July 20, 1949

Memorandum from Philip C. Jessup, 'Chiang-Quirino Proposal for a Pacific Union'

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Summary:

Philip Jessup writes to Walton Butterworth regarding the meeting between Chiang Kai-shek and Elpidio Quirino, as well as an idea by George Kennan to establish a regional university in Asia.

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE

ASSISTANT SECRETARY

MEMORANDUM

July 20, 1949

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The attached memorandum prepared by Mr. Fisher is a good collection and summary of the background on the Chiang-Quirino Pacific Union proposal, most of which we have already discussed at staff meetings. The only important developments since the date of the memorandum are the two statements I referred to this morning--a portion of a radio address by Quirino which indicates that he is backtracking away from a military union toward an economic and cultural union, and a statement by the Chinese Nationalist Government indicating they are thinking more in terms of a union with military aspects.

The "Suggestions" beginning on page 8 of the memorandum are particularly interesting.

H: PPClaxton: RIF

SECRET

July 20, 1949

FE – Mr. Butterworth S/A – Mr. Jessup

Chiang-Quirino Proposal for a Pacific Union

Thank you for the very helpful memorandum on the problem of the association of Asiatic states by Mr. Fisher. Is there an extra copy I could keep in my file for reference?

You will recall in the memorandum George Kennan prepared for the Secretary on July 8 one of his suggestions included establishment at Manila of a regional university. This idea has been discussed on previous occasions from various points of view. I think there is a good deal in it. I have suggested that perhaps some of the foundations would be interested, e.g., the new Ford Foundation. Query whether anything along the lines of suggesting the development of Manila as a cultural center would be helpful in connection with Quirino's approaching visit.

Philip C. Jessup Ambassador at Large

Attachment: Memo to Mr. Butterworth frm Mr. Fisher 7/15 w/atts.

Copies to: C - MR. RUSK AMBASSADOR COWEN PI - MR. RICHARD FLY

E/A PCJ: eva