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SECURITY INFORMATION~~

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NOTE: Comments in this publication [redacted]

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[redacted] and represent the immediate views of the
Office of Current Intelligence.

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3.3(h)(2)

GENERAL

- 1. Brazil considering submission of Austrian treaty question to UN:**

Comment: The main purpose of Austrian Foreign Minister Gruber's visit to Rio de Janeiro last month was to request Brazil to present the Austrian treaty question to the UN General Assembly.

3.3(h)(2)

Brazil's Washington representative reported on 25 July that the US State Department approved of Brazil or any other neutral country taking action along the proposed lines.

SOVIET UNION

3.3(h)(2)

- 2. Evidence of a decline in Soviet production of munitions packing:**

Far East and East Siberian Woodworking Trusts of the Chief Directorate of Woodworking in Moscow show a sharp decrease in the rate of production of munitions packing.

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Comment: The East Siberian Trust is one of the major producers of munitions packing in the USSR and its rising production figures in recent years have been used as a measure of Soviet armaments efforts. Since the packing is designed to be reused, the current decrease may mean that packing production has now drawn abreast of requirements, and is consequently levelling off.

FAR EAST

3. Thai military leaders reported planning to replace Premier Phibun:

Police Director General Phao and Army Commander General Phin are planning to remove Premier Phibun from office by engineering the resignation of the cabinet and forming a new one under a figurehead, according to reports received by the American Embassy in Bangkok. Phao would then succeed to the premiership within a few months.

3.3(h)(2)

The Embassy comments that recent reports of Phibun's intention to resign may reflect his desire to foil Phao's plan by precipitating a conflict over the succession between Phao and General Sarit, the Bangkok garrison commander. The Embassy believes a crisis may be reached this month.

Comment:

Phao's accession to the premiership would endanger the present stability.

3.3(h)(2)

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NEAR EAST - AFRICA

3.3(h)(2)

4. Comment on changes in the Iranian Army command:

3.3(h)(2)

[redacted] Six major changes in the Iranian Army command were announced on 4 August. According to the [redacted]

[redacted] a shift of two other generals may be imminent.

The appointment of Lieutenant General Aghevli as Chief of Staff apparently assures National Front control of that position. Aghevli, a former Chief of Staff, has also served as Chief of the Gendarmerie and Minister of the Interior. He is reportedly opposed to the American Gendarmerie Mission in Iran and has been linked politically with Mullah Kashani.

3.3(h)(2)

Most of the officers relieved of duty have not been reassigned. Several of them are known to be anti-Communist or to have pro-Western sympathies. Their removal from office will lessen the possibility of an army attempt to seize power and further weaken the Shah's position.

5. Comment on proposed appointment of Allayar Saleh as Iranian Ambassador to US:

3.3(h)(2)

[redacted] The Embassy in Tehran reports that Allayar Saleh, a National Front leader, has been proposed as the next Iranian Ambassador to the United States.

Saleh is emotionally unstable and an opportunist who has often displayed appeasement tendencies toward the Soviet Union. He has had a long association with Americans, but recently he publicly stated his opposition to the Point IV Program and to US military aid to Iran.

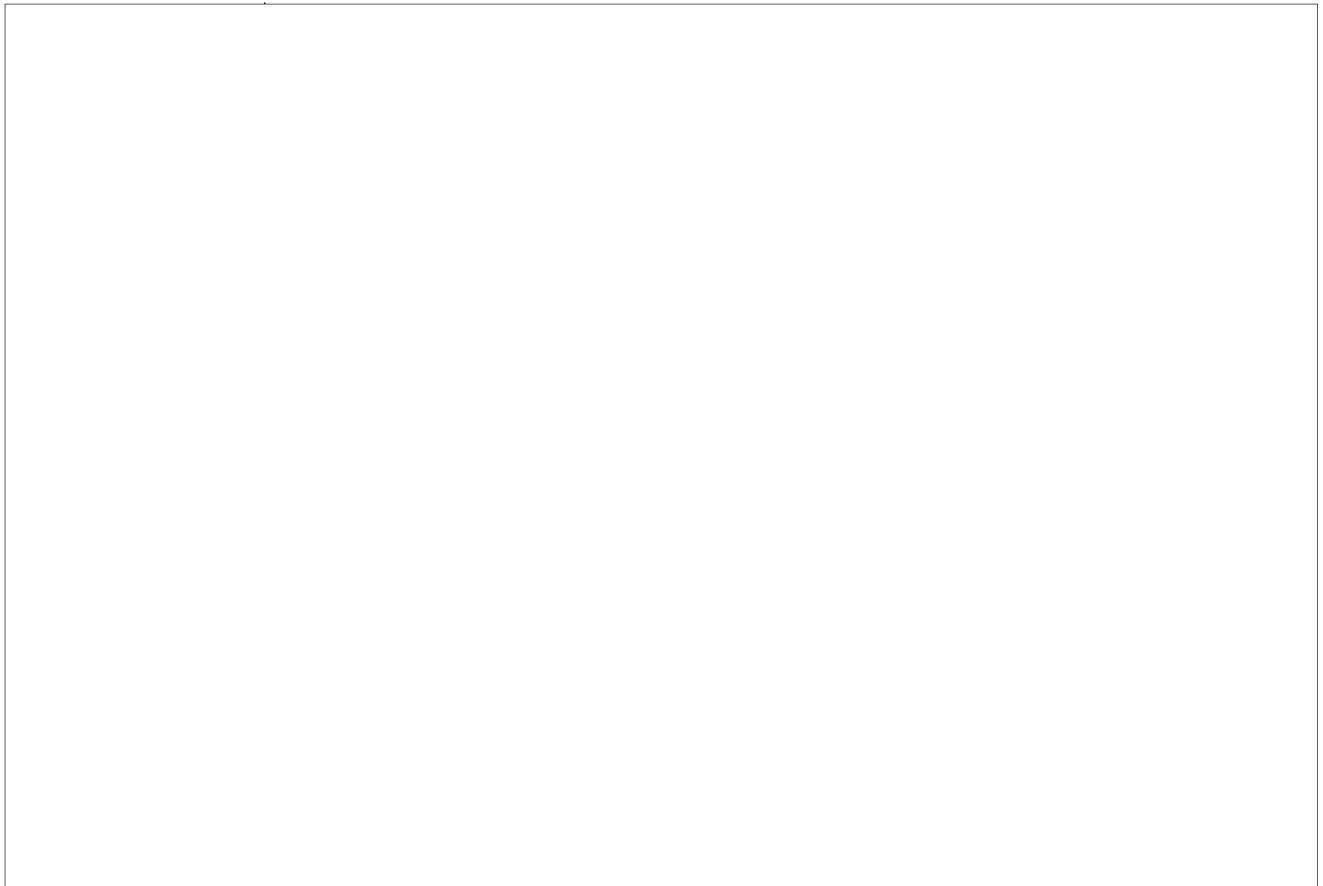
The Shah reportedly favored Saleh as Mossadeq's successor prior to the latter's resignation on 16 July. The proposal to send Saleh to Washington may be due to Mossadeq's desire to remove a possible rival from the Tehran political scene.

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3.3(h)(2)



7. Egyptian Ambassadors in London and Rome to be recalled:

Prime Minister Maher has informed the British Ambassador in Cairo that he has been unable to resist an army demand that the Egyptian Ambassadors in London and Rome be recalled.

3.3(h)(2)

Comment: Abdul Amr, Egyptian Ambassador in London, is considered able and friendly to the British. Both he and Badr, Ambassador in Rome, have been closely associated with the Palace. Their removal may be due to this connection rather than to their pro-Western predilections.

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EASTERN EUROPE

8. Invasion of Albania by Yugoslav-supported Albanian refugees reportedly planned:

[redacted] Details of a Yugoslav plan for an early invasion of Albania by some 6,000 Yugoslav-controlled Albanian refugees have been received in Albanian emigree circles in [redacted]

3.3(h)(2)

Rome, [redacted] The plan, which has been passed on to refugee commanders, calls for the "liberation" of the entire country, with the exiles organized into six groups, each with an assigned sector of operation.

3.3(h)(2)

Comment: Although the Yugoslavs have organized and trained numerous Albanians for subversive work in Albania and have sought the support of an Albanian exile group in Rome, there is no firm evidence of the increased Yugoslav activity which would precede a campaign of this type. [redacted]

3.3(h)(2)

[redacted] the estimated 4,000 Albanian refugees in Yugoslavia have not been organized into tactical units or given military training.

Without an internal coup or rebellion, which is always possible, the refugees would require direct Yugoslav military support if a successful operation is to be launched against Hoxha's 45,000 troops.

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