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NEAR EAST - AFRICA

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5. Government's leniency favors Greek Communists (page 6).

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NEAR EAST - AFRICA

4. Comment on Greek recognition of Farouk as "King of Egypt and the Sudan":

The Greek recognition of Farouk as "King of Egypt and the Sudan" on 23 June, following similar action by Pakistan on 15 June, may encourage Egypt to continue its intransigence. It will also make it more difficult for Britain to discourage other nations from recognizing the Egyptian King's title. According to the American Embassy in Athens, Italy, after discussing the matter with Greece, has already decided to follow a similar course.

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Before the Greek action, only Moslem countries had recognized Farouk's title. Belgium, the Vatican, and Japan had recognized Egyptian officials accredited to them in the name of the King of Egypt and the Sudan, but they had not re-accredited their own representatives in Cairo.

While Britain's policy remains unchanged, the addition of Greece, Pakistan, and probably Italy to the list of countries recognizing Farouk's title will encourage Egypt to maintain its present attitude.

5. Government's leniency favors Greek Communists:

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The American Ambassador in Greece warns that the local Communists have been encouraged by the government's failure to prosecute the Communist-front EDA party, inadequate screening of prisoners released from exile, the continuing toleration of pro-Communist newspapers, and the removal of an anti-Communist police director.

Comment: While the Communists do not at present threaten Greek security, the weakness of the government and the increasing prominence of the pro-Communist Minister of Commerce have materially assisted their cause.

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