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3 July 1956

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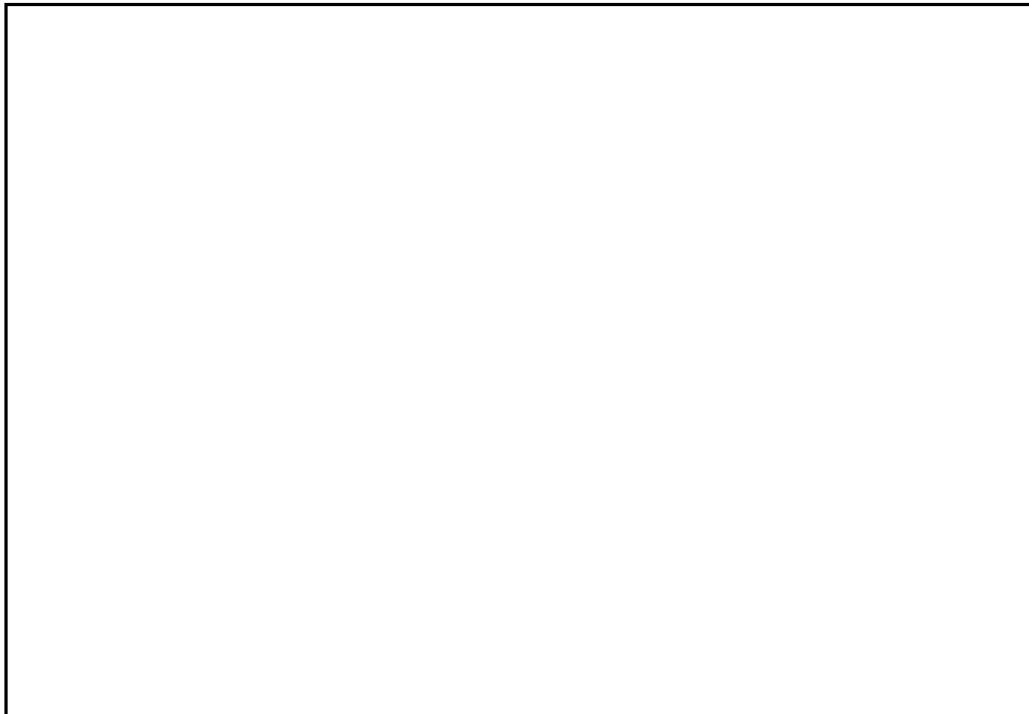
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OFFICE OF CURRENT INTELLIGENCE CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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THE ARAB-ISRAELI SITUATION

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2. SOVIET RESOLUTION ON ANTI-STALIN CAMPAIGN

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The lengthy central committee resolution of 30 June explaining and justifying the anti-Stalin campaign is an attempt by the Soviet regime to provide an answer to questions recently raised by foreign Communist parties.

In tones frequently defensive, the resolution attempts to demonstrate that Stalin's errors in no way discredit the Soviet system as such nor its present leaders and policies.

The resolution reviews Stalin's errors but states that they were expressed in methods rather than goals and contends that the Soviet system developed consistently and progressively despite these errors. Stalinism, it asserts, "could not change and has not changed the nature of our social order," and it rebukes Italian Communist leader Togliatti for raising the question.

As to guarantees for the future, the resolution argues that the historical conditions which gave birth to Stalinism have passed forever and cites post-Stalin changes as proof.

The resolution asserts that the Soviet party launched the anti-Stalin campaign deliberately with an eye to "a positive result from the point of view of the . . . ultimate aims" of the Communist movement, and calls for a closing of ranks against Western attempts to exploit "temporary difficulties."

The resolution abruptly dismisses the question of the current leaders' responsibility for Stalinism with the

statement that it is "in no way a question of lack of personal courage." An attempt to check Stalin in his later years, the resolution argues, would have been misunderstood by the Soviet public.

The resolution offers little that is new in its analysis of Stalin's role and the socialist system in the USSR. Most of the points it makes have already been presented in both Soviet and Western Communist statements.

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3. POZNAN SITUATION

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The situation in Poznan is quiet, but there are signs that the riots have aroused concern in other Soviet bloc countries. According to embassy officials who visited Poznan on 1 July, all tanks had been withdrawn from the city the night before, telegraph and telephone communications had been restored, and transportation facilities were normal.

Militia checkpoints, however, remained on the outskirts of the city and at various points between Poznan and Warsaw. Border units on the East German-Polish border have also reportedly been strengthened.

The other bloc countries have echoed the Polish line that the riots were due to the activities of a reactionary underground and have called for increased vigilance to prevent similar outbreaks.

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**4. HUNGARIAN CENTRAL COMMITTEE RESOLUTION
CONDEMNS "ANTIPARTY" GROUP**

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The Hungarian party leadership has made its first major effort since the Soviet 20th Party Congress to check the "moderate" faction and whip the party rank and file back in line.

A Hungarian central committee resolution, published on 30 June, sharply condemned a "malignant anti-party movement formed around Imre Nagy" which has launched an attack "gradually increasing in strength against the policy and leadership of our party." The resolution specifically cited the "Poznan provocations" as a warning to every Hungarian "to oppose firmly attempts at troublemaking!"

This sharp attack is in reaction to outspoken criticism of leading Hungarian Communists, made in a series of meetings of journalists, economists, philosophers, youths, World War II resistance fighters and intellectuals in the past few weeks.

The resolution indicates that Rakosi's leadership was re-endorsed in early June by Soviet presidium member Suslov, who was then in Budapest analyzing the problem of Hungarian factionalism, and at the end of June by Soviet leaders during Rakosi's reported visit to Moscow. [redacted]

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6. DALAI LAMA REPORTEDLY SEEKING ASYLUM

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The Dalai Lama is anxious to flee Tibet, according to a statement made by the Maharaj Kumar of Sikkim to American consular officials in Calcutta on 28 June. Although India reportedly has been requested to grant asylum, the Dalai Lama's advisers do not consider New Delhi's favorable response as firm enough and seek American assurances of sanctuary elsewhere in the event that asylum in India is refused.

The Maharaj Kumar said fighting is severe in eastern Tibet, but additional arms are needed to extend the uprising to other parts of the country.

Comment

The Chinese Communists indicated doubts of the Dalai Lama's loyalty when they refused to permit him to attend Buddhist festivals in India this year. The Maharaj Kumar of Sikkim, who went to Lhasa to extend an invitation on behalf of a Buddhist society, said the Dalai Lama expressed a keen desire to attend the ceremonies. Peiping's refusal may have been the final factor in bringing the Dalai Lama to a decision to seek asylum outside Tibet.

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8. SOVIET LEADERS EXPECT RECORD HARVEST

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At a reception in Moscow on 28 June, several Soviet officials expressed great satisfaction with the harvest prospects for this year. Khrushchev said that taking the country as a whole, present indications were that the Soviet harvest this

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[REDACTED] year would be "record" and he was very pleased.

Comment

On the basis of these statements, and observations by officers of the American embassy who recently traveled through parts of the "new lands," present prospects are that the 1956 harvest may be substantially above that of 1955. In 1955 the harvest was fairly good, with grain production showing an announced 29-percent increase over the 1950 level and amounting to over 100,000,000 metric tons. A major drought seriously reduced the size of crops in the "new lands" last year, but the harvest in the Ukraine was excellent.

Previous statements by Soviet officials had indicated that crop prospects this year were only fair in the Ukraine, but were good to excellent in the North Caucasus and Volga regions, as well as in the "new lands." In addition, the area under cultivation in the "new lands" is 50 percent or 25,000,000 acres greater this year than last.

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10. PAKISTANI-SOVIET TRADE AGREEMENT

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The Pakistani-Soviet trade agreement concluded on 27 June appears to portend no significant change in relations between the two countries.

The agreement provides for the exchange of Pakistani agricultural products for Soviet machinery, industrial equipment, petroleum, and timber. A special arrangement is included under which payments will be in rupees, and a Soviet trade office is to be established in Karachi. There has been no official announcement of the duration of the agreement, although the Pakistani press reports it is for one year, renewable on mutual agreement. No mention of technical or economic aid is included.

The Pakistani government has apparently been careful to minimize the opportunities for Soviet economic penetration. Soviet requests to establish trade offices at Lahore and Dacca were rejected, but permission was given to open an office in Karachi. Conclusion of the trade agreement avoids an open rebuff to Moscow's recent overtures and will probably satisfy some Pakistani businessmen who have been eager to find new trading partners.

THE ARAB-ISRAELI SITUATION
(Information as of 1700, 2 July)

Egyptian machine-gun fire was directed at
an Israeli patrol near the Gaza strip, according to an Israeli
spokesman. [redacted] 25X1A

The Israeli ambassador in Moscow is trying
to secure an invitation from the Soviet Union for Prime
Minister Ben-Gurion to visit the USSR, according to a news correspondent in Tel Aviv. An unsuccessful effort to arrange such
a visit was made in late 1955, the report stated, but the recent
change of foreign minister in Israel might result in a positive
reply. [redacted]

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