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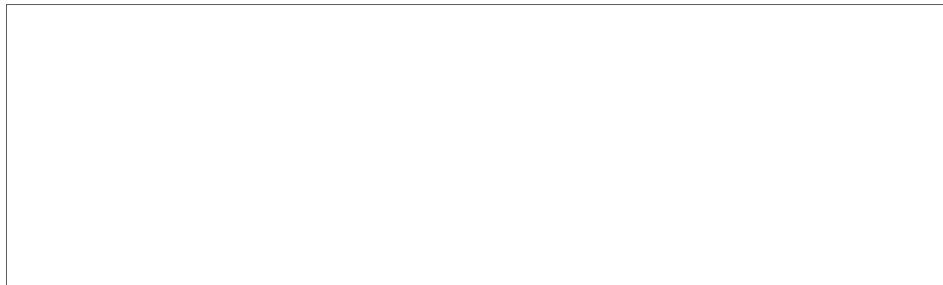
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1. NEW EFFORTS TO SEAT PEIPING IN UN SPECIALIZED AGENCIES EXPECTED

The beginning of a major effort to admit Communist China to the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) will take place during the meeting of the Asian national commissions of the organization in Tokyo between 28 February and 3 March.

Meanwhile, the American consul general in Geneva reports persistent rumors that Communist China's legation in Bern is sounding out officials of the International Labor Organization (ILO) to determine its attitude toward unseating Nationalist China in favor of Peiping at a conference scheduled to convene on 6 June.

Comment

Persistent efforts have been made since 1950 to seat Peiping in place of Taipei in the UN specialized agencies. There is a growing interest in the UN in settling the Chinese representation problem, especially since Taipei's adamant stand last month on the UN membership issue.

Membership in the specialized agencies is not contingent on UN membership. These agencies have the authority to seat Peiping in place of Taipei if a majority of their members so desire. UNESCO and the ILO, however, have followed the pattern set by the UN General Assembly on the Chinese representation question.

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2. URUGUAYAN REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS ON TALK WITH CHOU EN-LAI

Comment	
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Comment

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The declining demand of Uruguay's traditional customers for its high-priced exports, principally wool tops, has caused it to look for additional markets.

The Soviet bloc has been purchasing large amounts of Uruguayan wool over the past two years directly from Uruguay and through buyers in the Netherlands and the United Kingdom. (Concurred in by ORR)

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3. SOVIET-LIBERIAN NEGOTIATIONS

[Redacted] [Redacted]
The joint Soviet-Liberian communique and attendant notes, released in Moscow on 20 January, resulted from negotiations between Liberia and the Soviet delegation headed by

A. P. Volkov which visited Liberia in early January. They indicate that Liberia has been brought closer to an exchange of ambassadors than President Tubman reported to US ambassador Jones. The communique, however, recognized that the Liberian government must first obtain legislative authorization and necessary budgetary appropriations. At the time of the Soviet approach Tubman told Ambassador Jones that he would employ the excuse of budgetary considerations to block early establishment of relations with Moscow.

[Redacted]

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THE ARAB-ISRAELI SITUATION
(Information as of 1700, 20 January)

No significant military incidents have been reported.

[redacted] Syria is [redacted] to sign a contract with Czechoslovakia in the amount of 187,250 pounds for submachine guns, ammunition, and possibly other small arms. (Similar contracts in the past have been quoted in pounds sterling, which in this case would be equivalent to \$524,300.) Deliveries are to begin as soon as the contract is signed.

[redacted] Syria had concluded a \$5,880,000 contract with Czechoslovakia in November, providing for delivery within four months of 60 T-34 tanks complete with accessories, replacement parts for three years, 40,000 shells, and 2,000,000 rounds of machine gun ammunition. [redacted]