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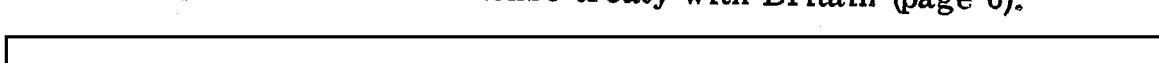
FAR EAST

3. Peiping seen as reconciled to nonrepatriation of some prisoners (page 4).


25X1

NEAR EAST - AFRICA

25X1

6. Iraq will not renew defense treaty with Britain (page 6).


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3. Peiping seen as reconciled to nonrepatriation of some prisoners:

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The Secretary General of the Indian Ministry of External Affairs believes that it would be a mistake to try to force the Chinese Communists to retract their demand for total repatriation of POW's.

In his view, the Chinese, while recognizing that many prisoners will remain unwilling to return, are determined to save face by pretending that this is not true. He believes that the Communists, to avoid an appearance of reversing their policy, will probably announce that those who refuse to return are "secret agents of the Kuomintang or the United States."

25X1



- 4 -

25X1A



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6. Iraq will not renew defense treaty with Britain:

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The Iraqi Foreign Minister is reliably reported to have told the parliamentary finance committee on 11 April that the government will allow the Anglo-Iraqi defense treaty to remain in force until its expiration in 1957, but that Iraq will not negotiate a new one.

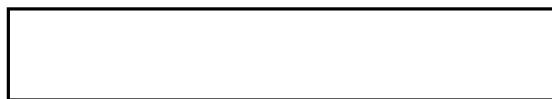
The Foreign Minister also declared that Iraq will sign no agreement which calls for sending an Iraqi army abroad or allowing foreign troops to enter the country.

Comment: Allowing the treaty to run its course is probably the most that the West can expect. Previously, pro-British Defense Minister Nuri Said had declared privately that the treaty needed to be modified; he stated that Iraq would consider a broader defense agreement with the West based on the Arab Collective Security Pact.

Any shift from the present conservative government to a radical one could result in unilateral abrogation of the treaty. 25X1



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