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**Collection:** African Affairs Directorate, NSC: Records  
**Folder Title:** Niger - Working File:  
12/07/1984-12/31/1984  
**Box Number:** RACBox 8

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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 12/07/1984-12/31/1984

**FOIA**

S9803

**Box Number** 8

CASEY

5

ID	Doc Type	Document Description	No of Pages	Doc Date	Restrictions
248017	MEMO	PHILLIP RINGDAHL TO MCFARLANE RE NIGER: BRIEFING PAPERS FOR THE PRESIDENT'S 12/11 MEETING WITH PRESIDENT KOUNTCHE	2	12/7/1984	B1
248018	MEMO	ROBERT MCFARLANE TO THE PRESIDENT RE MEETING WITH NIGER PRESIDENT	4	12/11/1984	B1
248019	TALKING POINTS	FOR MEETING WITH PRESIDENT OF NIGER	2	ND	B1
248020	REPORT		2	11/30/1984	B1 B3
248021	MAP	RE NIGER <b>PAR 8/10/2022 CREST NLR-8-8-6-5-3</b>	1	MD	B1 B3
248022	MEMO	SAME AS 248017	2	12/7/1984	B1
248023	MEMO	SAME AS 248018	4	12/11/1984	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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ID	Doc Type	Document Description	No of Pages	Doc Date	Restrictions
248024	TALKING POINTS	SAME AS 248019	2	ND	B1
248026	REPORT	SAME AS 248020	2	11/30/1984	B1 B3
248027	MAP	SAME AS 248021 <b>PAR 8/10/2022 CREST NLR-8-8-6-5-3</b>	1	ND	B1 B3
248025	TALKING POINTS		1	ND	B1
248028	MEMO	SAME TEXT AS 248018 (ANNOTATED)	4	12/11/1984	B1
248029	TALKING POINTS	SAME AS 248019	2	ND	B1
248030	TALKING POINTS	SAME AS 248025	1	ND	B1

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ID	Doc Type	Document Description	No of Pages	Doc Date	Restrictions
248031	REPORT	SAME AS 248020 (P.1 ONLY)	1	ND	B1 B3
248032	MAP	SAME AS 248021 <b>PAR 8/10/2022 CREST NLR-8-8-6-5-3</b>	1	ND	B1 B3
248033	MEMO	SAME AS 248017	2	12/7/1984	B1

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248017 MEMO

2 12/7/1984 B1

PHILLIP RINGDAHL TO MCFARLANE RE NIGER:  
BRIEFING PAPERS FOR THE PRESIDENT'S 12/11  
MEETING WITH PRESIDENT KOUNTCHE

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248018	MEMO  ROBERT MCFARLANE TO THE PRESIDENT RE MEETING WITH NIGER PRESIDENT	4	12/11/1984	B1

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248019	TALKING POINTS FOR MEETING WITH PRESIDENT OF NIGER	2	ND	B1

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## THE SECRETARY OF STATE

WASHINGTON

December 1, 1984

DECLASSIFIED

Authority DosWallerBY CH NARA DATE 8/2/22

MEMORANDUM FOR: 11:17

THE PRESIDENT

FROM:

George P. Shultz *GPS*

SUBJECT:

Your Meeting with President Seyni Kountche  
of Niger, December 11, 1984I. THE SETTING

This is the first time that President Kountche has met with the President of the United States. In 1981, President Kountche met with Vice President Bush in Washington, and in May, he met briefly with the Vice President again during the funeral in Conakry of Guinea's President Sekou Toure. President Kountche recognizes that the real importance of the visit to him is the prestige which accrues from the visit itself. This will enhance his status and influence in West Africa, the OAU, the Islamic Conference, and the Non-Aligned Movement. It will also put Colonel Qadhafi, his aggressive neighbor to the north, on notice that we support President Kountche and his efforts to maintain Niger's territorial integrity and independent foreign policy.

Kountche is an experienced statesman and will want to keep the discussion on a level appropriate to two heads of state. We expect President Kountche to inform you that Niger, a major uranium producer, has decided to sign the Non-Proliferation Treaty in response to your August letter and a decade of U.S. demarches. You should warmly welcome Niger's decision to join the NPT as a major contribution to international efforts to prevent the spread of nuclear weapons.

President Kountche's credentials as an influential Islamic African leader who wishes us well make him an ideal interlocutor for a discussion of African leaders' perceptions of their economic and security concerns, and how these leaders view U.S. policies in Africa. President Kountche is widely regarded as a pragmatist more interested in economic development than in empty rhetoric. Niger was severely affected by the great Sahelian drought of 1969-74. Over the past ten years, Niger, under Kountche's no-nonsense approach to development, was able to avoid a recurrence of the widespread starvation and suffering that its people endured a decade ago. Unfortunately, Niger has not been spared from this year's drought and will require significant amounts of donor assistance to prevent widespread famine. Kountche is the head of an organization of West African states that seek to fight the effects of drought, and he will want to present his views on donor drought relief efforts and the prospects for long-term economic development in Africa.

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## II. THE ISSUES

U.S.-Niger relations are excellent. You should use the occasion of your meeting with President Kountche to reaffirm our support for his pro-West foreign policy, his efforts to develop Niger's economy, and the way he has dealt with threats from Libya. As one of Libya's southern neighbors, Niger is directly in the path of Qadhafi's expansion into sub-Saharan Africa. In addition, Kountche is much concerned with Nigeria's political fragility and the presence of a radical Libyan-influenced regime in neighboring Burkina Faso. Kountche has proven to be a wily and effective opponent of Qadhafi. You will want to exchange views on the Libyan threat to sub-Saharan Africa and measures to contain Qadhafi's influence in neighboring states.

Historically, Niger has looked to France for protection from Libyan aggression. However, France's slow reaction to Libyan aggression in Chad and its disregard for President Habre in negotiating the French-Libyan withdrawal have shaken Niger's confidence in the French. This coupled with the growth of our assistance programs and the convergence of Niger and USG views, have tempted President Kountche to look to the U.S. as an alternative to his great dependence on France. Our interests justify only a limited role in Niger. Hence, we must make certain that President Kountche understands fully that Niger must look primarily to France for protection.

President Kountche's pragmatic approach to development has nearly enabled Niger to feed itself in recent years. This year, however, Niger has been hit by a devastating drought which threatens widespread famine. Providing adequate food aid to Niger's population until the next harvest will present the greatest challenge to President Kountche's leadership since he assumed power a decade ago. Having come to power partially because the previous government proved incapable of dealing with the consequences of drought, Kountche is acutely aware that the survival of his regime may be at stake. We should demonstrate our understanding of the effects of the drought on Niger, in both humanitarian and political terms, and reaffirm our resolve to assist Niger in its time of need. You will be able to cite impressive food aid totals.

Other objectives we have for the visit include: 1) facilitating African understanding and appreciation of our Southern African policies through an exchange of views with a moderate and influential African leader and 2) demonstrating appreciation for Niger's support of US positions in international fora and encouraging President Kountche to continue these efforts. Detailed talking points have been prepared for your use on each of these topics.

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248020	REPORT	2	11/30/1984	B1 B3

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(State/Elliott)  
December 6, 1984  
4:00 p.m.

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: DEPARTURE OF PRESIDENT SEYNI KOUNTCHE  
OF NIGER  
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 11, 1984

It has been an honor and a pleasure to welcome President Seyni Kountche [SEN-ee KOON-chay] to Washington. Our meeting takes place at a time when the world's attention is focused on the serious food crisis in Africa. Niger has not been spared the ravages of the drought; however, through the constructive efforts of President Kountche's government, and the help of the international community, including the United States, the effects of the drought in Niger will be reduced.

Those who know President Kountche know that food self-sufficiency and the well-being of his people are his primary goals. He has gone about these objectives with pragmatic policies. President Kountche represents an impressive example of the kind of serious, concerned leadership that Africa will need to overcome its economic problems. His reputation as a dedicated and capable leader has been confirmed by his visit to Washington today.

In our conversations this morning and at lunch, we covered many of the important international problems of the day, particularly those concerning Africa. We have benefited from President Kountche's views on the problems of drought and economic development in the Sahel [suh-HELL], as well as the political problems of that region. We support Niger's efforts to maintain its independence and territorial integrity. In many areas our views converge. On a few others, in a spirit of mutual

respect, we have agreed to differ. We have an excellent bilateral relationship to which we both attach considerable importance.

Niger and the United States together are committed to the resolution of international problems through the pursuit of realistic dialogue in international organizations, and through the exercise of rational economic policies at home. I have assured President Kountche of our support for him and his country, and I have expressed our admiration for his accomplishments at home and abroad.



REQUEST FOR APPOINTMENTS

To: Officer-in-charge  
Appointments Center  
Room 060, OEOB

Please admit the following appointments on Tuesday, December 11, 19 84

for The President of \_\_\_\_\_:  
(NAME OF PERSON TO BE VISITED) (AGENCY)

The Vice President  
Secretary of Defense Caspar Weinberger  
Deputy Secretary of State Kenneth Dam  
Robert C. McFarlane, WH  
Assistant Secretary of State Chester Crocker  
Ambassador William Casey  
AID Administrator Peter McPherson  
Peace Corps Director Loret Ruppe  
Phillip Ringdahl, NSC

From Niger

President Seyni Kountche  
Mr. Ide Oumarou  
Lt Colonel Moumouni Djermakoye Adamou  
Ambassador Joseph Diatta  
Mr. Daouda Diallo  
Mr. Ari Toubo Ibrahim  
Mr. Sani Bako  
Mr. Abdou Hamani

MEETING LOCATION

Building White House Requested by Phillip Ringdahl  
Room No. Oval Office/Roosevelt Room/Cabinet Room Room No. 3393 Telephone Rm 373  
Time of Meeting 11:30 AM Date of request Dec 7, 1984

Additions and/or changes made by telephone should be limited to three (3) names or less.

APPOINTMENTS CENTER: SIG/OEOB - 395-6000 or WHITE HOUSE - 456-6742

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248022	MEMO  SAME AS 248017	2	12/7/1984	B1

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248023	MEMO  SAME AS 248018	4	12/11/1984	B1

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248024 TALKING POINTS  
SAME AS 248019

2 ND B1

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Authority *DSW*  
 BY CN NARA DATE 8/8/22

THE SECRETARY OF STATE  
 WASHINGTON  
 December 1, 1984

MEMORANDUM FOR:

THE PRESIDENT

FROM:

George P. Shultz *GPS*

SUBJECT:

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248026	REPORT	2	11/30/1984	B1
	SAME AS 248020			B3

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(State/Elliott)  
December 6, 1984  
4:00 p.m.

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: DEPARTURE OF PRESIDENT SEYNI KOUNTCHE  
OF NIGER  
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 11, 1984

It has been an honor and a pleasure to welcome President Seyni Kountche [SEN-ee KOON-chay] to Washington. Our meeting takes place at a time when the world's attention is focused on the serious food crisis in Africa. Niger has not been spared the ravages of the drought; however, through the constructive efforts of President Kountche's government, and the help of the international community, including the United States, the effects of the drought in Niger will be reduced.

Those who know President Kountche know that food self-sufficiency and the well-being of his people are his primary goals. He has gone about these objectives with pragmatic policies. President Kountche represents an impressive example of the kind of serious, concerned leadership that Africa will need to overcome its economic problems. His reputation as a dedicated and capable leader has been confirmed by his visit to Washington today.

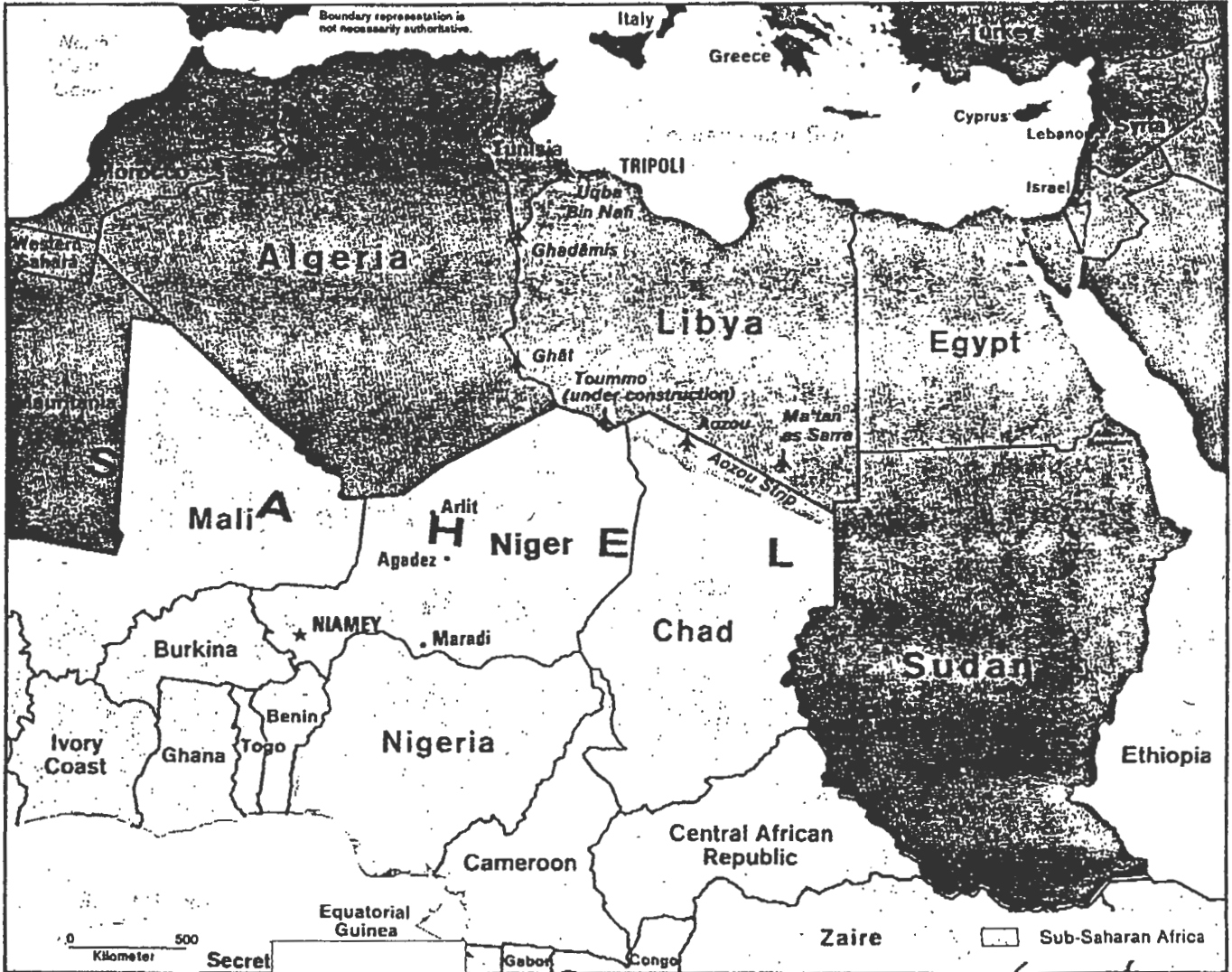
In our conversations this morning and at lunch, we covered many of the important international problems of the day, particularly those concerning Africa. We have benefited from President Kountche's views on the problems of drought and economic development in the Sahel [suh-HELL], as well as the political problems of that region. We support Niger's efforts to maintain its independence and territorial integrity. In many areas our views converge. On a few others, in a spirit of mutual

respect, we have agreed to differ. We have an excellent bilateral relationship to which we both attach considerable importance.

Niger and the United States together are committed to the resolution of international problems through the pursuit of realistic dialogue in international organizations, and through the exercise of rational economic policies at home. I have assured President Kountche of our support for him and his country, and I have expressed our admiration for his accomplishments at home and abroad.

Secret

### Niger and Its Neighbors



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DECLASSIFIED IN PART

NLR (est) NLR-8-8-6-5-3

BY CV NARA DATE 8/10/22

32  
REQUEST FOR APPOINTMENTS

To: Officer-in-charge  
Appointments Center  
Room 060, OEOB

Please admit the following appointments on Tuesday, December 11, 19 84

for The President of \_\_\_\_\_:  
(NAME OF PERSON TO BE VISITED) (AGENCY)

The Vice President  
Secretary of Defense Caspar Weinberger  
Deputy Secretary of State Kenneth Dam  
Robert C. McFarlane, WH  
Assistant Secretary of State Chester Crocker  
Ambassador William Casey  
AID Administrator Peter McPherson  
Peace Corps Director Loret Ruppe  
Phillip Ringdahl, NSC

From Niger

President Seyni Kountche  
Mr. Ide Oumarou  
Lt Colonel Moumouni Djermakoye Adamou  
Ambassador Joseph Diatta  
Mr. Daouda Diallo  
Mr. Ari Toubou Ibrahim  
Mr. Sani Bako  
Mr. Abdou Hamani

MEETING LOCATION

Building White House Requested by Phillip Ringdahl  
Room No. Oval Office/Roosevelt Room/Cabinet Room Room No. 3393 Telephone Rm 373  
Time of Meeting 11:30 AM Date of request Dec 7, 1984

Additions and/or changes made by telephone should be limited to three (3) names or less.

APPOINTMENTS CENTER: SIG/OEOB - 395-6000 WHITE HOUSE - 456-6742

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248025	TALKING POINTS	1	ND	B1

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NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL  
SECRETARIAT

*Niger*

PAGE #1: NIAMEY 7351 DTG: 071358Z DEC 84 PSN: 029678  
EOE555 AN011703 TOR: 942/1428Z CSN: NCE705

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COUNTRIES AND SAID THAT THE TWO COUNTRIES SHOULD WORK TO SOLVE THE PROBLEMS OF AFRICA. TURAYKI RESPONDED TO IDE OUMAROU'S REMARKS BY NOTING THAT RELATIONS BETWEEN THE TWO NATIONS HAD NEVER CEASED AND THAT THE "DELAY" THAT HAD OCCURRED IN RELATIONS WAS NOW BEING OVERCOME. TURAYKI SAID HE WAS COMPLETELY SATISFIED WITH THE NEW COOPERATION. SOUTHWICK  
BT

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FM AMEMBASSY NIAMEY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8359

INFO AMEMBASSY ALGIERS 0719  
AMEMBASSY RABAT 0611  
AMEMBASSY PARIS 5906  
USDAO ABIDJAN

UNCLAS NIAMEY 07351

E. O. 12356: NA  
TAGS: PREL, NG, LY  
SUBJECT: TURAYKI SEES KOUNTCHE; TALKS TO THE PRESS  
REF: NIAMEY 7347

1. TURAYKI'S MEETING WITH PRESIDENT KOUNTCHE DOMINATED THE 1200Z NATIONAL NEWS BROADCAST. IN COMMENTS BROADCAST UPON LEAVING NIGER TURAYKI SAID THAT HE HAD CARRIED A MESSAGE TO KOUNTCHE FROM QADHAFI. ACCORDING TO THE BROADCAST, TURAYKI ALSO DISCUSSED WITH KOUNTCHE THE STATE OF BILATERAL RELATIONS AND WAYS IN WHICH THEY COULD BE REINFORCED. TURAYKI SAID THAT HE AND KOUNTCHE HAD DECIDED TO "RELAUNCH COOPERATION" IN THE ECONOMIC, CULTURAL AND POLITICAL DOMAINS. HE AND KOUNTCHE ALSO DISCUSSED THE PROBLEMS OF AFRICA, ESPECIALLY SOUTHERN AFRICA, AND THE MIDDLE EAST AND NOTED THAT THEIR VIEWS WERE VERY CLOSE ON THESE ISSUES. "WE DECIDED TO WORK TOGETHER TO RESOLVE THE PROBLEMS OF AFRICA."

2. IN RESPONSE TO A QUESTION FROM THE PRESS ABOUT WHEN OFFICIAL RELATIONS WOULD BE ESTABLISHED, TURAYKI SAID "THERE IS NO PROBLEM." HE NOTED THAT LIBYA WILL SEND A SECRETARY TO THE POPULAR BUREAU IN NIAMEY AND THAT THEY MIGHT SEND AN AMBASSADOR IN THE NEAR FUTURE. WHEN PRESSED, TURAYKI SAID THAT RELATIONS MIGHT BE NORMALIZED VERY SOON - "D'ICI QUELQUES JOURS." TURAYKI ALSO NOTED THAT HE HAD ANNOUNCED TO KOUNTCHE A ONE MILLION DOLLAR GIFT FROM THE LIBYAN PEOPLE TO THE NIGERIAN PEOPLE TO HELP WITH THE DROUGHT. HE ALSO NOTED THAT HE HAD HELD DISCUSSIONS WITH FOREIGN MINISTER IDE OUMAROU ON MEASURES TO REINFORCE THE LIBYAN AGRICULTURAL COMPANY.

3. THE BROADCAST THEN DISCUSSED THE WORKING SESSION HELD AT FOREIGN MINISTRY THIS MORNING WITH THE LIBYAN DELEGATION. IDE OUMAROU HAD GREETED THE DELEGATION AND GIVEN A "TOUR D'HORIZON" OF THE "FRIENDLY COOPERATION" THAT HAD "ALWAYS EXISTED" BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES. HE NOTED THE ISSUES THAT HAD ALWAYS "UNITED" THE TWO

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248028	MEMO  SAME TEXT AS 248018 (ANNOTATED)	4	12/11/1984	B1

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248029	TALKING POINTS SAME AS 248019	2	ND	B1

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248030	TALKING POINTS SAME AS 248025	1	ND	B1

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Authority D. Swaine  
 BY CU NARA DATE 8/10/22

THE SECRETARY OF STATE

WASHINGTON

December 1, 1984

MEMORANDUM FOR:

THE PRESIDENT

FROM:

George P. Shultz *GPS*

SUBJECT:

Your Meeting with President Seyni Kountche  
of Niger, December 11, 1984I. THE SETTING

This is the first time that President Kountche has met with the President of the United States. In 1981, President Kountche met with Vice President Bush in Washington, and in May, he met briefly with the Vice President again during the funeral in Conakry of Guinea's President Sekou Toure. President Kountche recognizes that the real importance of the visit to him is the prestige which accrues from the visit itself. This will enhance his status and influence in West Africa, the OAU, the Islamic Conference, and the Non-Aligned Movement. It will also put Colonel Qadhafi, his aggressive neighbor to the north, on notice that we support President Kountche and his efforts to maintain Niger's territorial integrity and independent foreign policy.

Kountche is an experienced statesman and will want to keep the discussion on a level appropriate to two heads of state. We expect President Kountche to inform you that Niger, a major uranium producer, has decided to sign the Non-Proliferation Treaty in response to your August letter and a decade of U.S. demarches. You should warmly welcome Niger's decision to join the NPT as a major contribution to international efforts to prevent the spread of nuclear weapons.

President Kountche's credentials as an influential Islamic African leader who wishes us well make him an ideal interlocutor for a discussion of African leaders' perceptions of their economic and security concerns, and how these leaders view U.S. policies in Africa. President Kountche is widely regarded as a pragmatist more interested in economic development than in empty rhetoric. Niger was severely affected by the great Sahelian drought of 1969-74. Over the past ten years, Niger, under Kountche's no-nonsense approach to development, was able to avoid a recurrence of the widespread starvation and suffering that its people endured a decade ago. Unfortunately, Niger has not been spared from this year's drought and will require significant amounts of donor assistance to prevent widespread famine. Kountche is the head of an organization of West African states that seek to fight the effects of drought, and he will want to present his views on donor drought relief efforts and the prospects for long-term economic development in Africa.

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## II. THE ISSUES

U.S.-Niger relations are excellent. You should use the occasion of your meeting with President Kountche to reaffirm our support for his pro-West foreign policy, his efforts to develop Niger's economy, and the way he has dealt with threats from Libya. As one of Libya's southern neighbors, Niger is directly in the path of Qadhafi's expansion into sub-Saharan Africa. In addition, Kountche is much concerned with Nigeria's political fragility and the presence of a radical Libyan-influenced regime in neighboring Burkina Faso. Kountche has proven to be a wily and effective opponent of Qadhafi. You will want to exchange views on the Libyan threat to sub-Saharan Africa and measures to contain Qadhafi's influence in neighboring states.

Historically, Niger has looked to France for protection from Libyan aggression. However, France's slow reaction to Libyan aggression in Chad and its disregard for President Habre in negotiating the French-Libyan withdrawal have shaken Niger's confidence in the French. This coupled with the growth of our assistance programs and the convergence of Niger and USG views, have tempted President Kountche to look to the U.S. as an alternative to his great dependence on France. Our interests justify only a limited role in Niger. Hence, we must make certain that President Kountche understands fully that Niger must look primarily to France for protection.

President Kountche's pragmatic approach to development has nearly enabled Niger to feed itself in recent years. This year, however, Niger has been hit by a devastating drought which threatens widespread famine. Providing adequate food aid to Niger's population until the next harvest will present the greatest challenge to President Kountche's leadership since he assumed power a decade ago. Having come to power partially because the previous government proved incapable of dealing with the consequences of drought, Kountche is acutely aware that the survival of his regime may be at stake. We should demonstrate our understanding of the effects of the drought on Niger, in both humanitarian and political terms, and reaffirm our resolve to assist Niger in its time of need. You will be able to cite impressive food aid totals.

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248031	REPORT SAME AS 248020 (P.1 ONLY)	1	ND	B1 B3

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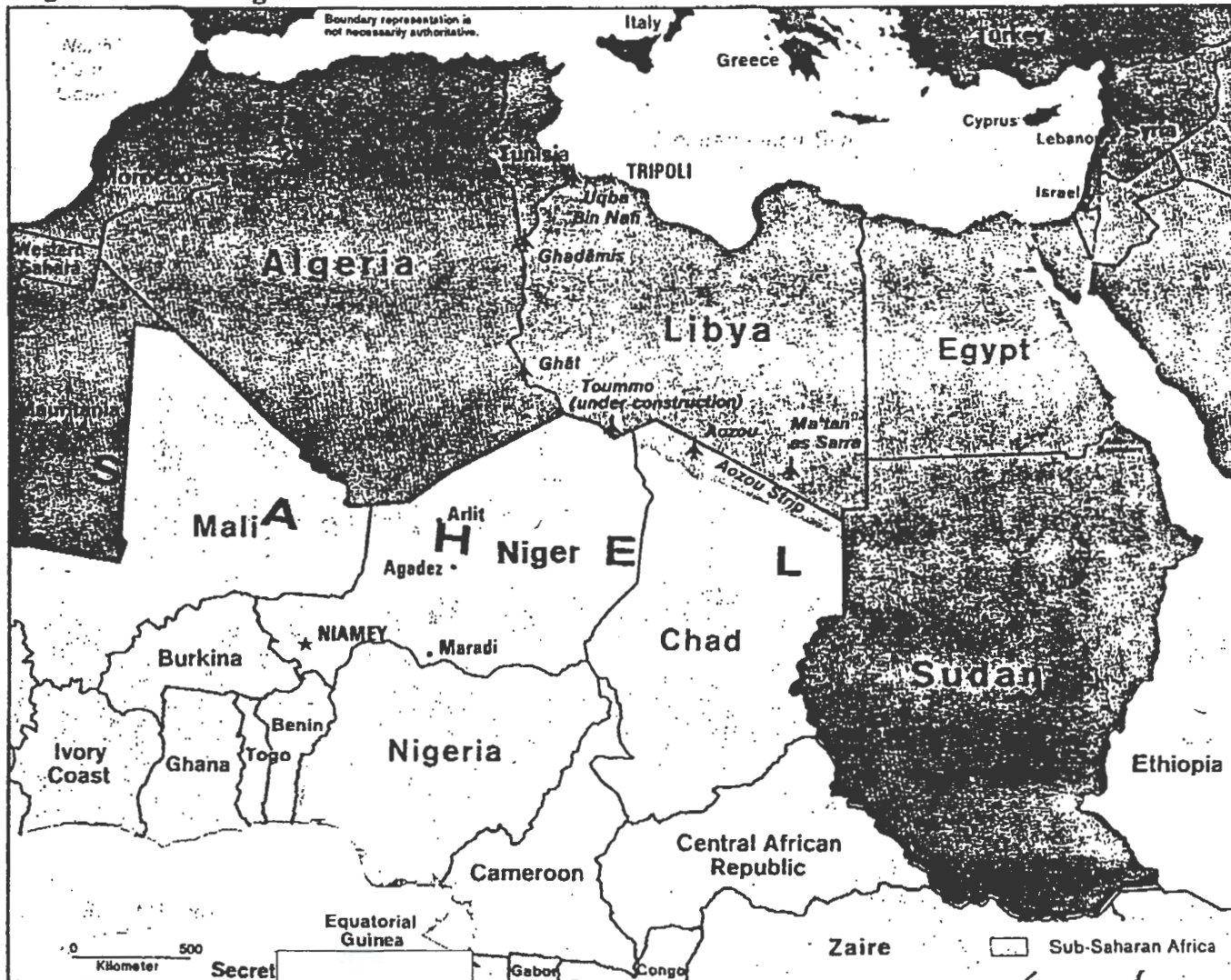
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BY C/N NARA DATE 8/10/22

(State/Elliott)  
December 6, 1984  
4:00 p.m.

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: DEPARTURE OF PRESIDENT SEYNI KOUNTCHE  
OF NIGER  
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 11, 1984

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Niger and the United States together are committed to the resolution of international problems through the pursuit of realistic dialogue in international organizations, and through the exercise of rational economic policies at home. I have assured President Kountche of our support for him and his country, and I have expressed our admiration for his accomplishments at home and abroad.

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248033	MEMO  SAME AS 248017	2	12/7/1984	B1

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REQUEST FOR APPOINTMENTS

To: Officer-in-charge  
Appointments Center  
Room 060, OEOB

Please admit the following appointments on Tuesday, December 11, 19 84

for The President of \_\_\_\_\_:  
(NAME OF PERSON TO BE VISITED) (AGENCY)

The Vice President  
Secretary of Defense Caspar Weinberger  
Deputy Secretary of State Kenneth Dam  
Robert C. McFarlane, WH  
Assistant Secretary of State Chester Crocker  
Ambassador William Casey  
AID Administrator Peter McPherson  
Peace Corps Director Loret Ruppe  
Phillip Ringdahl, NSC

From Niger

President Seyni Kountche  
Mr. Ide Oumarou  
Lt Colonel Moumouni Djermakoye Adamou  
Ambassador Joseph Diatta  
Mr. Daouda Diallo  
Mr. Ari Toubou Ibrahim  
Mr. Sani Bako  
Mr. Abdou Hamani

MEETING LOCATION

Building White House Requested by Phillip Ringdahl  
Room No. Oval Office/Roosevelt Room/Cabinet Room Room No. 3393 Telephone Rm 373  
Time of Meeting 11:30 AM Date of request Dec 7, 1984

Additions and/or changes made by telephone should be limited to three (3) names or less.

APPOINTMENTS CENTER: SIG/OEOB - 335-6000 or WHITE HOUSE - 456-6742

5

*République du Niger*

9368

*Le Chef de l'Etat*

NIAMEY, le

N° \_\_\_\_\_/PCMS/DIRCAB.

Monsieur le Président,

De retour à NIAMEY, j'éprouve le vif désir de Vous renouveler ma profonde gratitude pour l'accueil très amical que Vous-même, Votre Epouse et les membres de Votre Administration avez réservé à ma délégation, à mon Epouse et à moi-même.

Durant Votre premier Mandat, déjà, mon Pays avait fait l'objet, de Votre part, de la part de Votre Administration et de la part des prestigieuses Institutions de Votre Pays, d'une prévenance et d'une assistance toutes particulières. Au moment où Vous entamez un second Mandat bien mérité, Votre aimable invitation me confirme de façon éloquente, que les relations entre nos deux Peuples et nos deux Gouvernements sont riches d'intenses promesses. Les entretiens que nous avons eus ont mis en évidence notre égal attachement à les voir prospérer pour se hisser à la hauteur de nos objectifs communs de Paix, de Sécurité et de Progrès économique et social.

Son Excellence,  
Monsieur Ronald REAGAN,  
Président des ETATS-UNIS D'AMERIQUE,

.../...

WASHINGTON

Je veux, à cet égard, Vous dire Monsieur le Président, combien le NIGER s'honore de cette particulière bienveillance. Notre Peuple sait ce que Vous faites pour lui permettre une émergence rapide et un redressement dans la dignité. Il vous demande de poursuivre. Non seulement pour son propre bien, mais pour le bien de l'ensemble de notre Sous-Région, voire de notre Continent, attaqué tout à la fois par la sécheresse, le désert, la famine, les convoitises extérieures, et que sais-je !

Vous avez décidé de cultiver l'humanisme, au-delà de toute considération. Je suis sûr que l'Histoire Vous saura gré de Vos bonnes dispositions à assurer dans notre Monde un plus grand triomphe de la liberté de la justice et du droit.

En même temps que mes hommages déférents à Madame NANCY REAGAN, je Vous prie d'agréer, Monsieur le Président, les assurances de ma très haute estime et de ma considération toute personnelle.

→ NIGER → Kingdahl 51  
~~Levine~~  
~~McMinn~~  
~~Walt~~

THE WHITE HOUSE  
Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release

December 11, 1984

REMARKS OF THE PRESIDENT  
AND PRESIDENT KOUNTCHE OF THE REPUBLIC OF NIGER  
UPON DEPARTURE

The South Grounds

1:23 P.M. EST

THE PRESIDENT: It's been an honor and a pleasure to welcome President Kountche to Washington. Our meeting takes place at a time when the world's attention is focused on the serious food crisis in Africa.

Niger has not been spared the ravages of the drought. However, through the constructive efforts of President Kountche's government, and the help of the international community including the United States, the effects of the drought in Niger will be reduced.

Those who know President Kountche know that food self-sufficiency and the well being of his people are his primary goals. He has gone about these objectives with pragmatic policies. President Kountche represents an impressive example of the kind of serious, concerned leadership that Africa will need to overcome its economic problems. His reputation as a dedicated and capable leader has been confirmed by his visit to Washington today.

In our conversations this morning, and at lunch, we covered many of the important international problems of the day, particularly those concerning Africa. We have benefitted from President Kountche's views on the problems of drought and economic development in the Shael, as well as the political problems of that region.

We support Niger's efforts to maintain its independence and territorial integrity. In many areas our views converge. On a few others, in a spirit of mutual respect, we've agreed to differ. We have an excellent bilateral relationship to which we both attach considerable importance.

Niger and the United States together are committed to the resolution of international problems through the pursuit of realistic dialogue in international organizations and through the exercise of rational economic policies at home.

And I have assured President Kountche of our support for him and his country, and I've expressed our admiration for his accomplishments at home and abroad.

PRESIDENT KOUNTCHE: Ladies and gentlemen, I have just had a very extensive discussion with President Ronald Reagan. We discussed bilateral cooperation as well as African and international issues regarding the effects of world recession, the persistent drought and famine in Africa, and the flashpoints existing in almost all the continents.

Our discussions were also especially focused on the role of the United States of America in the search for a better international political, economic and military balance. And I can say that the views of our two countries were consistent with each other and there was a good understanding on most of the issues discussed.

As far as Africa is concerned, you know that we are currently preoccupied by the harsh drought that is once again affecting extensive areas of our continent, the result of which is the reappearance of hunger in many countries, especially in extensive regions of the Sahara, in the whole of Africa and Eastern Africa.

I'm glad to note that both President Reagan and his administration are fully aware of this situation and that not only do they sympathize with us, but they are also seriously concerned by the great sufferings affecting several thousands of Africans that have been seriously hit. President Reagan and the American administration have already provided substantial food aids and Niger is grateful to them for that.

The President also assured me that the United States will continue to use significant means to decisively help in the crusade against hunger and death in Africa. And this is essentially in a humanitarian spirit.

We have also discussed the political issues that are currently haunting the African countries, Chad, Western Sahara, but especially Southern Africa, where the delays in the independence of Namibia and the persistence of apartheid in South Africa engender an intolerable -- an untenable situation in the front-line states.

President Ronald Reagan and I agree that more concertation between Africa and the United States of America will make it possible to remove the obstacles and solve these problems in serenity, in justice and in the rule of law.

Besides, I would be right to say that through these discussions we were able to compare our common desire to see peace and security prevail throughout the world on the basis of great -- the great ideals of the right of the peoples to self determination and liberty, respect for all the countries sovereignty and territorial integrity, respect for the countries' domestic political choice and respect for the rules of good neighborliness and peaceful coexistence among the nations.

Naturally, we did not lose sight of the economic issues because Niger, and all Africa, are severely hit by the economic crisis that, unfortunately, affects all the continents.

In this regard, we both recognized that the United States have a top role to play in order to safeguard peace in the world, and, mostly, to save the stability of small nations.

My conclusion, therefore, is that I am fully satisfied with these talks during which I congratulated President Ronald Reagan for all the efforts that he has been making and for the great vigilance that he has personally shown concerning Niger and regarding the problems of Africa.

You know that in recent years, President Ronald Reagan and his administration have launched a diversified, dynamic and especially friendly and fruitful cooperation with my country. And I

can say today that the United States of America are among our most active and most effective partners.

As for the President, he appeared as a man most devoted to his duties and to his nation. Moreover, I have been seriously impressed by the fact -- by his awareness of the global problems, his worshiping of liberty and the fulfillment of man, his determination to build an American society ever stronger and more prosperous.

I wish him good health, a continuous clearmindedness, a growing clear sight to fulfill the well-deserved new term of office that -- with which he has just been entrusted by the people, following his reelection, that in all aspects was a personal triumph and a general satisfaction expressed to him by the great American people.

I thank you.

END

1:39 P.M. EST

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PRES

FROM KOUNTCHE, SEYNI

DOCDATE 19 DEC 84

KEYWORDS: HS

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SUBJECT: PRES KOUNTCHE LTR TO PRES 19 DEC

ACTION: RECOMS / TRANSLATION

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