

INCOMING TELEGRAM

Department of State

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Action

Control: 13456  
Rec'd: April 16, 1964  
11:31 a.m.

AF  
Info

FROM: Kampala

SS

ACTION: Secstate 935

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INFO: Budapest 2

SP

Dar-es-Salaam 206

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Nairobi 237

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DATE: April 16, 3 p.m.

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EMBIEEL 919.

USIA

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TRSY

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I called on Abubaker Mayanja, Buganda Minister of Education, at his office in Mengo to discuss statement attributed to him reported reference telegram. Mayanja, a Muslim, is most able and articulate of Kabaka's Ministers. He also erratic and unpredictable. He is good personal friend and we had frank discussion. I said his statement to press indicated he had been completely taken in by Communist leadership International Association Democratic Lawyers Conference who obviously had cooked up resolution calling for investigation Kennedy assassination for clearly ulterior propaganda purposes. I thought it serious matter for Uganda's reputation that he had lent himself to such exploitation. I reminded him of commission appointed by President Johnson and headed by Chief Justice Warren to investigate and report to USG all aspects of assassination. Until findings of this committee had been made public it would seem that foreign government officials without access to facts should refrain from unfounded accusations and speculation regarding a tragedy that was of utmost importance and concern to American people and government.

Mayanja said he hoped I knew he was good friend of US and he had not intended by his statement to embarrass us. He said it reflected "facts" and documentation which had been presented by American lawyer, Mark Lane, at Budapest conference. He

and  
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-2- 935, April 16, 3 p.m., from Kampala

He and Godfrey Binasisa, Uganda's Attorney General, had been observers at conference and were shocked but impressed by Mark Lane's presentation which included articles and editorials from responsible Western papers and magazines. He said theory presented at conference that assassination was part of plot against government by US military and other elements came as shock and news to him, but nonetheless had plausibility and was of particular interest to lawyers in view Oswald's assassination which eliminated chief witness so promptly. Mark Lane had also made such disturbing statements as that Chief Justice Warren himself had said his report might never be made public. [I asked him reflect on what could be motives of Americans who would air such charges before such a conference.]

Comment: Mayanja was upset and I believe sorry that he had "sounded off" on this issue on his return from Budapest. Believe I have commitment from him make no further public statement on matter. I undertook provide him available official factual data on assassination. He regretted he had not brought with him from Budapest "documentation" distributed there which he would have given me. Assume all such data available to Department [and machinations well known.]

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