

OCE 6484

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Security Information

Chief, Staff C. OSO

23 June 1952

Attn: []
Chief, Contact Division, OO

GE Information - Possible JIB Interception of letter to Department of State from Mongolian Government in exile (Taiwan)

1. A source of this office, Dr. Nicholas Poppe, who is a noted authority on Mongolian affairs and language, received a letter, dated 27 May 1952, from Dennis Sinor, Cambridge University, England, (Enclosure A). Sinor, is also considered an authority on Mongolian affairs and teaches at Cambridge University. Sinor enclosed a copy of a letter, written in Mongolian (Enclosure B) with the request that the letter be translated within three or four days and returned. The Mongolian letter was from the "Independent exiled government of Mongolia" (Taiwan) and was addressed to Mr. "Choroi Perkins" Department of State. It is not known from whom Mr. Sinor received the document, but apparently he was requested to translate the document, and, being unable to do so, forwarded it to Dr. Poppe in Seattle, Washington.

2. Dr. Poppe was disturbed at Sinor's failure to explain the source of the document and speculates that it is probable that Sinor was asked by the "British Intelligence" to translate the document. When questioned on the above speculation Dr. Poppe reported that his first contact with Sinor was in October 1951 when Dr. Poppe received a letter from Sinor introducing himself as an orientalist. Dr. Poppe continued to correspond with Sinor on academic subjects of mutual interest. Dr. Poppe understands that Sinor was born in Hungary, educated in France and joined the Cambridge University faculty after World War II. Dr. Poppe states that Sinor would not have received the document from the USSR intelligence services since they have their own competent scholars in the Mongolian language. Hence Dr. Poppe concludes the translation was requested by the "British Intelligence". This is the first request for translation from Sinor to Dr. Poppe.

3. Dr. Poppe believes that the documents are "obviously authentic" not only because of content but because of the scholarly manner in which the Mongolian text was written.

4. Dr. Poppe has no knowledge of the signers of this document except Janchidsechin who is being considered for employment by the University of Washington. Dr. Poppe states that George Taylor, who is currently visiting Taiwan, is interested in bringing Janchidsechin to the University of Washington. [Information from another source reveals that Janchidsechin

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5. On 17 June 1952, Dr. Poppe received air mail correspondence (dated 14 June 1952) which acknowledged receipt of translation and thanked him for "real help". Sincor further stated that "this whole business is highly confidential and I (Sincor) trust you (Poppe) will handle as such".

6. Enclosure (B), described in paragraph 1 was received by Dr. Poppe from Sincor as a positive photostat (black on white) which was photostated by Dr. Poppe at the University of Washington. The resulting negative was presented to OO/C. The attached copy is a positive of a photostat made by OO/C. Dr. Poppe has returned the original photostat to Mr. Sincor with his translation. Enclosure (C) is a photostat of the translation.

7. On 13 June 1952, OO/C contacted Mr. Lockett, IAD, Department of State and presented him with two photostats (Enclosures (B) and (C) alone). Mr. Lockett was requested to contact Mr. Perkins, State, and inquire whether Mr. Perkins ever received these documents. Mr. Perkins has been indisposed and has not been in contact with Mr. Lockett. Mr. Lockett states that Mr. Perkins' secretary has no knowledge of Perkins' receipt of this particular letter, but stated that there are many similar items on file. These documents were returned to OO/C from State Department on 17 June 1952.

8. It is requested that the attached photostats be returned to OO/C by 15 August 1952. OO/C grants permission in advance for any reproduction deemed necessary. It is further requested that no contact be made with Dr. Poppe concerning this matter without prior contact with OO/C.

9. This information is being disseminated to your office only.

10. For further information on this subject please call Mr. [] extension 2721.

Enclosures: (A), (B), and (C) - As described.

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