalist challenge, but Peiping is not likely to jeopardize its African program by severing relations with Guinea or any other nation which briefly entertains visiting Nationalists. Instead,

Peiping is likely to increase its own political and economic effort to broaden contacts at all levels, calling on Africans to "resist the trap set by the United States and the Chiang Kai-shek clique to undermine friendship between the peoples of China and Africa."

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