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28 February 1951

[redacted]
Copy No. C 1-9

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CURRENT INTELLIGENCE BULLETIN

[redacted] 3.5(c)

20
DOCUMENT NO. [redacted]

NO CHANGE IN CLASS. X

11 DECLASSIFIED

CLASS. CHANGED TO: TS

NEXT REVIEW DATE:

AUTH: HR 70-2

DATE: 12-15-75

REVIEWER: [redacted]

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Office of Current Intelligence

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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**The President
The Secretary of State
The Secretary of Defense**

**Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff
Chief of Staff, United States Army
Chief of Naval Operations
Chief of Staff, United States Air Force**

SUMMARY

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GENERAL

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2. UK seeks lead from US; London brokers sell to USSR:

US Press 17 Feb 51



A 17 February press dispatch from London states that the British Ministry of Supply is seeking between 2,000 and 3,000 tons of lead for prompt shipment from the US or other dollar areas, as well as undisclosed quantities for shipment over the remainder

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of 1951. Effective 1 February, the supply of lead to domestic consumers was reduced from the 1950 average monthly level because of a recent decrease in lead stocks held by the Ministry of Supply.

At the same time,

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[redacted] London metal brokers have handled at least 1,100 tons of virgin lead shipments to the USSR during the past few months. [redacted]

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Comment: The Soviet trade messages do not disclose the original source of the lead involved, but Spain and Mexico have in the past been large suppliers. It appears that London metal brokers are taking advantage of the high prices offered by the USSR for strategic metals, while the British Government seeks to replenish domestic supplies from the US.

FAR EAST

3. Mine-laying operations completed at Wonsan:

Despite the difficulties created by UN bombardment, North Korean mine-laying operations in Wonsan bay were completed on 26 February. North Korean naval authorities in the area have requested permission to send mine-laying crews north to Sohoiin

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(near Hungnam) to continue their work.

a new shipment of mines is moving southward on the rail line leading from Tumen, Manchuria.

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WESTERN EUROPE

5. German Social Democrat states party will oppose Schuman Plan:~~GERMAN~~

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[redacted] [redacted] Social Democratic Party member of the West German Bundestag delegation visiting the United States, told US officials that his party had decided to oppose the Schuman Plan categorically.

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[redacted] doubted whether Chancellor Adenauer would submit the Plan to the Bundestag, where, he said, it would be beaten by the Social Democrat vote, together with the vote of those Free Democrats representing the Ruhr interests opposed to the Plan.

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Comment: There has been no indication that Adenauer has changed his intention to secure Bundestag ratification of the Schuman Plan. Although certain Free Democrats are strongly opposed to the Schuman Plan, the party is unlikely to risk the downfall of the government by voting against it on this issue. Without Free Democrat opposition, the Plan is likely to be ratified.

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EASTERN EUROPE

6. Titoist movement uncovered in Czech Communist Party:

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[Redacted]

An official announcement of the arrest of former Foreign Minister Vladimir Clementis has appeared in the Czech press. At a special three-day session of the Central Committee of the Czech Communist Party, Clementis and four other members of the Central Committee were indicted for having organized a "widespread plot to gain control of the Party" and to "usurp the leadership of the State." In an address before the Central Committee, Czech President and Party Chairman Gottwald promised that "Czechoslovakia will not become a second Yugoslavia," called for greater vigilance on the part of the Party leadership, and reminded all Czechs to remain faithful to Stalin.

CZECHOSLOVAKIA
YUGOSLAVIA

Comment: The Central Committee's action confirms the existence of a long-suspected struggle for influence within the Czech Party. The recent intensification of this struggle probably reflects resistance within the Party to Soviet efforts to extend more effective control over the Czech economy.

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