

Around the Nation

Red China Wooed in 1949

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A previously secret document released yesterday shows that emissaries of Communist China and the United States worked until as late as the summer of 1949 to open the way for establishment of diplomatic relations between the two nations.

The document, a Senate Foreign Relations Committee staff study, based on closed-door testimony and diplomatic cables following the Chinese civil war, said a decision by the Truman administration finally ended these efforts.

The decision laid the groundwork for a quarter-century of Sino-American hostility.

The report said J. Leighton Stuart, then American Ambassador to the ousted Nationalist Chinese regime of Chiang Kai-shek, had been meeting privately in the spring of 1949 with Huang Hua, Communist China's chief of alien affairs, to discuss relations between Mao Tse-tung's mainland government and the United States. Stuart had remained in Nanking after the Communist takeover.

On June 28, 1949, the re-

port said, Huang told Stuart that Mao and Chou En-lai wanted him to come to Peking.

State Department officials were said to want Stuart to accept the invitation, but feared a public furor in the United States.

"These schemes for defusing the public outcry, however, proved to be academic," the study said.

"The following day, July 1, at 6 p.m., Secretary of State Dean Acheson, citing a decision reached at the 'highest level,' instructed Stuart that under no circumstances should he visit 'Peiping.'"