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WITHDRAWAL SHEET

Ronald Reagan Library

Collection Name AFRICAN AFFAIRS DIRECTORATE, NSC: RECORDS

Withdrawer

CAS 8/5/2022

File Folder NIGER - WORKING FILE 09/01/1981-06/30/1982

FOIA

S9803

Box Number 8

CASEY

1

ID	Doc Type	Document Description	No of Pages	Doc Date	Restrictions
247974	CABLE	RE NIGER	2	9/10/1981	B1
247975	CABLE	180011Z SEP 81	2	9/18/1981	B1 B3
247976	PAPER	BRIEFING PAPER RE VISIT OF COL SEYNI KOUNTCHE	5	10/6/1981	B1
247977	CABLE	NIAMEY 06009	2	11/14/1981	B1
247978	CABLE	NIAMEY 06176	1	11/20/1981	B1
247979	CABLE	RE NIGER	4	11/30/1981	B1
247980	CABLE	STATE 020654	2	1/26/1982	B1
247981	CABLE	RE NIGER	2	4/28/1982	B1
247982	CABLE	NIAMEY 03085	2	5/20/1982	B1

The above documents were not referred for declassification review at time of processing

Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]

B-1 National security classified information [(b)(1) of the FOIA]

B-2 Release would disclose internal personnel rules and practices of an agency [(b)(2) of the FOIA]

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C. Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in donor's deed of gift.

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ID	Doc Type	Document Description	No of Pages	Doc Date	Restrictions
247983	CABLE	NIAMEY 03218	2	5/27/1982	B1
247984	CABLE	NIAMEY 03350	3	6/3/1982	B1
247985	CABLE	STATE 159628	1	6/10/1982	B1

The above documents were not referred for declassification review at time of processing

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DE RUEHDT #2945 2590114
O 160114Z SEP 81
FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

DECLASSIFIED
Authority DS WALLER
BY CL NARA DATE 8/5/02

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7620

INFO AMEMBASSY NIAMEY IMMEDIATE 0989

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ USUN NEW YORK 02945

E.O. 12065: GDS 09/14/87 (KIRKPATRICK, J.) OR-M
TAGS: PORG, PEPR, OVIP, NG
SUBJECT: NIGER PERM REP CALLS ON AMBASSADOR KIRKPATRICK

1. (C - ENTIRE TEXT).

2. NIGER PERM REP OUMAROU CALLED ON AMBASSADOR KIRKPATRICK AFTERNOON SEPTEMBER 14. OUMAROU'S PURPOSE WAS THREEFOLD: (1) TO EXPRESS APPRECIATION AND THANKS FOR THE U.S. ABSTENTION ON THE GA RESOLUTION ON NAMIBIA AT THE EMERGENCY SPECIAL SESSION ON NAMIBIA THAT MORNING; (2) TO EXPRESS REGRET OVER THE OAU COMMUNIQUE ON THE GULF OF SIDRA INCIDENT, AND (3) TO REQUEST AMBASSADOR KIRKPATRICK'S ASSISTANCE IN SEEKING TO ARRANGE A MEETING BETWEEN NIGER PRESIDENT KOUNTCHE AND PRESIDENT REAGAN ON OCTOBER 6 OR 7.

3. OUMAROU OPENED THE CONVERSATION BY SAYING THAT HE, AS WELL AS MANY OTHER AFRICANS, WAS APPRECIATIVE OF THE U.S. ABSTENTION, ALONG WITH OTHER CONTACT GROUP MEMBERS, ON THE ESSGA RESOLUTION ON NAMIBIA. OUMAROU SAID THAT MANY AFRICANS SHARED THE VIEW THAT THE ABSTENTION WOULD DO MUCH TO CALM TENSIONS AND PROMOTE A BETTER ATMOSPHERE MORE CONDUCTIVE TO CONSTRUCTIVE COOPERATION.

4. OAU COMMUNIQUE: OUMAROU, REFERRING TO A SEPTEMBER 3 CONVERSATION WITH ASSISTANT SECRETARY CROCKER, REGRETTED THE UNAUTHORIZED ISSUANCE OF THE OAU COMMUNIQUE ON THE GULF OF SIDRA INCIDENT AND REITERATED THAT IT DID NOT REPRESENT THE VIEWS OF THE MAJORITY OF AFRICAN STATES. HE SAID THAT SECRETARY GENERAL KODJO WAS BOTH UPSET AND ANGRY ABOUT THE COMMUNIQUE AND THAT KODJO PLANNED TO EXPLAIN THE CIRCUMSTANCES TO THE U.S. WHILE IN WASHINGTON. AMBASSA-

SIT: COL VP
EOB: WETTERING
WHSR COMMENTS:

PAGE 01

USMISSION USUN NEW 2945

DTG:160114Z SEP 81

PSN:049010

TOR: 259/0130Z

CSN:HCE841

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Kountche
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wf

DOR KIRKPATRICK EXPRESSED SURPRISE THAT A COMMUNIQUE SO CLEARLY AT VARIANCE WITH THE VIEWS OF MOST AFRICAN STATES COULD ACTUALLY BE ISSUED, NOTING THAT INCIDENTS SUCH AS THIS SERVED ONLY TO FURTHER COMPLICATE EFFORTS TO IMPROVE U.S. RELATIONS WITH AFRICAN STATES.

5. REQUEST FOR KOUNTCHE-REAGAN MEETING: OUMAROU SAID THAT IN SUPPORT OF PARALLEL EFFORTS OF NIGER'S AMBASSADOR IN WASHINGTON, HE WISHED TO REQUEST A MEETING BETWEEN PRESIDENT KOUNTCHE AND PRESIDENT REAGAN. OUMAROU EXPLAINED THAT KOUNTCHE WOULD BE IN THE U.S. FOR ONLY A FEW DAYS - ARRIVING OCTOBER 4, ADDRESSING THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OCTOBER 5 AND VISITING WASHINGTON ON OCTOBER 6 AND 7 - BUT THAT THE OPPORTUNITY FOR A MEETING, HOWEVER BRIEF, WITH PRESIDENT REAGAN WOULD BE ENORMOUSLY APPRECIATED AND HELPFUL TO NIGER'S EFFORTS TO ENCOURAGE MODERATE AFRICAN POSITIONS ON ISSUES IMPORTANT TO THE U.S.. AMBASSADOR KIRKPATRICK SAID SHE WOULD RAISE THE ISSUE WITH PRESIDENT REAGAN. WHILE THE PRESIDENT'S SCHEDULE WAS EXTENSIVELY TIGHT, SHE HOPED A MEETING WITH PRESIDENT REAGAN AND/OR VICE PRESIDENT BUSH WOULD BE POSSIBLE TO ARRANGE.
KIRKPATRICK
BT

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247975	CABLE 180011Z SEP 81	2	9/18/1981	B1 B3

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247976	PAPER BRIEFING PAPER RE VISIT OF COL SEYNI KOUNTCHE	5	10/6/1981	B1

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE

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WASHFAX RECEIPT
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

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S/S #

RECEIVED
OCT 16 P 5: 18

WHITE HOUSE
SITUATION ROOM

MESSAGE NO. 000519 CLASSIFICATION CONFIDENTIAL No. Pages 4

FROM: Al Adams S/S 28448 7224
(Officer name) (Office symbol) (Extension) (Room number)

MESSAGE DESCRIPTION Telegram to Niamey subject: President Kountche's
Visit to Washington

TO: (Agency)	DELIVER TO:	Extension	Room No.
NSC	A. Lenz	3044	
OVP	N. B. Dyke	4213	
<i>[Handwritten mark]</i>	<u>Watering</u>		

FOR: CLEARANCE INFORMATION PER REQUEST COMMENT

REMARKS:
15:30

*Cleared 10/19/81
DN*

S/S Officer: Al Adams *[Signature]*

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DECLASSIFIED
Authority DOS WAWR
BY CU NARA DATE 8/5/72

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

AF:JKBISHOP:DJW
10/15/81 EXT 29478
AF - JAMES K. BISHOP

DOD/ISA - COL ISOM
AF/W - MHUHTALA
NSC -

AID/AFR - ECOSTELLO
S/S-0

PRIORITY

NIAMEY

ROUTINE ABIDJAN, PARIS, USUN, CAIRO, ALGIERS, KHARTOUM, BAMAKO,
YAOUNDE

E.O. 12065: GDS 10/15/87 (BISHOP, JAMES K.)

TAGS: EAID, MASS, PDEV, PEPR, NG, CD, LY

SUBJECT: PRESIDENT KOUNTCHE'S VISIT TO WASHINGTON

JKB
JKB
DOD
AID/AFR
AF/W-MH

1. ~~(C)~~ ENTIRE TEXT

2. SUMMARY - IN TEN HOUR VISIT TO WASHINGTON OCTOBER 6, PRESIDENT KOUNTCHE HAD FULL SCHEDULE OF TALKS WITH SENIOR AMERICAN OFFICIALS INCLUDING VICE PRESIDENT BUSH. HE TOOK INITIATIVE IN DESCRIBING NIGER'S PROBLEMS OF POVERTY AND BAD NEIGHBORS AND STRESSED U.S. OBLIGATION TO ASSIST AFRICA. HE REITERATED REQUEST FOR FOOD AID BUT STATED THAT HARVEST WILL NOT BE AS POOR AS SOME REPORTS HAVE SUGGESTED. US AGREED TO SEND A TWO-MAN MISSION TO SURVEY HIS ARMY'S NEEDS FOR LIGHT WEAPONS AND COMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT, BUT NO COMMITMENTS WERE MADE TO PROVIDE THESE ITEMS OR ANY OTHER ADDITIONAL MILITARY ASSISTANCE. KOUNTCHE WAS PESSIMISTIC ABOUT PROSPECTS FOR MOUNTING OAU PEACEKEEPING FORCE IN CHAD, LEERY OF THE MITTERRAND GOVERNMENT, AND CONFIDENT IN HIS RELATIONS WITH THE ALGERIANS. HE URGED CONTINUED US SUPPORT FOR EGYPT AND THE SUDAN IN THE WAKE OF THE SADAT ASSASSINATION. KOUNTCHE ACKNOWLEDGED TO VICE PRESIDENT THAT INACTION OF THIRD WORLD MODERATES IS PARTIALLY RESPONSIBLE FOR THE ANTI-AMERICAN RHETORIC EMANATING FROM NOMINALLY NON-ALIGNED ORGANIZATIONS.

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1 2

KOUNTCHE CREATED FAVORABLE IMPRESSION AND SAID HE HAD ENJOYED THE DAY. END SUMMARY.

3. PRESIDENT KOUNTCHE WAS GREETED AT ANDREWS BY THE CHIEF OF PROTOCOL, ASSISTANT SECRETARY CROCKER AND DAS BISHOP. THE LATTER SERVED AS HIS ESCORT, ATTENDING ALL MEETINGS WITH AMERICAN OFFICIALS. KOUNTCHE'S SCHEDULE INCLUDED CALLS ON HIM BY FORMER VICE PRESIDENT MONDALE, ASSISTANT SECRETARY CROCKER, DEPUTY SECRETARY OF DEFENSE CARLUCCI AND AID ADMINISTRATOR MCPHERSON. KOUNTCHE WAS RECEIVED AT THE SENATE BY SENATORS KASSEBAUM AND DODD, PLUS REPRESENTATIVE ERDAHL AND A NUMBER OF SENIOR STAFFERS. AT THE WHITE HOUSE, HE HAD A LENGTHY EXCHANGE WITH THE VICE PRESIDENT.

4. THERE WERE SEVERAL RECURRENT THEMES IN KOUNTCHE'S PRESENTATIONS TO ADMINISTRATION AND CONGRESSIONAL LEADERS. HIS BASIC MESSAGE WAS THAT THE US IS OBLIGED BOTH MORALLY AND IN ITS OWN SELF-INTEREST TO ASSIST AFRICA. QUOTING MARX WITH A TWINKLE IN HIS EYE, HE REMINDED HIS INTER-LOCUTORS OF EUROPE'S DEPENDENCE ON AFRICA AND AMERICA'S DEPENDENCE ON EUROPE. WITH RESPECT TO NIGER, HE MAINTAINED THAT US ASSISTANCE, WHILE GREATLY APPRECIATED AND FOCUSED IN THE ESSENTIAL AREAS OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION, IS INSUFFICIENT. HE DID NOT SPECIFY WHAT FORM ANY ADDITIONAL AMERICAN AID SHOULD TAKE, AND NO COMMITMENT TO FURTHER US ASSISTANCE WAS MADE. WITH RESPECT TO NIGER'S FOOD NEEDS, KOUNTCHE SAID THE CURRENT CROP WILL BE INFERIOR TO THAT OF LAST YEAR BUT NOT A FAILURE. HE DID REITERATE THE NIGERIEN REQUEST FOR FOOD ASSISTANCE TO REPLENISH DEPLETED RESERVE STOCKS AND WAS TOLD THIS IS UNDER CONSIDERATION.

5. ON THE LIBYAN MENACE, KOUNTCHE EMPHASIZED THAT WHAT HE NEEDS FROM THE US IS NOT AMERICAN SOLDIERS OR SOPHISTICATED ARMS BUT THE ECONOMIC HELP NECESSARY TO RESPOND TO HIS PEOPLE'S DESIRE TO IMPROVE THEIR LIVES. HE SAID HIS GOVERNMENT IS TAKING STEPS TO COUNTER LIBYAN PROPAGANDA NOW BEING BROADCAST INTO NIGER IN TAMASHEK AND HAUSA BY MORE EFFECTIVE USE OF THE NIGERIEN MEDIA. HE DID ASK FOR HELP ACQUIRING LIGHT ARMS AND COMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT FOR HIS MILITARY. IT WAS AGREED THAT A TWO-PERSON SURVEY TEAM WILL VISIT TO EXPLORE THE COUNTRY'S NEED IN THESE AREAS. {KOUNTCHE WOULD LIKE THE TEAM TO COME IN DECEMBER, MEET WITH HIM, AND TRAVEL EXTENSIVELY WITHIN NIGER}. NO US COMMITMENT WAS MADE TO PROVIDE FURTHER EQUIPMENT OR TRAINING. IN RESPONSE TO CARLUCCI'S CAVEAT THAT THE US WOULD NOT WISH TO COMPETE WITH THE FRENCH, KOUNTCHE

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REPLIED THAT US ACTIVITIES WOULD BE COMPLEMENTARY. HE SAID THE FRENCH ARE PROVIDING MILITARY EQUIPMENT FOR SPECIFIC PURPOSES, E.G. OUTFITTING MOBILE UNITS, BUT THERE ARE OTHER NEEDS, E.G., AIRLIFT, LIGHT ARMS, ETC., WHICH THE FRENCH HAVE NOT ADDRESSED. HE INDICATED NIGER PLANS AT AN UNSPECIFIED DATE TO ACQUIRE A THIRD C-130.

6. ON THE DIPLOMATIC RESPONSE TO THE LIBYAN THREAT, KOUNTCHE WAS PESSIMISTIC ABOUT THE CHANCES FOR ORGANIZING AN OAU PEACEFORCE, INSISTING THAT IT CERTAINLY WILL NEED UN FINANCING AND INDICATING HE HAD FOUND WALDHEIM UNRESPONSIVE ON THIS POINT THE PREVIOUS DAY. ON A DAY OVERSHADOWED BY THE NEWS OF SADAT'S ASSASSINATION, HE PREDICTED THAT EVENT WOULD PROVIDE A TEST OF US RESOLVE AND URGED CONTINUED AMERICAN BACKING FOR BOTH EGYPT AND SUDAN. HE MENTIONED THAT A NIGERIAN C-130 WAS DUE TO PICK UP A SHIPMENT OF EGYPTIAN-FURNISHED ARMS ON OCTOBER 14 AND EXPRESSED OPTIMISM THAT SADAT'S SUCCESSORS WOULD RESPECT THIS ARRANGEMENT. ASKED ONCE ABOUT HIS ATTITUDE TO HABRE'S ACTIONS, HE COMMENTED WITH REGRET THAT AHIDJO WOULD NOT GIVE HABRE SANCTUARY. HE VOICED SOME APPREHENSION ABOUT THE MITTERRAND GOVERNMENT'S AFRICAN POLICIES, DESCRIBING THEM AT ONE POINT AS AMBIGUOUS. HE LAUDED THE ALGERIANS AND TOLD BISHOP HE WAS CONFIDENT THEY WOULD COME TO HIS AID MILITARILY IF NIGER WERE ATTACKED BY LIBYA. IN THE SAME CONVERSATION, HE ADMITTED HE STILL BELIEVES THAT TO PROTECT THEIR OWN INVESTMENTS THE FRENCH WOULD DEFEND HIM SHOULD QADHAFI TRY TO CAPTURE THE URANIUM MINES.

7. ON SOUTHERN AFRICA, KOUNTCHE EXTOLLED THE US AS THE NATION WHICH HAD DONE MOST HISTORICALLY TO PROTECT INDIVIDUAL LIBERTY, VOLUNTEERED THAT WHITE SOUTH AFRICANS HAVE A LEGITIMATE FUTURE IN THEIR HOMELAND, BUT URGED THAT THE US FULFILL ITS COMMITMENT TO THE PROTECTION OF INDIVIDUAL RIGHTS BY USING ITS INFLUENCE TO END APARTHEID. HE EXPRESSED GENERAL APPROVAL OF US EFFORTS TO ACHIEVE A NAMIBIAN SETTLEMENT. WHEN INVITED BY SENATOR DODD TO COMMENT ON REPEAL OF THE CLARK AMENDMENT, KOUNTCHE CAUTIONED AGAINST ANY EFFORT TO OVERTHROW A RECOGNIZED AFRICAN GOVERNMENT AND ASSERTED THAT THE ANGO- LANS WANT TO BE RID OF THE SOVIETS AND CUBANS.

8. IN SEVERAL DISCUSSIONS, MOST NOTABLY THAT WITH THE VICE PRESIDENT, KOUNTCHE ADMITTED RUEFULLY THAT MODERATE AFRICANS BEAR CONSIDERABLE RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE ONE-SIDED LANGUAGE EMPLOYED BY THE OAU AND OTHER SUPPOSEDLY NON-ALIGNED GROUPS IN THEIR REFERENCES TO THE US. HE SAID

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HE SAID HE WOULD RAISE THIS WITHIN A CEAO FRAMEWORK, URGING THAT MODERATES ATTEND AND TAKE A MORE ACTIVE ROLE IN OAU AND OTHER NON-ALIGNED GROUP MEETINGS.

9. THE NIGERIAN PRESIDENT REPEATEDLY PRAISED THE ACTIVITIES OF PEACE CORPS VOLUNTEERS IN NIGER, INSISTING THAT THEY ARE AMERICA'S BEST AMBASSADORS.

10. COMMENT: KOUNTCHE SAID REPEATEDLY THAT AN IMPORTANT REASON FOR HIS VISIT TO WASHINGTON WAS TO MAKE THE ACQUAINTANCE OF SENIOR AMERICAN OFFICIALS. HE TOLD BISHOP HE HAD ENJOYED HIS PROGRAM, PARTICULARLY THE EXCHANGE WITH THE VICE PRESIDENT AND HIS CONVERSATION WITH SENATOR KASSEBAUM. NO MENTION WAS MADE OF THE PRESIDENT'S INABILITY TO RECEIVE HIM, AND KOUNTCHE REALIZED THAT THE EVENTS OF THE DAY WOULD HAVE DERAILED WHATEVER MIGHT HAVE BEEN SCHEDULED BEFOREHAND. HIS THOUGHTFUL PRESENTATIONS, SENSIBLE PRIORITIES, AND SENSE OF PROPORTION CREATED FAVORABLE IMPRESSIONS AMONG THOSE WITH WHOM HE MET. 44

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UNCLASSIFIED UPON REMOVAL OF CLASSIFIED ENCLOSURES

AS 8/5/22

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE

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WASHFAX RECEIPT
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

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S/S #

RECEIVED

OCT 16 P 5: 10

WHITE HOUSE
SITUATION ROOM

MESSAGE NO. 000519 CLASSIFICATION CONFIDENTIAL No. Pages 4

FROM: Al Adams S/S 28448 7224
(Officer name) (Office symbol) (Extension) (Room number)

MESSAGE DESCRIPTION Telegram to Niamey subject: President Kountche's
Visit to Washington

TO: (Agency)	DELIVER TO:	Extension	Room No.
NSC	<u>A. Lenz</u>	3044	
OVP	N. B. Dyke	4213	
	<u>WATERZING</u>		

FOR: CLEARANCE INFORMATION PER REQUEST COMMENT

REMARKS:

P 5: 30

*File
Niger*

S/S Officer: Al Adams *[Signature]*

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DECLASSIFIED

Authority

DIS WAIVER

BY

CAJ NARA DATE

8/15/77

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

AF:JKBISHOP:DJW
10/15/81 EXT 29478
AF - JAMES K. BISHOP

DOD/ISA - COL ISOM
AF/W - MHUHTALA
NSC -

AID/AFR - ECOSTELLO
S/S-0

PRIORITY

NIAMEY

ROUTINE
YAOUNDE

ABIDJAN, PARIS, USUN, CAIRO, ALGIERS, KHARTOUM, BAMAKO,

E.O. 12065: GDS 10/15/87 {BISHOP, JAMES K.}

TAGS: EAID, MASS, PDEV, PEPR, NG, CD, LY

SUBJECT: PRESIDENT KOUNTCHE'S VISIT TO WASHINGTON

JKB
JKB
DOD/ISA
AID/AFR
AF/W-MH

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KOUNTCHE CREATED FAVORABLE IMPRESSION AND SAID HE HAD ENJOYED THE DAY. END SUMMARY.

3. PRESIDENT KOUNTCHE WAS GREETED AT ANDREWS BY THE CHIEF OF PROTOCOL, ASSISTANT SECRETARY CROCKER AND DAS BISHOP. THE LATTER SERVED AS HIS ESCORT, ATTENDING ALL MEETINGS WITH AMERICAN OFFICIALS. KOUNTCHE'S SCHEDULE INCLUDED CALLS ON HIM BY FORMER VICE PRESIDENT MONDALE, ASSISTANT SECRETARY CROCKER, DEPUTY SECRETARY OF DEFENSE CARLUCCI AND AID ADMINISTRATOR MCPHERSON. KOUNTCHE WAS RECEIVED AT THE SENATE BY SENATORS KASSEBAUM AND DODD, PLUS REPRESENTATIVE ERDAHL AND A NUMBER OF SENIOR STAFFERS. AT THE WHITE HOUSE, HE HAD A LENGTHY EXCHANGE WITH THE VICE PRESIDENT.

4. THERE WERE SEVERAL RECURRENT THEMES IN KOUNTCHE'S PRESENTATIONS TO ADMINISTRATION AND CONGRESSIONAL LEADERS. HIS BASIC MESSAGE WAS THAT THE US IS OBLIGED BOTH MORALLY AND IN ITS OWN SELF-INTEREST TO ASSIST AFRICA. QUOTING MARX WITH A TWINKLE IN HIS EYE, HE REMINDED HIS INTER-LOCUTORS OF EUROPE'S DEPENDENCE ON AFRICA AND AMERICA'S DEPENDENCE ON EUROPE. WITH RESPECT TO NIGER, HE MAINTAINED THAT US ASSISTANCE, WHILE GREATLY APPRECIATED AND FOCUSED IN THE ESSENTIAL AREAS OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION, IS INSUFFICIENT. HE DID NOT SPECIFY WHAT FORM ANY ADDITIONAL AMERICAN AID SHOULD TAKE, AND NO COMMITMENT TO FURTHER US ASSISTANCE WAS MADE. WITH RESPECT TO NIGER'S FOOD NEEDS, KOUNTCHE SAID THE CURRENT CROP WILL BE INFERIOR TO THAT OF LAST YEAR BUT NOT A FAILURE. HE DID REITERATE THE NIGERIEN REQUEST FOR FOOD ASSISTANCE TO REPLENISH DEPLETED RESERVE STOCKS AND WAS TOLD THIS IS UNDER CONSIDERATION.

5. ON THE LIBYAN MENACE, KOUNTCHE EMPHASIZED THAT WHAT HE NEEDS FROM THE US IS NOT AMERICAN SOLDIERS OR SOPHISTICATED ARMS BUT THE ECONOMIC HELP NECESSARY TO RESPOND TO HIS PEOPLE'S DESIRE TO IMPROVE THEIR LIVES. HE SAID HIS GOVERNMENT IS TAKING STEPS TO COUNTER LIBYAN PROPAGANDA NOW BEING BROADCAST INTO NIGER IN TAMASHEK AND HAUSA BY MORE EFFECTIVE USE OF THE NIGERIEN MEDIA. HE DID ASK FOR HELP ACQUIRING LIGHT ARMS AND COMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT FOR HIS MILITARY. IT WAS AGREED THAT A TWO-PERSON SURVEY TEAM WILL VISIT TO EXPLORE THE COUNTRY'S NEED IN THESE AREAS. {KOUNTCHE WOULD LIKE THE TEAM TO COME IN DECEMBER, MEET WITH HIM, AND TRAVEL EXTENSIVELY WITHIN NIGER}. NO US COMMITMENT WAS MADE TO PROVIDE FURTHER EQUIPMENT OR TRAINING. IN RESPONSE TO CARLUCCI'S CAVEAT THAT THE US WOULD NOT WISH TO COMPETE WITH THE FRENCH, KOUNTCHE

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REPLIED THAT US ACTIVITIES WOULD BE COMPLEMENTARY. HE SAID THE FRENCH ARE PROVIDING MILITARY EQUIPMENT FOR SPECIFIC PURPOSES, E.G. OUTFITTING MOBILE UNITS, BUT THERE ARE OTHER NEEDS, E.G., AIRLIFT, LIGHT ARMS, ETC., WHICH THE FRENCH HAVE NOT ADDRESSED. HE INDICATED NIGER PLANS AT AN UNSPECIFIED DATE TO ACQUIRE A THIRD C-130.

6. ON THE DIPLOMATIC RESPONSE TO THE LIBYAN THREAT, KOUNTCHE WAS PESSIMISTIC ABOUT THE CHANCES FOR ORGANIZING AN OAU PEACEFORCE, INSISTING THAT IT CERTAINLY WILL NEED UN FINANCING AND INDICATING HE HAD FOUND WALDHEIM UNRESPONSIVE ON THIS POINT THE PREVIOUS DAY. ON A DAY OVERSHADOWED BY THE NEWS OF SADAT'S ASSASSINATION, HE PREDICTED THAT EVENT WOULD PROVIDE A TEST OF US RESOLVE AND URGED CONTINUED AMERICAN BACKING FOR BOTH EGYPT AND SUDAN. HE MENTIONED THAT A NIGERIAN C-130 WAS DUE TO PICK UP A SHIPMENT OF EGYPTIAN-FURNISHED ARMS ON OCTOBER 14 AND EXPRESSED OPTIMISM THAT SADAT'S SUCCESSORS WOULD RESPECT THIS ARRANGEMENT. ASKED ONCE ABOUT HIS ATTITUDE TO HABRE'S ACTIONS, HE COMMENTED WITH REGRET THAT AHIDJO WOULD NOT GIVE HABRE SANCTUARY. HE VOICED SOME APPREHENSION ABOUT THE MITTERRAND GOVERNMENT'S AFRICAN POLICIES, DESCRIBING THEM AT ONE POINT AS AMBIGUOUS. HE LAUDED THE ALGERIANS AND TOLD BISHOP HE WAS CONFIDENT THEY WOULD COME TO HIS AID MILITARILY IF NIGER WERE ATTACKED BY LIBYA. IN THE SAME CONVERSATION, HE ADMITTED HE STILL BELIEVES THAT TO PROTECT THEIR OWN INVESTMENTS THE FRENCH WOULD DEFEND HIM SHOULD QADHAFI TRY TO CAPTURE THE URANIUM MINES.

7. ON SOUTHERN AFRICA, KOUNTCHE EXTOLLED THE US AS THE NATION WHICH HAD DONE MOST HISTORICALLY TO PROTECT INDIVIDUAL LIBERTY, VOLUNTEERED THAT WHITE SOUTH AFRICANS HAVE A LEGITIMATE FUTURE IN THEIR HOMELAND, BUT URGED THAT THE US FULFILL ITS COMMITMENT TO THE PROTECTION OF INDIVIDUAL RIGHTS BY USING ITS INFLUENCE TO END APARTHEID. HE EXPRESSED GENERAL APPROVAL OF US EFFORTS TO ACHIEVE A NAMIBIAN SETTLEMENT. WHEN INVITED BY SENATOR DODD TO COMMENT ON REPEAL OF THE CLARK AMENDMENT, KOUNTCHE CAUTIONED AGAINST ANY EFFORT TO OVERTHROW A RECOGNIZED AFRICAN GOVERNMENT AND ASSERTED THAT THE ANGO-LANS WANT TO BE RID OF THE SOVIETS AND CUBANS.

8. IN SEVERAL DISCUSSIONS, MOST NOTABLY THAT WITH THE VICE PRESIDENT, KOUNTCHE ADMITTED RUEFULLY THAT MODERATE AFRICANS BEAR CONSIDERABLE RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE ONE-SIDED LANGUAGE EMPLOYED BY THE OAU AND OTHER SUPPOSEDLY NON-ALIGNED GROUPS IN THEIR REFERENCES TO THE US. HE SAID

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HE SAID HE WOULD RAISE THIS WITHIN A CEAO FRAMEWORK, URGING THAT MODERATES ATTEND AND TAKE A MORE ACTIVE ROLE IN OAU AND OTHER NON-ALIGNED GROUP MEETINGS.

9. THE NIGERIAN PRESIDENT REPEATEDLY PRAISED THE ACTIVITIES OF PEACE CORPS VOLUNTEERS IN NIGER, INSISTING THAT THEY ARE AMERICA'S BEST AMBASSADORS.

10. COMMENT: KOUNTCHE SAID REPEATEDLY THAT AN IMPORTANT REASON FOR HIS VISIT TO WASHINGTON WAS TO MAKE THE ACQUAINTANCE OF SENIOR AMERICAN OFFICIALS. HE TOLD BISHOP HE HAD ENJOYED HIS PROGRAM, PARTICULARLY THE EXCHANGE WITH THE VICE PRESIDENT AND HIS CONVERSATION WITH SENATOR KASSEBAUM. NO MENTION WAS MADE OF THE PRESIDENT'S INABILITY TO RECEIVE HIM, AND KOUNTCHE REALIZED THAT THE EVENTS OF THE DAY WOULD HAVE DERAILED WHATEVER MIGHT HAVE BEEN SCHEDULED BEFOREHAND. HIS THOUGHTFUL PRESENTATIONS, SENSIBLE PRIORITIES, AND SENSE OF PROPORTION CREATED FAVORABLE IMPRESSIONS AMONG THOSE WITH WHOM HE MET. YY

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PAGE #1 USMISSION USUN NEW 3557 DTG: 222218Z OCT 81 PSN: 039665
EOB788 AN#04632 TOR: 296/0105Z CSN: HCE778

NO QUESTION BUT THAT NIGER SHOULD BE MOST CAUTIOUS, PARTICULARLY GIVEN QADHAFI'S DEMONSTRATED LACK OF MORAL SCRUPLES.

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5. DIALLO ASSURED AMBASSADOR KIRKPATRICK THAT IF AFTER STUDYING THE SITUATION THE GON DECIDED TO RESUME DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS, THIS SHOULD NOT BE INTERPRETED EITHER AS GON AGREEMENT WITH LIBYAN POLICIES OR AS EVIDENCE OF GOOD RELATIONS BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES. AMBASSADOR KIRKPATRICK AGAIN THANKED DIALLO FOR KEEPING US INFORMED OF DEVELOPMENTS, NOTING THAT SUCH INFORMATION HELPED US UNDERSTAND QADHAFI'S INTENTIONS.
KIRKPATRICK
BT

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DE RUEHDT #3557 2952218
P 222218Z OCT 81
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TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8443

- INFO AMEMBASSY NIAMEY PRIORITY 0993
- AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM 1347
- AMEMBASSY RABAT 1728
- AMEMBASSY ALGIERS 2471
- AMEMBASSY LAGOS 8559
- AMEMBASSY DAKAR 1895
- AMEMBASSY NOUAKHOTT 0859
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- AMEMBASSY TUNIS 2388
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- AMEMBASSY NAIROBI 2991

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WJF

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Authority: DSU/WJF
BY CW NARA DATE 8/15/82

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EXDIS
E.O. 12065: RDS-1, 4 10/22/01 (KIRKPATRICK, JEANE J), OR-M
TAGS: PFOR, PEPR, MG, LY, US
SUBJECT: NIGER FONMIN DIALLO CALLS ON AMBASSADOR KIRKPATRICK

1. (C - ENTIRE TEXT).
2. NIGER FONMIN DIALLO, ACCOMPANIED BY PERM REP OUMAROU, CALLED ON AMBASSADOR KIRKPATRICK MORNING OCTOBER 22. DIALLO HAD URGENTLY REQUESTED THIS MEETING THE DAY BEFORE. HIS PURPOSE WAS TO CONVEY A MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT KOUNTCHE TO PRESIDENT REAGAN ABOUT POSSIBLE RESUMPTION OF RELATIONS BETWEEN NIGER AND LIBYA.
3. DIALLO SAID THAT PRESIDENT KOUNTCHE WANTED PRESIDENT REAGAN TO KNOW THAT LIBYA HAS AGAIN REPEATED A HIGH-LEVEL REQUEST FOR RESUMPTION OF NORMAL DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH NIGER, PROMISING TO END ALL SUBVERSIVE ACTIVITIES WHICH THE GON HAS STRENUOUSLY OBJECTED TO. THE GON IS CURRENTLY "STUDYING THE SITUATION." DIALLO ASSURED AMBASSADOR KIRKPATRICK THAT NIGER HAD NO ILLUSIONS ABOUT QADHAFI, HIS PROMISES OR HIS POSSIBLE INTENTIONS, HAVING HAD LONG AND DIRECT EXPERIENCE WITH HIS DUPLICITY. BUT PRESIDENT KOUNTCHE WANTED TO KEEP THE USG INFORMED ABOUT DEVELOPMENTS WHICH COULD LEAD TO A RESUMPTION OF DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS BETWEEN NIGER AND LIBYA.
4. AMBASSADOR KIRKPATRICK THANKED FONMIN DIALLO FOR THE INFORMATION. SHE NOTED THAT QADHAFI APPEARS TO BE UNDERTAKING A DIPLOMATIC OFFENSIVE TO MEND RELATIONS WITH A NUMBER OF NEIGHBORS ALTHOUGH MOST OF THESE LACKED CONFIDENCE IN HIS PROMISES. SHE SPECULATED THAT LIBYA MIGHT BE SEEKING TO REINFORCE ITS POSITION IN LIGHT OF HOSTILITIES VIS-A-VIS THE SUDAN. SHE SAID THE MOST APPROPRIATE ADVICE SHE COULD OFFER WAS THAT WHICH EVERY FRENCH MOTHER GAVE HER CHILDREN: MEFIEZ-VOUS. DIALLO LAUGHINGLY AGREED THERE WAS

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247977	CABLE NIAMEY 06009	2	11/14/1981	B1

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247978	CABLE	1	11/20/1981	B1
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247979	CABLE RE NIGER	4	11/30/1981	B1

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INFO	OCT-00	ADS-00	AID-07	INR-10	EUR-12	SS-10	CIAE-00
	EB-00	DODE-00	H-01	IO-15	NEA-06	NSC-05	NSAE-00
	HA-06	L-03	DOE-10	TRSE-00	PH-09	GSA-02	INT-05
	PA-01	FEMA-02	SAL-01	OES-09	ACDA-12	ICAE-00	SP-02
	NRC-02	SPRS-02	/150 W				

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R 021552Z DEC 81
FM AMEMBASSY NIAEMEY
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3692
INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN
AMEMBASSY ALGIERS
AMEMBASSY BAMAKO
AMEMBASSY COTONOU
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY LOME
AMEMBASSY OUAGADOUGOU
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY RABAT
USCINCEUR VAHINGEN GE

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ABIDJAN FOR DATT AND RPO

USCINCEUR FOR POLAD

E.O. 12065: GDS 12/2/87 (CHAVEAS, PETER R.) OR-M
TAGS: PEPR, FR, NG
SUBJECT: FRENCH-NIGERIAN RELATIONS UNDER MITTERRAND

REF: 00 NIAEMEY 5617

SUMMARY: THE ELECTION IN MAY OF A SOCIALIST GOVERNMENT IN FRANCE GENERATED CONSIDERABLE DISQUIET IN THE GON. WITH THE EXCEPTION OF CHEYSSON, FEW SENIOR SOCIALIST PARTY OFFICIALS WERE KNOWN PERSONALLY TO KOUNTCHE AND HE VIEWED THE SOCIALISTS AS HAVING AN INGRAINED BIAS AGAINST MILITARY REGIMES. QUESTIONS ABOUT SOCIALIST POLICY TOWARDS NUCLEAR POWER AND FRANCE'S FUTURE AS A MARKET FOR NIGERIAN URANIUM WERE ALSO OF CONCERN. PERSONAL CONTACT WITH MITTERRAND AND OTHER SENIOR GOF OFFICIALS, PARTICULARLY COT, HAS DONE MUCH TO ASSUAGE KOUNTCHE'S FEARS. HE HAS RECENTLY RETURNED FROM THE FRANCO-AFRICAN SUMMIT CLEARLY FEELING A NEW CONFIDENCE IN FRANCE'S WILLINGNESS TO SUPPORT HIM ECONOMICALLY AND, IF NECESSARY, MILITARILY. END SUMMARY.

1. THE RESULTS OF THE MAY ELECTIONS IN FRANCE GENERATED CONSIDERABLE NERVOUSNESS WITHIN THE GON. KOUNTCHE REGARDED THE SOCIALIST PARTY'S PRONOUNCEMENTS ON AFRICA AS AMBIGUOUS AND FELT THAT THE PARTY HAD AN INGRAINED PREJUDICE AGAINST MILITARY REGIMES IN GENERAL. WITH THE EXCEPTION OF CHEYSSON, WHO WAS WELL KNOWN TO SEVERAL SENIOR GON OFFICIALS DUE TO HIS ROLE IN THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY, KOUNTCHE AND HIS MINISTERS HAD NO IMPORTANT PERSONAL RELATIONSHIPS IN THE SOCIALIST RANKS. ON THE OTHER HAND, THE MAN KOUNTCHE HAD OVERTHROWN IN 1974, DIORI HAMANI, HAD BEEN WELL KNOWN AND HIGHLY REGARDED BY MANY SOCIALISTS CONCERNED WITH AFRICA.

2. KOUNTCHE'S INITIAL PERSONAL CONTACT WITH THE SOCIALIST GOVERNMENT CAME IN JULY WHEN HE PAID HIS ANNUAL "PRIVATE" VISIT TO PARIS. DESPITE THE VISIT'S PRIVATE LABEL, HE WAS RECEIVED BY MITTERRAND AND, IN TURN, RECEIVED FOREIGN MINISTER CHEYSSON AND MINISTER DELEGATE FOR COOPERATION AND DEVELOPMENT JEAN-PIERRE COT. ACCORDING TO FRENCH AMBASSADOR PIERRET (PROTECT), KOUNTCHE WAS PARTICULARLY IMPRESSED WITH COT. (THE MEETING WITH COT CERTAINLY

RECEIVED MORE PROMINENT ATTENTION IN THE GON-CONTROLLED PRESS THAN DID THAT WITH CHEYSSON.) UPON HIS RETURN, KOUNTCHE PUBLICLY PRONOUNCED HIMSELF VERY ENCOURAGED BY HIS CONTACTS IN PARIS. HOWEVER, THIS FIRST ROUND OF MEETINGS WAS ONLY INTRODUCTORY IN NATURE (PRISE DE CONTACT) AND SUBSEQUENT PRIVATE COMMENTS BY KOUNTCHE TO BOTH US AND THE FRENCH MAKE IT CLEAR THAT HE WAS ANYTHING BUT ENCOURAGED. NEITHER WERE FRENCH DIPLOMATS IN NIGER ENCOURAGED. THEY MADE CLEAR PRIVATELY THAT THEY, TOO, FOUND THEIR GOVERNMENT'S POSITION VIS-A-VIS NIGER AMBIGUOUS.

3. KOUNTCHE'S NEXT DIRECT EXPERIENCE WITH THE SOCIALISTS DID NOTHING TO PUT HIS MIND AT EASE. IN AUGUST, PRESIDENTIAL ADVISOR GUY PENNE MADE A TWENTY-FOUR HOUR STOP IN NIAEMEY IN THE COURSE OF AN EIGHT NATION AFRICAN TOUR. AGAIN, THE MEETING WAS INTRODUCTORY IN NATURE BUT PROBABLY OF MORE SIGNIFICANCE TO KOUNTCHE THAN ANYTHING PENNE HAD TO SAY WAS THE PRESENCE IN PENNE'S PARTY OF REGIS DEBRAY. KOUNTCHE REFUSED TO INCLUDE DEBRAY IN HIS MEETINGS WITH PENNE (THEY DID MEET AT A SMALL RECEPTION AFTERWARDS). DEBRAY'S ROLE IN FRENCH AFRICAN POLICY NO DOUBT SERVED TO REINFORCE KOUNTCHE'S BELIEF THAT THE SOCIALISTS LOOKED ASKANCE AT HIS MILITARY GOVERNMENT.

4. CLEARLY A MAJOR CONCERN TO KOUNTCHE IN THESE EARLY MONTHS WAS AMBIGUITY IN FRENCH POLICY TOWARDS THE USE OF FRENCH MILITARY FORCES IN AFRICA AND MORE SPECIFICALLY IN NIGER IN FACE OF THE LIBYAN THREAT. ALTHOUGH NO WRITTEN AGREEMENT HAD EXISTED, IT WAS CLEAR DURING THE YEAR OR MORE PRIOR TO THE ELECTION OF THE SOCIALIST GOVERNMENT THAT THERE WAS AN UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE GON AND GOF THAT FRENCH MILITARY SUPPORT WOULD BE AVAILABLE IN THE CASE OF ANY OVERT LIBYAN ACTION AGAINST NIGER. IN A SEPTEMBER MEETING WITH THE NEW FRENCH MILITARY ATTACHE (NIAEMEY 5042), KOUNTCHE FRANKLY STATED THAT HE LACKED

Niger
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Authority *DDG Walker*
BY *CH* NARA DATE *01/15/22*

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INCOMING
TELEGRAM

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ACTION AF-10

NIAMEY 06398 02 OF 03 021628Z

INFO OCT-00 ADS-00 AID-07 INR-10 EUR-12 SS-10 CIAE-00
EB-08 DODE-00 H-01 IO-15 NEA-06 NSC-05 NSAE-00
HA-06 L-03 DOE-10 TRSE-00 PM-09 GSA-02 INT-05
PA-01 FEMA-02 SAL-01 OES-09 ACDA-12 ICAE-00 SP-02
NRC-02 SPRS-02 /150 W

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R 021552Z DEC 81
FM AMEMBASSY NIAMEY
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3693
INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN
AMEMBASSY ALGIERS
AMEMBASSY BAMAKO
AMEMBASSY COTONOU
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
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CONFIDENCE IN THE SOCIALISTS' WILLINGNESS TO PROVIDE THE SAME SUPPORT. HE EXPRESSED SIMILAR MISGIVINGS DURING HIS EARLY OCTOBER VISIT TO WASHINGTON (STATE 285895) BUT CONCEDED THAT THE FRENCH WOULD LIKELY SUPPORT HIM IF THEIR INVESTMENTS IN NIGER'S URANIUM MINES WERE THREATENED.

5. THE SOCIALIST ATTITUDE TOWARDS NUCLEAR ENERGY ALSO CONTRIBUTED TO DECLINING CONFIDENCE IN THE FRENCH CONNECTION. GIVEN THE FRENCH ROLE AS THE GON'S MAJOR PARTNER IN THE EXPLOITATION OF NIGER'S ALL-IMPORTANT URANIUM RESOURCES AND AS THE LARGEST SINGLE BUYER, THE DECLINING PRICE OF URANIUM HAD ALREADY BECOME A SENSITIVE POINT IN GOF/GON RELATIONS PRIOR TO THE MAY ELECTIONS. WITH SPOT-MARKET PRICES CONTINUING TO EDGE DOWN, SOCIALIST PRO-NOUNCEMENTS ABOUT RE-EVALUATING THE FRENCH COMMITMENT TO NUCLEAR ENERGY AND ACTIONS TO DELAY SOME NUCLEAR FACILITIES GENERATED HEIGHTENED CONCERN ABOUT THE GON'S ABILITY TO FINANCE ITS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM. MUCH WAS MADE PUBLICLY OF JEAN-PIERRE COT'S PROMISE TO KOUNTCHE DURING THEIR JULY MEETING IN PARIS, THAT THE GOF WOULD RESPECT ALL FRENCH ENGAGEMENTS WITH NIGER. HOWEVER, AS SEVERAL GON OFFICIALS EMPHASIZED SARDONICALLY, THE PRICE FOR FRANCE'S PURCHASES OF NIGERIEN URANIUM IS RENEGOTIATED ANNUALLY. THE GON PROCEEDED TO PREPARE ITS FY 82 BUDGET ON THE ASSUMPTION THAT THE CONTRACT PRICE FOR FY 82 WOULD BE UNCHANGED AT 20,000 CFA/KILO U (AND HENCE WOULD DECLINE IN REAL TERMS) AND REDOUBLED ITS ONGOING EFFORTS TO OBTAIN SUBSTANTIAL ARAB SUPPORT FOR ITS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM IN FY 82. THERE WAS A PALPABLE GLOOM IN GON OFFICIALS' PRIVATE DISCUSSIONS OF THEIR RELATIONS WITH FRANCE FOLLOWING KOUNTCHE'S JULY VISIT, A GLOOM WHICH WAS REFLECTED BY FRENCH DIPLOMATS IN NIGER.

6. THE FIRST REAL BREAKS IN THE GLOOM CAME IN SEPTEMBER. GOF STATEMENTS AT THE UN CONFERENCE ON THE LEAST DEVELOPED NATIONS IN DEFENSE OF STABLE PRICES FOR EXPORTERS OF PRIMARY PRODUCTS WERE NOT LOST ON THE GON. IT IS NOW APPARENT THAT PRIOR TO THE MULTILATERAL DISCUSSIONS WHICH BEGAN IN EARLY NOVEMBER TO NEGOTIATE THE 1982 CONTRACT PRICE FOR NIGER'S URANIUM, BILATERAL DISCUSSIONS TOOK PLACE IN WHICH THE GOF INDICATED ITS DESIRE TO BE HELPFUL IN THE PRICE NEGOTIATIONS.

7. MEANWHILE, KOUNTCHE WAS IMPRESSED WITH WHAT HE SAW OF GOF AFRICAN POLICY IN PRACTICE. IN NOVEMBER, HE TOLD

CHARGE THAT THE SOCIALISTS HAD LEARNED QUICKLY FROM THE EXPERIENCE OF ACTUALLY EXERCISING POWER. A RAPPROCHEMENT APPEARS TO HAVE CULMINATED WITH THE FRANCO-AFRICAN SUMMIT IN EARLY NOVEMBER. KOUNTCHE RETURNED CLEARLY PLEASED WITH THE RESULTS. THE FIRST ROUND OF URANIUM NEGOTIATIONS SETTLED ON 23-24,000 CFA/KILO AS A RANGE FOR DISCUSSION. WITH THE FRENCH AND JAPANESE SUPPORTING THE HIGHER PRICE, IT IS LIKELY THAT IS WHERE AGREEMENT WILL BE FINALLY REACHED.

8. EVEN MORE IMPORTANT TO KOUNTCHE WAS THE WAY HE WAS RECEIVED BY THE GOF AND THE PERSONAL RAPPORT HE FEELS WITH MITTERRAND. FRENCH AMBASSADOR PIERRET (PROTECT), WHO WAS HIMSELF AN EARLY SKEPTIC RE SOCIALIST POLICY IN AFRICA, SAYS THAT MITTERRAND AND HIS ADVISORS ARE GENUINELY IMPRESSED WITH KOUNTCHE AND TOOK PAINS TO CONVEY TO HIM THE VIEW THAT HE IS AMONG A SMALLER CIRCLE OF FRANCOPHONE CHIEFS OF STATE FOR WHOM THE GOF HAS PARTICULAR RESPECT. PIERRET NOTES THAT THIS ATTITUDE STANDS IN MARKED CONTRAST TO THAT DISPLAYED BY THE FORMER FRENCH GOVERNMENT WHICH ALWAYS EVINCED A CERTAIN AMBIVALENCE TOWARDS KOUNTCHE. (IN SEVEN YEARS, GISCARD NEVER VISITED NIGER.)

9. EQUALLY IMPORTANT WAS KOUNTCHE'S RENEWED CONFIDENCE IN THE GOF COMMITMENT TO THE DEFENSE OF NIGER AND HIS GOVERNMENT IN CASE OF OVERT LIBYAN ACTION. KOUNTCHE'S MEETINGS IN PARIS INCLUDED THE MINISTER OF DEFENSE AND SENIOR INTELLIGENCE OFFICIALS. TO AGAIN CITE AMBASSADOR PIERRET, KOUNTCHE EMERGED WITH THE CLEAR UNDERSTANDING THAT, IF NEEDED, "THERE WOULD BE ANOTHER KOLWEZI IN NIGER".

10. THE CHANGE IN GOVERNMENT IN FRANCE HAS NOT MEANT ANY SIGNIFICANT CHANGE IN THE FRENCH PRESENCE IN NIGER

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Department of State

INCOMING
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3245

ACTION AF-10

INFO	OCT-00	ADS-00	AID-07	INR-10	EUR-12	SS-10	CIAE-00
	EB-08	DODE-00	H-01	IO-15	NEA-06	<u>NSC-05</u>	NSAE-00
	HA-06	L-03	DOE-10	TRSE-00	PM-09	INT-05	PA-01
	FEMA-02	SAL-01	OES-09	ACDA-12	ICAE-00	SP-02	NRC-02
	SPRS-02	/148 W					

-----312450 022004Z /53

R 021552Z DEC 81
 FM AMEMBASSY NIAMEY
 TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3694
 INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN
 AMEMBASSY ALGIERS
 AMEMBASSY BAMAKO
 AMEMBASSY COTONOU
 AMEMBASSY LAGOS
 AMEMBASSY LOME
 AMEMBASSY OUAGADOUGOU
 AMEMBASSY PARIS
 AMEMBASSY RABAT
 USCINCEUR VAHINGEN GE

~~C O N F I D E N T I A L~~ SECTION 03 OF 03 NIAMEY 06398

AS REPORTED REFTEL. THE PRIVATE SECTOR PRESENCE HAS DECLINED SLIGHTLY AS THE ECONOMY HAS DECLINED. THIS HAS BEEN PARTICULARLY NOTICEABLE IN CONSTRUCTION WITH THE END OF MAJOR PROJECTS, SUCH AS THE URANIUM ROAD AND THE LACK OF NEW STARTS OF COMPARABLE SCALE. THE FRENCH MILITARY PRESENCE NOW TOTALS ABOUT 65 INSTRUCTORS BUT THE MODEST INCREASE FROM 40-50 TOOK PLACE PRIOR TO THE ELECTIONS IN FRANCE. DESPITE REPEATED REPORTS IN THE EUROPEAN AND U. S. PRESS TO THE CONTRARY, THERE ARE NOT AND HAVE NOT BEEN ANY FRENCH COMBAT TROOPS IN NIGER.
 CHAVEAS

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[Handwritten scribble]

**WASHFAX RECEIPT
DEPARTMENT OF STATE**

B

S/S #

W 815 82

P3: 21

MESSAGE NO. 00176 CLASSIFICATION LIMITED OFFICIAL USE No. Pages 1

FROM: APAdams S/S 28448 7224
(Officer name) (Office symbol) (Extension) (Room number)

MESSAGE DESCRIPTION NATIONAL DAY MESSAGE -- NIGER

<u>TO: (Agency)</u>	<u>DELIVER TO:</u>	<u>Extension</u>	<u>Room No.</u>
<u>NSC</u>	<u>Adm. Nance</u>	<u>456-2255</u>	<u></u>
<u>NSC</u>	<u>Allen Lenz</u>	<u>395-3044</u>	<u></u>
<u></u>	<u></u>	<u></u>	<u></u>
<u></u>	<u></u>	<u></u>	<u></u>
<u></u>	<u></u>	<u></u>	<u></u>

FOR: CLEARANCE INFORMATION PER REQUEST COMMENT

REMARKS: Clearance please by COB Tuesday, December 15

*Cleared
12/14/81
Chris Mag - Niger*

S/S Officer: *[Signature]*

crosshatch

3
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AF/W:MTHUHTALA:IW
12/10/81 X-23066
AF/W:RLBRUCE

S/CPR:JGUILBAULT
S/S-S(C):MEDENHAM
S/S

AF:JKBISHOP
NSC

PA AF/PA VOA/PA

PRIORITY NIAMEY

E.O. 12065: N/A

TAGS: PPDC, PDEV, NG, US

SUBJECT: NATIONAL DAY MESSAGE

1. PLEASE DELIVER FOLLOWING TO PRESIDENT KOUNTCHE AT APPROPRIATE TIME PRIOR TO DECEMBER 18. QUOTE: DEAR MR. PRESIDENT: IT IS WITH GREAT PLEASURE THAT I EXTEND TO YOU, G&YOUR GOVERNMENT AND THE PEOPLE OF NIGER MY BEST WISHES AND THOSE OF THE AMERICAN PEOPLE ON THE TWENTY-THIRD ANNIVERSARY OF NIGER'S REPUBLIC DAY. RELATIONS BETWEEN OUR TWO NATIONS HAVE TRADITIONALLY BEEN FRIENDLY, ANIMATED ON OUR PART BY RESPECT FOR YOUR LEADERSHIP AND FOR THE INDUSTRY OF THE NIGERIEN PEOPLE. I AM CONFIDENT THAT WE WILL MAINTAIN OUR CLOSE COOPERATION IN THE FUTURE AND THAT OUR RELATIONS WILL CONTINUE TO FLOURISH. I WISH THE PEOPLE AND GOVERNMENT OF NIGER SUCCESS IN ALL THEIR ENDEAVORS DURING THE COMING YEAR. SINCERELY, RONALD REAGAN. UNQUOTE.

2. WHITE HOUSE DOES NOT PLAN RELEASE BUT HAS NO OBJECTION TO RELEASE BY CON.

YY

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<i>ID</i>	<i>Document Type</i> <i>Document Description</i>	<i>No of</i> <i>pages</i>	<i>Doc Date</i>	<i>Restric-</i> <i>tions</i>
247980	CABLE STATE 020654	2	1/26/1982	B1

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NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL
MESSAGE CENTER

PAGE 01 NIAEMEY 2555 DTG: 281714Z APR 82 PSN: 003203
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TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5681

INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN 4177
AMEMBASSY PARIS 4419

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ NIAEMEY 02555

ABIDJAN FOR RPO AND DATT
E.O. 12065: GDS 4/28/88 (CHAVEAS, PETER R.) OR-M
TAGS: PINS, PINT, NG
SUBJECT: STUDENT DEMONSTRATIONS IN NIAEMEY
REF: NIAEMEY 2099

1. ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ - ENTIRE TEXT).

2. APRIL 27 NIAEMEY EXPERIENCED ITS WORST STUDENT DEMONSTRATIONS SINCE THE ADVENT OF THE KOUNTCHE REGIME. AT MID-MORNING, A GROUP OF STUDENTS INCLUDING UNIVERSITY STUDENTS, BEGAN PARADING THROUGH THE CITY MOVING FROM ONE LYCEE AND CEG (MIDDLE SCHOOL) TO THE NEXT UNTIL THEIR NUMBERS EXCEEDED A THOUSAND. GON WAS OBVIOUSLY ANTICIPATING SOME STUDENT ACTION AS POLICE IN RIOT GEAR WERE ON THE STREETS EARLY. TROUBLE DEVELOPED AS STUDENTS MOVED THROUGH MAIN BUSINESS DISTRICT ON MOTORCYCLES AND ON FOOT. VEHICLES CAUGHT IN THE FLOW WERE SMASHED AND THEIR OCCUPANTS TERRORIZED. POLICE REPORTEDLY USED THEIR BILLY CLUBS BUT NO OTHER WEAPONS. OTHER THAN VEHICLES, THERE WAS NO NOTICEABLE DAMAGE IN THE DOWNTOWN AREA. UNCLEAR WHETHER THE STUDENTS SET A SMALL FIRE AT SOME POINT ON THEIR MARCH OR GON WAS SIMPLY MOVING FIRE ENGINES THROUGH THE CROWD IN AN EFFORT TO DISPERSE IT. BY 12:30 P.M. STUDENTS HAD DISPERSED AND CITY APPEARED COMPLETELY NORMAL.

3. PROBLEMS ERUPTED AGAIN THIS MORNING BUT GON WAS WELL PREPARED. IT WOULD APPEAR THAT STUDENTS WERE AGAIN ORGANIZING AT INDIVIDUAL SCHOOLS, PERHAPS WITH THE INTENT OF REPEATING YESTERDAY'S EXERCISE. TROOPS AND RIOT EQUIPPED POLICE WERE SENT TO EACH SCHOOL EARLY IN THE MORNING TO DISPERSE STUDENTS. STONE THROWING BROKE OUT AT ONE SCHOOL BUT DID NOT LAST LONG. BY MID-MORNING ALL SCHOOLS WERE QUIET WITH A SMALL NUMBER OF TROOPS POSTED AT EACH LOCATION. SOME STUDENTS WERE COMING AND GOING AT EACH SCHOOL BUT MOST APPEARED TO HAVE DEPARTED AND CLASSES WERE NOT IN NORMAL SESSION. LIFE ELSEWHERE IN THE CITY WAS QUITE NORMAL AND THERE WAS NO INDICATION OF EXTRA SECURITY AT ANY GOVERNMENT BUILDINGS, INCLUDING THE PRESIDENT'S OFFICE AND RESIDENCE.

4. PROBLEMS FIRST MANIFESTED THEMSELVES LAST WEEK WITH ANTI-GON MANIFESTOS POSTED AT THE UNIVERSITY CALLING FOR A STRIKE. STRIKE BEGAN QUIETLY BUT EFFECTIVELY ON MONDAY

ONLY AT THE UNIVERSITY. SUCH STRIKES HAVE BECOME COMMONPLACE IN RECENT YEARS. FULL RANGE OF STUDENT DEMANDS IS RATHER NEBULOUS. IT IS CLEAR THAT THE CENTRAL CONCERN IS DECISION TAKEN AT RECENT ZINDER DEBATE ON EDUCATIONAL REFORM (REFTEL) THAT NIGERIENS WHO CAN AFFORD TO DO SO, INCLUDING ALL CIVIL SERVANTS, WILL HAVE TO MAKE A LARGER FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTION TO THE EDUCATION OF THEIR CHILDREN.

*Ref
Niger
wf*

5. COMMENT: GON SEEMS TO HAVE IMMEDIATE SITUATION WELL IN HAND. INDEED, SENIOR GON OFFICIALS ARE POOH-POOHING THESE EVENTS, CHALKING STUDENT FEISTINESS OFF TO THE HOT WEATHER AND APPROACHING YEAR END EXAMS. THERE HAVE BEEN NO REPORTS OF DEATHS OR SERIOUS INJURIES WHICH MIGHT HAVE GENERATED BROADER PUBLIC SUPPORT. HOWEVER, THEY PORTEND MORE OMINOUS DEVELOPMENTS IN THE NOT VERY DISTANT FUTURE.

6. WHILE PROTESTS OF THE PAST TWO DAYS HAVE BEEN EXTREMELY MILD WHEN COMPARED TO THOSE IN MANY WEST AFRICAN COUNTRIES, THEY ARE A DEFINITE ESCALATION IN THE NIGERIEN CONTEXT. THE MAJOR QUESTION IS TO WHAT EXTENT ARE THE STUDENTS ACTING WITH THE TACIT SUPPORT OF THEIR PARENTS, MOST OF WHOM ARE CIVIL SERVANTS. ALTHOUGH CIVIL SERVANTS ARE RELATIVELY WELL OFF IN THIS EXTREMELY POOR COUNTRY, THEY HAVE WATCHED THEIR STANDARD OF LIVING DECLINE FOR TWO YEARS. NOW THEY ARE BEING CALLED UPON TO CONTRIBUTE MORE TO EDUCATE THEIR CHILDREN. THE GON'S CURRENT FINANCIAL SITUATION LEAVES IT WITH NO OPTIONS BUT TO PRESS FOR MORE AUSTERITY. THE EVENTS OF THE PAST TWO DAYS MAY BE AN OMEN AS TO HOW MUCH NIGER'S ELITE IS PREPARED TO BE SQUEEZED. CASEY
BT

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BY *CS* NARA DATE *8/5/22*

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247981	CABLE RE NIGER	2	4/28/1982	B1

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247982	CABLE NIAMEY 03085	2	5/20/1982	B1

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247983	CABLE NIAMEY 03218	2	5/27/1982	B1

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247984	CABLE NIAMEY 03350	3	6/3/1982	B1

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SPRS-02 /098 W

-----175577 101506Z /44

R 100850Z JUN 82
FM AMEMBASSY NIAHEY
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6283
INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN
AMEMBASSY BAMAKO
AMEMBASSY BUJUMBURA
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY OUAGADOUGOU
AMEMBASSY PARIS
USCINCEUR VAHINGEN GE

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ABIDJAN FOR DATT AND RPO

BUJUMBURA FOR SOUTHWICK

USCINCEUR FOR POLAD

E.O. 12065: GDS 06/09/88 (CHAVEAS, PETER R.) OR-M
TAGS: PINT, PDEV, SHUN, NG
SUBJECT: THE DEVELOPMENT SOCIETY: IMPLEMENTATION BEGINS

REF: 81 NIAHEY 0493 (NOTAL)

1. (C - ENTIRE TEXT.)

2. SUMMARY: THE FINAL REPORT OF THE COMMISSION MANDATED TO DESIGN NIGER'S "NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT SOCIETY" HAS COMPLETED ITS WORK AND ITS REPORT IS NOW A MATTER OF PUBLIC RECORD. PRESIDENT KOUNTCHE HAS ORDAINED 1982 AS A YEAR DEDICATED TO THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE SOCIETY'S INSTITUTIONS. PUBLIC AWARENESS OF THE SOCIETY HAS INCREASED AS KOUNTCHE, HIS MINISTERS AND PUBLIC OFFICIALS AT ALL LEVELS HAVE SPENT ENORMOUS TIME AND EFFORT TO GENERATE ENTHUSIASM FOR IT. HOWEVER, ITS OBJECTIVES ARE THE SUBJECT OF ONLY THE MOST SUPERFICIAL UNDERSTANDING EVEN BY MANY OF THE GON OFFICIALS WHO PREACH ITS GOSPEL. THE SOCIETY PLACES FAR MORE EMPHASIS ON CREATING AN INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK THAN ON ESPOUSING A PARTICULAR POLITICAL, ECONOMIC OR SOCIAL PHILOSOPHY.

3. THE SOCIETY IS FIRST AND FOREMOST AN EFFORT TO FORGE A SENSE OF NATIONAL UNITY WHERE VIRTUALLY NONE EXISTS TODAY. IT PROVIDES OFFICIALLY SANCTIONED CHANNELS FOR TWO WAY COMMUNICATIONS BETWEEN THE HIGHEST LEVELS OF THE GON AND THE GRASS ROOTS. THE CURRENT FLOW IS PRIMARILY DOWNWARDS AS KOUNTCHE SEEKS TO GENERATE A GREATER SENSE OF INDIVIDUAL AND COMMUNITY RESPONSIBILITY FOR ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT. AS INCREASINGLY DIFFICULT FINANCIAL PROSPECTS IMPOSE EVER GREATER AUSTERITY ON THE GON, THE WATCH WORDS ARE SELF-HELP. KOUNTCHE HAS ALREADY ANNOUNCED THAT ONCE THE NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL, THE HIGHEST BODY OF THE SOCIETY IS ESTABLISHED, IT WILL BECOME A CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY WITH A MANDATE TO PRESENT A DRAFT CONSTITUTION FOR NATIONAL CONSIDERATION.

4. THE SOCIETY REMAINS THE MOST CENTRAL ELEMENT OF KOUNTCHE'S DOMESTIC POLICY. IT IS HAMPERED MOST BY THE VERY THINGS IT SEEKS TO RESOLVE - NIGER'S GRINDING POVERTY AND LACK OF UNITY. IT CARRIES WITH IT KOUNTCHE'S ZEALOUS AND SOMETIMES PURITANICAL MESSAGE OF EQUALITY AND HARD WORK, A DEDICATION WHICH IS NOT NECESSARILY SHARED BY IM-

PORTANT SEGMENTS OF THE NIGERIAN POPULATION. END SUMMARY.

5. IN JUNE OF 1981, THE NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE DEVELOPMENT SOCIETY COMPLETED ITS BASIC TASK - A SET OF PROPOSALS FOR NIGER'S DEVELOPMENT SOCIETY. THE REPORT WAS REVIEWED BY THE SUPREME MILITARY COUNCIL AND RECEIVED ITS APPROVAL IN JULY. APPARENTLY BECAUSE OF PURELY TECHNICAL PROBLEMS AT THE PRINTERS, THE REPORT HAS ONLY RECENTLY BECOME AVAILABLE IN ANY QUANTITY. NONETHELESS, IT HAS BEEN THE SUBJECT OF INTENSE GON ACTIVITY AND MEDIA ATTENTION SINCE THE FIRST OF THE YEAR. THE EMBASSY OBTAINED A COPY LATE IN DECEMBER AND IN LATE APRIL A SEMINAR INVOLVING ALL USG AGENCIES IN NIGER WAS HELD ON THE SOCIETY. THIS REPORT REFLECTS MANY OF THE IDEAS DEVELOPED AT THAT SESSION.

6. THE COMMISSION'S REPORT IS HEAVY ON DESCRIPTION OF INSTITUTIONAL STRUCTURE THAT SHOULD BE CREATED AND RATHER VAGUE ON WHAT THAT STRUCTURE SHOULD DO ONCE ESTABLISHED. VERY CLOSE RESEMBLANCE TO THOSE ESTABLISHED OVER THE PAST TWO YEARS FOR THE PURPOSE OF DEFINING THE DEVELOPMENT SOCIETY. AS NOTED PARA 7 REFTEL, THE BASIC GRASS ROOTS "DEVELOPMENT CELL" WILL BE THE SAMARIAS (TRADITIONAL HAUSA YOUTH GROUPS) AND AGRICULTURAL AND HERDERS' COOPERATIVES. ABOVE THE DEVELOPMENT CELLS IN ASCENDING ORDER OF GEOGRAPHIC SPREAD WILL BE THE FOLLOWING INSTITUTIONS:

- VILLAGE LEVEL: VILLAGE OR TRIBAL DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL: VILLAGE OR TRIBAL CHIEF PLUS REPRESENTATIVES OF SOCIO-PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS AND ORGANIZATIONS.
- CANTON OR NOMAD GROUP LEVEL: LOCAL DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL - CANTON OR NOMAD GROUP CHIEF AND 20-30 REPRESENTATIVES OF EACH VILLAGE COUNCIL.
- ARRONDISSEMENT OR COMMUNE LEVEL: SUB-REGIONAL DEVELOP-

Niger
WPK

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Authority: *ADS waiver*
BY: *CN* NARA DATE: *8/5/72*

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Department of State

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SPRS-02 /098 W

-----176205 101513Z /44

R 100850Z JUN 82
FM AMEMBASSY NIAMEY
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6284
INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN
AMEMBASSY BAMAKO
AMEMBASSY BUJUMBURA
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY OUAGADOUGOU
AMEMBASSY PARIS
USCINCEUR VAIRINGEN GE

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ SECTION 02 OF 04 NIAMEY 03496

MENT COUNCIL - PREFET OR MAYOR AND 12-30 REPRESENTATIVES
OF EACH LOCAL DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL.

- DEPARTMENT LEVEL - REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL - PREFET
AND 15-30 REPRESENTATIVES OF EACH SUB-REGIONAL COUNCIL.

- NATIONAL LEVEL - NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR THE DEVELOPMENT
SOCIETY - 5 REPRESENTATIVES OF EACH REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT
COUNCIL, 1 REPRESENTATIVE OF THE NATIONAL BUREAU OF EACH
SOCIO-PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATION OR ORGANIZATION AND
DESIGNATED OFFICIALS OF THE GON.

7. THE SOCIO-PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS TO BE REPRESENTED
AT THE VILLAGE AND NATIONAL LEVELS, IN ADDITION TO THE
SAMARIA AND COOPS ARE:

- ISLAMIC ASSOCIATION
- WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION (AFN)
- UNION OF NIGERIEAN WORKER'S UNIONS (USTN)
- TRADITIONAL CHIEFS
- SCHOLARS AND STUDENTS
- ASSOCIATION OF PARENTS OF STUDENTS
- VETERANS
- CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
- TRANSPORTERS
- MERCHANTS

8. HAVING LAID OUT THIS DETAILED INSTITUTIONAL HIERARCHY,
THE REPORT, AND FOR THAT MATTER THE PUBLIC DISCUSSION
WHICH HAS ACCOMPANIED IT, IS DECIDELY VAGUE ON WHAT THE
INSTITUTIONS ARE TO DO. IT APPEARS THAT THE DEVELOPMENT
SOCIETY CONCEPT, WHICH IS LARGELY KOUNTCHE'S LOOKS UPON
ORGANIZATION TO A VERY SIGNIFICANT DEGREE AS AN END IN IT-
SELF, AN APPROACH PROBABLY REFLECTIVE OF KOUNTCHE'S MILI-
TARY BACKGROUND. ONE OF THE MOST IMPORTANT OBJECTIVES OF
THE SOCIETY IS TO GENERATE A SENSE OF NATIONAL UNITY IN A
COUNTRY WHICH, EVEN BY AFRICAN STANDARDS, IS EXCEEDINGLY
ARTIFICIAL. VERY FEW OF THIS COUNTRY'S CITIZENS THINK OF
THEMSELVES AS NEGERIENS AND MANY IF NOT MOST LOOK UPON
NIAMEY ALMOST AS A FOREIGN ENTITY. BY ESTABLISHING ITS
ELABORATE HIERARCHY, THE SOCIETY DOES HAVE SOME POTENTIAL

TO DRAW AN IMPORTANT CROSS SECTION OF THE COUNTRY'S LEADER
SHIP INTO PARTICIPATION IN INSTITUTIONS WHICH ARE DIS-
TINCTLY "NIGERIEAN" IN NATURE AND THUS GENERATE VESTED IN-
TEREST IN THEIR AND NIGER'S EXISTENCE.

9. THE DEARTH OF CLEAR OBJECTIVES FOR THESE INSTITUTIONS
IS NOT NECESSARILY A SERIOUS IMPEDIMENT TO KEEPING THEM
CONSTRUCTIVELY EMPLOYED IN THE MEDIUM TERM. ALTHOUGH THE
RHETORIC OF THE SOCIETY ENVISIONS THE IMMINENT CREATION OF
THE COMPLETE ARRAY OF INSTITUTIONS (KOUNTCHE HAS SPOKEN IN
TERMS OF COMPLETING THIS WORK DURING 1982), THE REALIZATION
IS WELL IN THE FUTURE. ON PAPER, 900 SAMARIA EXIST THROUGH-
OUT THE COUNTRY. IN FACT, FUNCTIONING SAMARIA ARE LARGELY
LIMITED TO THE LARGER URBAN AREAS. SAMARIA ARE TRADITION-
ALLY HAUSA YOUTH GROUPS WHICH PLAYED AN IMPORTANT ROLE IN
SOCIALIZATION. WHILE SAMARIA PER SE DID NOT EXIST IN DJERMA-
SONGHAÏ TRADITION, THERE ARE SIMILAR AGE GROUP ORGANIZA-
TIONS. HOWEVER, THERE ARE NO SIMILAR TRADITIONS AMONG
NIGER'S NOMADIC POPULATIONS AND GON OFFICIALS ADMIT OR
IMPLY PRIVATELY THAT THEY HAVE EXPERIENCED CONSIDERABLE
DIFFICULTY IN GENERATING ANY ENTHUSIASM AMONG THESE GROUPS
FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF SAMARIA. THE MEDIA HAVE LAVISHED
A GREAT DEAL OF ATTENTION ON THE SELF-HELP ACTIVITIES OF
INDIVIDUAL SAMARIA (E.G. PREPARING FIELDS FOR CULTIVATION,
PLANTING TREES, CLEANING UP NEIGHBORHOODS) BUT SUCH
ACTIVITIES ARE FOR THE MOMENT THE EXCEPTION RATHER THAN THE
RULE. TO THE EXTENT THE SAMARIA FUNCTION AT ALL, IT IS
PRIMARILY FOR THEIR OWN SOCIAL ACTIVITIES. THE GON'S
EFFORT TO TURN THEM INTO UBIQUITOUS SELF-HELP AND LARGELY
SELF-FINANCED ORGANIZATIONS HAS A LONG ROW TO HOE.

10. THE COOPERATIVES ALSO ARE FAR REMOVED FROM BEING ES-
TABLISHED THROUGHOUT NIGER EVEN THOUGH THE COMMISSION'S
IMPLEMENTATION PLAN CALLS FOR THIS TASK TO BE COMPLETED BY
MID-1982. EVEN WHERE THEY EXIST, THEY RARELY PLAY THE FULL
ORGANIZATIONAL ROLE THE GON FORESEES FOR THEM, BEING
LARGELY A MECHANISM FOR PROVIDING AGRICULTURAL INPUTS AND
SOME BASIC CONSUMER GOODS AND FOR GOVERNMENT PURCHASES OF
CROPS. HERDERS' ASSOCIATIONS ARE NOW BEING LOOKED TO AS
AN ALTERNATIVE FOCUS FOR ORGANIZATION AMONG THE NOMADS BUT
IMPLEMENTATION IS ALMOST ENTIRELY IN THE FUTURE.

11. WITH THE ESTABLISHMENT OF INSTITUTIONS AS THE FIRST
PRIORITY, KOUNTCHE HAS RECENTLY ADDED A CARROT TO INDUCE
GREATER ENTHUSIASM FOR THIS WORK. IN HIS SPEECH TO THE
NATION ON THE EVE OF THE EIGHTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE COUP
WHICH BROUGHT HIS GOVERNMENT TO POWER (APRIL 15), HE
ANNOUNCED THAT ONCE THE NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR THE DEVELOPMENT

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R 100850Z JUN 82
FM AMEMBASSY NIAMEY
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6285
INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN
AMEMBASSY BAKAKO
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AMEMBASSY LAGOS
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SOCIETY IS ESTABLISHED (IT IS LOGICALLY THE LAST TO BE ESTABLISHED) IT WILL BECOME A CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY WITH A MANDATE TO PRESENT A DRAFT CONSTITUTION TO THE NIGERIAN PEOPLE FOR THEIR CONSIDERATION. IN AN EDITORIAL IN THE GON DAILY, LE SAHEL, A FEW DAYS LATER IT WAS MADE CLEAR THAT A CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY HAD NOTHING TO DO WITH POLITICAL PARTIES OR POLITICIANS AND THAT ITS PURVIEW WOULD BE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT. WHATEVER GON IMPOSED LIMITATIONS THIS CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY OPERATES UNDER, A NEW CONSTITUTION IS BOUND TO HAVE AN APPEAL FOR A GROUP FOR WHOM THE SOCIETY OTHERWISE HAS LIMITED APPEAL. GOVERNMENT FUNCTIONARIES INCLUDE THE LARGEST SEGMENT OF THIS COUNTRY'S VERY SMALL EDUCATED ELITE. AS SUCH, THEY ARE THE MOST POLITICALLY AWARE PORTION OF THE POPULATION AND THE MOST LIKELY TO BE ATTRACTED BY PARTICIPATION IN A CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY OR ANY POLITICAL PROCESS THAT MIGHT EMERGE UNDER A CONSTITUTION. ON THE OTHER HAND, DESPITE THE MILITARY'S ULTIMATE CONTROL, THE CIVIL SERVICE ENJOYS CONSIDERABLE AUTHORITY UNDER THE CURRENT GOVERNMENT. THE ORGANIZATIONS OF THE SOCIETY OFFER A STRICTLY LIMITED ROLE TO CIVIL SERVANTS EXCEPT TO THE EXTENT THAT THEY ALSO IDENTIFY WITH ONE OR MORE OF THE DESIGNATED SOCIO-PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS AND PRESENT THE POSSIBILITY OF BECOMING CENTERS OF INFLUENCE WHICH COULD CONSTRAIN THE CURRENT AUTHORITY OF THE AVERAGE CIVIL SERVANT.

12. GON EFFORTS OVER THE PAST YEAR HAVE CLEARLY INCREASED AWARENESS OF THE SOCIETY. T-SHIRTS EMBLEMED WITH THE SOCIETY'S SYMBOL HAVE BECOME POPULAR. WHEREAS A YEAR AGO QUESTIONS POSED TO GON OFFICIALS AT THE SOUC-PREFET LEVEL ELICITED SHRUGS, THESE OFFICIALS CAN NOW DISCUSS PROBLEMS AND PROSPECTS FOR THE SOCIETY'S LOCAL LEVEL ORGANIZATIONS AND THEY ARE ACTIVELY INVOLVED IN THE CAMPAIGN TO SPREAD THE SOCIETY GOSPEL. BUT AWARENESS IS NOT NECESSARILY UNDERSTANDING. IN A RECENT UNGUARDED MOMENT WITH AN EXPATRIATE, MOUMOUNI DJERMAKUYE ADAMOU, HEALTH MINISTER AND PRESIDENT OF THE NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE SOCIETY, SAID, "I JUST DON'T KNOW WHAT THE PRESIDENT WANTS WITH THIS DEVELOPMENT SOCIETY."

13. IT APPEARS CLEAR THAT THERE ARE TWO THINGS THAT KOUNTCHE WANTS WHICH CAN GENERATE INDIFFERENCE OR RESISTANCE TO THE SOCIETY. EXPRESSED POSITIVELY HE SEEKS NATIONAL UNITY BUT FROM THE PERSPECTIVE OF SOME NIGERIENS THAT TRANSLATES INTO CONTROL. HE IS SEEKING TO ORGANIZE THE ENTIRE COUNTRY TO MAKE IT MORE AMENABLE TO THE PROGRAMS FOR NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT AS ARTICULATED IN NIAMEY. WHILE THE SOCIETY HOLDS PROMISE FOR BROADER POPULAR PARTICIPATION IN ARTICULATING THOSE PROGRAMS, IT ALSO SEEKS TO EXPAND THE GOVERNMENT'S ROLE IN THE DIRECTION OF THE DAILY EXISTENCE

OF THE AVERAGE NIGERIAN, MANY IF NOT MOST OF WHOM ARE CURRENTLY SUBJECT TO MINIMAL INFLUENCE OR CONTROL FROM NIAMEY. THIS IS PARTICULARLY TRUE IN THE CASE OF NIGER'S NORTHERN NOMADIC PEOPLES, THOSE KOUNTCHE IS MOST CONCERNED ABOUT INTEGRATING INTO THE NATIONAL FOLD/CONTROLLING AND ALSO THOSE MOST LIKELY TO RESIST.

14. KOUNTCHE ALSO SEEKS GREATER INDIVIDUAL AND COMMUNITY HELP. THIS MESSAGE HAS ALWAYS BEEN IMPLICIT IN THE SOCIETY BUT IT HAS TAKEN ON INCREASED URGENCY AS THE GON FINANCIAL PROBLEMS HAVE MOUNTED IN THE FACE OF A DECLINING WORLD URANIUM MARKET. IT IS A MESSAGE THAT THE GON HAS NO RESPONSIBLE CHOICE BUT TO FORCEFULLY CONVEY. HOWEVER, IT CANNOT POSSIBLY BE A POPULAR ONE GIVEN THE RISING EXPECTATIONS GENERATED BY THE GON'S GROWING ROLE IN CONTRIBUTING DIRECTLY TO DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY IN RECENT YEARS. UNHAPPINESS WITH THIS MESSAGE CANNOT HELP BUT RUB OFF ON THE SOCIETY WHICH IS USED TO CONVEY IT.

15. FURTHER COMPLICATING THE SELF-HELP MESSAGE IS THE ZEALOUS, SOMETIMES PURITANICAL MANNER IN WHICH KOUNTCHE DEMANDS GREATER EFFORT FROM THOSE AROUND HIM IN THE GON AND IN TURN FROM THE NIGERIAN PEOPLE. ON THE ONE HAND, IT IS KOUNTCHE'S VISION FOR HIS COUNTRY AND HIS COMMITMENT TO HARD WORK AND PRAGMATIC DEVELOPMENT POLICIES WHICH MAKES NIGER STAND OUT IN COMPARISON TO MANY OTHER WEST AFRICAN COUNTRIES DESPITE ITS BEING AMONG THE POOREST. ON THE OTHER, KOUNTCHE'S ZEAL IS NOT SHARED BY ALL OF HIS COUNTRYMEN. SOME OF HIS CLOSEST LIEUTENANTS HAVE BROKEN UNDER THE STRAIN OF THE PAST EIGHT YEARS. THERE ARE VARIOUS SEGMENTS OF NIGER'S LEADERSHIP, E.G. LARGE PRIVATE HAUSA MERCHANTS MORE ORIENTED TOWARDS NIGERIA AND TRADITIONAL LEADERS, WHO SEE LITTLE LONG TERM ADVANTAGE IN LABORING TO CREATE INSTITUTIONS AND ACTIVITIES WHICH MIGHT DILUTE THE ADVANTAGES THEY CURRENTLY ENJOY IN NIGERIAN SOCIETY. KOUNTCHE HAS SOUGHT TO CO-OPT THESE GROUPS INTO THE PROCESS BUT THEIR COMMITMENT IS LIKELY TO BE BASED PRIMARILY ON SHORT TERM EXPEDIENT RECOGNITION OF WHO WIELDS POWER AT THE MOMENT.

16. OTHER GROUPS ARE LIKELY TO DEVELOP GREATER COMMITMENT TO THE SOCIETY. ORGANIZATIONS SUCH AS THE WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION AND THE LABOR UNIONS HAVE BEEN GIVEN ENHANCED

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R 100850Z JUN 82
FM AMEMBASSY NIAMEY
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AMEMBASSY LAGOS
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STATURE BECAUSE OF THEIR INCLUSION IN THE SOCIETY'S INSTITUTIONS. REPRESENTING INDIVIDUALS WHO ARE OTHERWISE QUITE POWERLESS IN NIGERIAN SOCIETY, THESE ORGANIZATIONS WILL HAVE A STRONG VESTED INTEREST IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE SOCIETY'S INSTITUTIONS.

17. THE SOCIETY HAS FOR SOME TIME BEEN AND INCREASINGLY WILL BE THE RHETORICAL FRAMEWORK FOR ALL NIGERIAN DOMESTIC POLICY. NOW LAUNCHED ON THE BUSINESS OF CREATING CONCRETE INSTITUTIONS, IT WILL PROGRESS MUCH MORE SLOWLY THAN THE PUBLIC STATEMENTS OF KOUNTCHE AND OTHERS INDICATE. WE DOUBT THAT KOUNTCHE HARBORS ANY ILLUSIONS IN THIS REGARD. ALTHOUGH IT WILL ENHANCE THE ABILITY OF NIGERIENS TO ARTICULATE THEIR OWN WILL REGARDING THEIR COUNTRY'S DEVELOPMENT, THE WILL OF SEYNI KOUNTCHE WILL DOMINATE AND DOWNWARD COMMUNICATIONS WILL BE THE RULE FOR THE FORESEEABLE FUTURE. THERE IS, HOWEVER, ADEQUATE RESISTANCE TO INSURE FRUSTRATION OF KOUNTCHE'S TIMETABLE AND IN SOME CASES IMPORTANT COMPROMISE ON SUBSTANCE. CASEY

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PASS AID

BUJUMBURA FOR SOUTHWICK

E.O. 12065: GDS 06/30/88 (HAVEAS, PETER R.) OR-M
TAGS: PINT, FDEV, ECON, ECIN, EIND, NG, NI
SUBJECT: HAUSA MERCHANTS IN NIGER

1. ~~(C - ENTIRE TEXT.)~~

2. SUMMARY: (THE FOLLOWING IS SUBMITTED WITH SOME TREPIDATION BECAUSE WE BELIEVE WE HAVE ONLY SCRATCHED THE SURFACE OF AN EXTREMELY COMPLEX AND SENSITIVE SUBJECT, ONE WHICH NIGERIENS ARE LOATHE TO DISCUSS IN ANY DETAIL WITH FOREIGNERS. NONETHELESS, WE DO BELIEVE WE CAN OFFER SOME VALID INSIGHTS INTO A SUBJECT OF GREAT SIGNIFICANCE TO THE FUTURE OF EFFORTS BY THE CURRENT OR ANY FUTURE GON TO CREATE A UNITED AND ECONOMICALLY VIABLE NIGER.) COMMERCE IN NIGER, ASIDE FROM THE MODERN SECTOR DOMINATED BY THE FRENCH, IS LARGELY CONTROLLED BY HAUSAS. THIS MAJOR HAUSA ROLE TRACES ITS ORIGIN PRIMARILY TO THE RELATIONSHIP OF NIGER'S HAUSAS TO THE COMMERCIALLY PROMINENT HAUSAS OF NORTHERN NIGERIA, PARTICULARLY THOSE OF KANO. IT IS FOSTERED BY THE SIZE OF NIGERIA'S DOMESTIC MARKET, THE FGN'S RESTRICTIVE IMPORT POLICIES AND OVER-VALUED NIGERIAN NAIRA. THE BULK OF THIS COMMERCE IS TRANSIT TRADE BY THE PORTS OF LOME AND COTOHOU OR AIR TO NIAHEY FOR EVENTUAL RE-SALE ON THE NIGERIAN MARKET AND TRADITIONAL TRADE IN CATTLE AND GRAIN.

2. DESPITE ITS FINANCIAL AND EMPLOYMENT IMPORTANCE, THIS COMMERCE MAY BE MOST SIGNIFICANT FOR ITS ROLE IN MAINTAINING ETHNIC PEACE IN NIGER. IT APPEARS THAT UNDER THE CURRENT GON, AN UNWRITTEN GENTLEMEN'S AGREEMENT OPERATES UNDER WHICH THE NUMERICALLY DOMINANT HAUSA (ABOUT 50 PERCENT OF NIGER'S POPULATION) GRUDGINGLY ACCEPT DIERMA (LESS THAN 25 PERCENT) DOMINANCE OF THE SUPREME MILITARY COUNCIL (CMS) AND THE MILITARY, WHILE THE GON LEAVES THE COMMERCIAL SECTOR TO THE HAUSA. HOWEVER, THIS DIVISION IS NEITHER WITHOUT EXCEPTION NOR IMMUTABLE AND CHANGES IN IT WILL BE SIGNIFICANT TO THE FUTURE OF RELATIONS BETWEEN NIGER'S TWO LARGEST ETHNIC GROUPS. END SUMMARY.

3. THE MOST MODERN PORTION OF NIGER'S COMMERCE REMAINS LARGELY IN THE HANDS OF A RELATIVELY SMALL NUMBER OF FRENCH FIRMS AND AN EVEN SMALLER NUMBER OF OTHER EXPATRIATE FIRMS. HOWEVER, IN TERMS OF TOTAL TURNOVER, BIG BUSINESS IS MOSTLY IN THE HANDS OF HAUSA MERCHANTS OR COMMERCANTS.

SIGNIFICANT AND LUCRATIVE PORTION OF THE TRADE WITH WHICH THESE HAUSAS DEAL IS DESTINED NOT FOR THE DOMESTIC NIGERIAN MARKET BUT FOR NORTHERN NIGERIA.

*Niger
Wf*

4. MOST NIGERIAN HAUSAS ARE THE DESCENDANTS OF HAUSAS WHO EITHER FLED OR SUCCESSFULLY RESISTED THE 19TH CENTURY JIHAD OF UTHMAN DAN FODIO, BUT THEY RETAIN CLOSE TIES TO THEIR KINSMEN IN NIGERIA. BECAUSE OF THE COMMON LINGUISTIC AND ETHNIC BACKGROUND, THE SOUTHERN TIER OF NIGER IN THE AREA OF ZINDER AND MARADI IS TO A VERY SUBSTANTIAL DEGREE ECONOMICALLY, SOCIALLY AND CULTURALLY ORIENTED TOWARDS NORTHERN NIGERIA. WHILE MARADI IS BY FAR THE MOST IMPORTANT COMMERCIAL CENTER IN THAT AREA OF NIGER, AND INDEED IN ALL OF NIGER, KANO IS THE FOCAL POINT OF COMMERCE FOR THE REGION.

5. PROMINENT NIGERIAN HAUSA MERCHANTS ARE SOMEWHAT DISDAINFUL OF THEIR "LITTLE BROTHERS" IN NIGER. THEY VIEW THEM AS UNSOPHISTICATED AND THEIR COMMITMENT TO ISLAM IS REGARDED AS SOMEWHAT DUBIOUS. NIGERIENS, FOR THEIR PART, SEE MANY OF THEIR NIGERIAN COLLEAGUES AS LESS THAN REPUTABLE AND THEY PROFESS TO ABHOR DEALING WITH CORRUPT NIGERIAN OFFICIALS.

6. THERE IS SOME VALIDITY TO THESE STEREOTYPES. BY NIGERIAN STANDARDS, NIGERIAN HAUSAS, WITH SOME SIGNIFICANT EXCEPTIONS, OPERATE SMALL BUSINESSES, HAVE LIMITED CONTACTS WITH FOREIGN SUPPLIERS, DEAL IN LIMITED PRODUCT LINES, AND HAVE MINIMAL UNDERSTANDING OF MODERN BUSINESS PRACTICES. NIGERIAN MERCHANTS ARE SEASONED BY THE NEED TO DEAL IN A SOCIETY WHERE CORRUPTION IS UBIQUITOUS, WHILE AT LEAST UNDER THE KOUNTCHE GOVERNMENT, CORRUPTION IN NIGER HAS BEEN A VERY MODEST PROBLEM. ALBEIT, THE GON PERMITS A RELATIVELY OPEN ECONOMY, PRESENTING MERCHANTS WITH FAR LESS REGULATION TO WORK AROUND BY IRREGULAR MEANS. NIGERIENS IN MANY

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Authority: *MS Walker*
BY: *CR* DATE: *01/22*

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