

3. I would therefore recommend that you call in the United States Ambassador, or alternatively instruct Mr. Heeney to call on Mr. George Ball, to alert him to the impending announcement. If you agree, you might wish to discuss this with Mr. Hamilton, and plan to have this done not later than tomorrow or Friday.⁶⁶

E.A. R[ITCHIE]
for Under-Secretary of State
for External Affairs

791.

DEA/9030-40

*Note de l'adjoint spécial,
Bureau du secrétaire d'État aux Affaires extérieures,
pour le sous-secrétaire d'État aux Affaires extérieures*

*Memorandum from Special Assistant,
Office of Secretary of State for External Affairs,
to Under-Secretary of State for External Affairs*

CONFIDENTIAL

[Ottawa], April 13, 1961

Reference: Memorandum to the Minister dated April 12, 1961.

SALE OF GRAIN TO CHINA

The Minister has set aside the above-mentioned memorandum, recommending early action to alert the Americans to the impending announcement, for further consideration and consultation with his colleagues. His initial reaction was that there might be grave risks in taking this step until final confirmation is received that the Chinese have in fact reached agreement with our negotiating team. Not only would it be undesirable to spread knowledge of a deal that still might not be consummated, but the Minister felt there was also some possibility of the Americans exerting extreme pressure to have us withdraw from the deal.⁶⁷

ROSS CAMPBELL

⁶⁶ Notes marginales :/Marginal notes:

Just before announcement *not earlier*. H.C. G[reen] 17/4

This decision was taken after SSEA consulted PM. R. C[ampbell] 17/4

⁵⁷ Note marginale :/Marginal note:

Noted. [N.A.] R[obertson]