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GENERAL

1. USSR reported to have offered radioactive isotopes to Iran:

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[redacted] who recently returned from the annual locust control conference in Moscow. The delegate agreed to bring the Soviet offer to the attention of the Iranian government.

Comment: This report, if correct, is the first indicating that the USSR is willing to make radioactive materials available to non-Orbit countries.

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[redacted] The offer may also be designed to steal the thunder from the American "atoms-for-peace" plan, now being considered in the UN, which will not be in operation for some months. The USSR has expressed important reservations in regard to this plan.

SOVIET UNION

2. Comment on appointment of Jacob Malik to head Soviet delegation to UN:

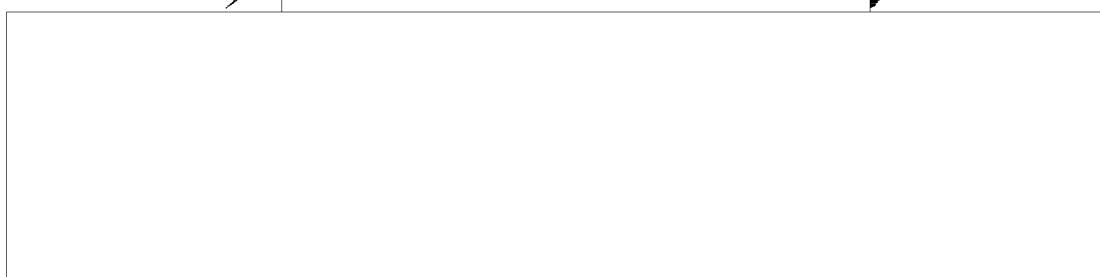
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[redacted] The appointment of Jacob Malik to be temporary head of the Soviet UN delegation--a post he occupied from 1948 to 1952--will not alter Soviet policy in the UN, but its presentation will certainly lack the color and some of the effectiveness of the Vyshinsky approach.

Malik's diplomatic career began in 1937 as a member of the press section in the Commissariat for Foreign Affairs. Two years later he was sent to Tokyo as embassy counselor and in 1942 was made ambassador.

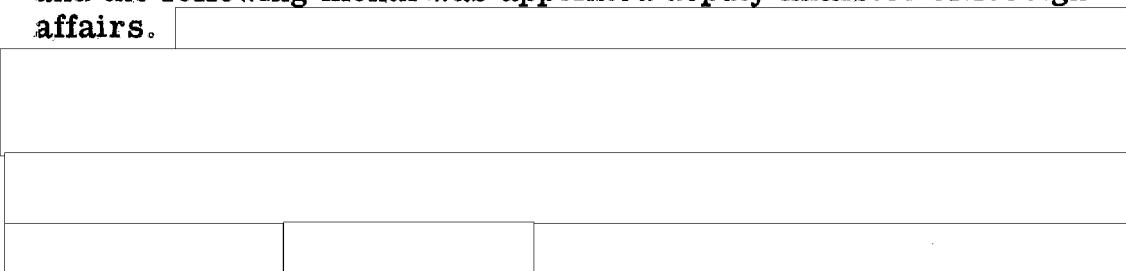
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Malik returned to Moscow in July 1946
and the following month was appointed deputy minister of foreign
affairs.



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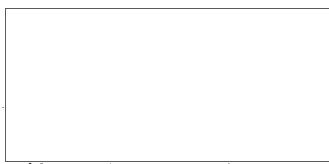
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FAR EAST

3. Japanese draft budget cuts defense expenditures:



The draft supplementary budget submitted to the Japanese cabinet by the Finance Ministry on 19 November included a cut of 4.55 billion yen

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(\$12,640,000) in funds for the National Defense Agency, according to the Far East Command. The cut, amounting to 5.7 percent of planned expenditures is being considered by the cabinet and, if approved, will be presented to the Diet at the end of this month.

The Far East Command comments that it is possible the above action is intended as a "feeler" for the American reaction prior to final action.

Comment: The American Military Assistance and Advisory Group in Japan believes the proposed cuts would seriously hurt the morale, training, and effectiveness of the Japanese defense forces and preclude for the present the activation of any new units.

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4. South Korea reported prepared to eject Communist members of UN inspection teams:

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[redacted] South Korea will attempt positive action to eject Polish and Czech members of the Neutral Nations Inspection Teams.

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[redacted] General Won Yong-tok's threat to take "positive measures" if the Communists fail to respond favorably by 29 November to his request that they withdraw from Korea manifests a sincere hope to force the withdrawal of the teams and must be taken seriously.

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[redacted] South Korea will start with a campaign to incite public opinion against the Communists' presence in South Korea, and follow it with public demonstrations, mob violence, and government-directed covert acts of violence against individual Communist team members.

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Comment: A government-directed campaign against the teams in August included sniping at team members and the throwing of crude bombs into the NNIT compounds. At that time the Eighth Army commander warned that it was impossible to ensure the teams' absolute security. Only a firm stand by American authorities caused a temporary halt in the Korean campaign.

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[redacted] Won Yong-tok was preparing a group of former Chinese prisoners of war to take action against the Communist members.

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[redacted] the Wounded Veterans' Association and other patriotic elements have been involved in previous actions. The activities of these groups have traditionally been disavowed by the Korean government although they actually function as instruments of government policy.

NEAR EAST - AFRICA

5. Cairo embassy denies discrimination against Jews in Egypt:

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[redacted] Denying reports of mass arrests and torture of Egyptian Jews, Ambassador Caffery states that the Jews have fared

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better under the Nasr regime than at any time since the 1948 Palestine conflict. He adds that to the best of his knowledge there are only 14 Jews under arrest and they are charged with espionage for Israel.

Caffery interprets the steady rise of stocks of Jewish-controlled companies on the Cairo exchange as evidence of the prosperity and acceptance of Jews in Egypt.

Comment: Current Israeli propaganda is charging Egypt with serious mistreatment of its Jewish minority.

While the Nasr regime has given full support to the Arab line on Israel, it has from the beginning emphasized a concept of national unity which avoids any semblance of discrimination against minority groups.

Minority elements in Egypt have frequently engaged in Communist activities and a number of Jews have in the past been included among those arrested.



6. Comment on Popular Front victories in Greek municipal elections:



Preliminary reports of Greek municipal elections on 21 November show that the Communist-supported Popular Front achieved notable successes over the Greek Rally of Prime Minister Papagos. The Front elected mayors in such important places as Athens, Piraeus, Volos, Kavalla, Larissa and Lamia.



Run-off elections, required if no candidate receives a minimum of 40 percent of the vote, are scheduled for 28 November in at least 27 other communities. The Front candidate in Salonika has a sizable electoral advantage and it seems likely that, regardless of current efforts by the government, some of the other Front candidates will also win run-off elections.

The prestige of the Papagos government has received a severe blow and the widespread discontent revealed by the voting will strengthen the opposition. The success of Popular Front techniques on the municipal level suggests that the same techniques will be used both in parliament and in the next parliamentary elections. Fragmentation of the Rally through internal splits has already appeared in parliament.

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WESTERN EUROPE

7. French Communists reported joining forces with rightists against Mendes-France:

The French Communist Party plans to collaborate with the Gaullists and other parliamentary groups hostile to Premier Mendes-France to overthrow him at the first opportunity, according to a confidential source of the American embassy in Paris. André Ullman, the Communist editor of the crypto-Communist weekly Tribune des Nations, stated on 20 November, when he revealed this plan, that "henceforth all restraints in dealing with Mendes-France can be abandoned."

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Comment: The increasingly hostile tone toward Mendes-France in the Soviet and French Communist press is another indication that the Communists have reached a decision to try to unseat the premier as a result of Soviet failure to block West German rearmament.

Ullman is a key contact between the Communists and the extreme rightists who sometimes find it expedient

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to collaborate with them.

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Open criticism of the premier has been growing, but this is the first indication that opposition groups are organizing for an early concerted effort to oust him. The North African situation seems likely to furnish an opportunity for such an effort.

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