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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
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EXO

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CITE [redacted]

DIST 24 JUNE 1968

1.5(c)  
3.4(b)(1)

COUNTRY: CHINA

DOI: 19 MAY - JUNE 1968

SUBJECT: CONTINUATION OF LIBERALISM AND ANARCHISM IN SIAN  
(SHENSI).

ACQ: [redacted]

1.5(c)  
3.4(b)(1)

SOURCE: [redacted]

SUMMARY: LIBERALISM AND ANARCHISM CONTINUE TO PREVAIL IN SIAN, SHENSI, WHERE A SERIOUS FACTIONAL CLASH FLARED UP ON 26 MAY IN THE SIAN RAILWAY BUREAU. AS A RESULT, TRAIN SERVICE WAS DISRUPTED FOR TWO DAYS AND RESUMED ONLY AFTER A DIRECT ORDER CAME FROM THE CENTRAL AUTHORITIES. COMMODITIES IN THE MARKET REMAIN SCARCE, AND ALMOST ALL DAILY NECESSITIES HAVE BEEN SUBJECTED TO STRICT RATIONING. WHEAT FLOUR HAS RECENTLY BEEN OUT OF STOCK, AND RICE HAS BEEN UNOBTAINABLE SINCE OCTOBER 1967. THOUGH ELECTRIC POWER SUPPLY HAS BEEN RESTORED, FACTORY PRODUCTION HAS NOT BEEN RESUMED; WORKERS ARE DIVIDED IN VIEWS AND SLOPPY IN DISCIPLINE. END SUMMARY.

1. [redacted]

1.5(c)  
3.4(b)(1)

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APPROVED FOR RELEASE  
MAY 27 1997

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(classification)

(dissem controls)

1.5(c)  
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3.4(b)(1)

2. THE PRESENT SITUATION IN SIAN IS ABOUT THE SAME ■

■ THE VIOLENT STRUGGLE HAS NOT DIMINISHED IN INTENSITY; ON THE CONTRARY, A SERIOUS FAC-TIONAL CLASH FLARED UP ON 26 MAY IN THE SIAN RAILWAY BUREAU, AND CONSEQUENTLY ALL TRAINS CAME TO A STANDSTILL. TRAIN SER-VICES WERE RESUMED ONLY AFTER A DIRECT ORDER HAD BEEN RECEIVED TWO DAYS LATER FROM THE CENTRAL AUTHORITIES. THE POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC DAMAGES INCURRED BY SUCH A GRAVE INCIDENT IN SIAN, WHICH IS THE PIVOT OF TWO VAST AREAS - THE NORTHWEST AND THE SOUTHWEST - CAN WELL BE IMAGINED.

1.5(c)  
3.4(b)(1)

■ SCARCITY OF COMMODITIES IN THE MARKET HAS NOT BEEN RELIEVED. THE ONLY CHANGE IS THAT, BEGINNING FROM JUNE, CERTAIN INDUS-TRAIL ARTICLES SUCH AS BICYCLES, WATCHES AND SEWING MACHINES ARE SUPPLIED AGAINST 'INDUSTRIAL COUPONS;' AND DAILY NECESSITIES SUCH AS CIGARETTES, SOAP, SOYSAUCE, VINEGAR AND MATCHES ARE SUPPLIED STRICTLY ON A RATION BASIS. ■ CIGARETTES AND SOYSAUCE ■; EACH PERSON IS ALLOWED TO BUY 8 PACKS AND HALF A CATTY (ONE CATTY EQUALS 1.1 LBS) RESPECTIVELY EACH

1.5(c)  
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1.5(c)  
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(dissem controls)

MONTH. THE RATION OF COAL IS STILL 180 CATTIES PER HOUSE-  
HOLD, AND THAT OF GRAIN BASED ON AGE AND THE NATURE OF WORK; BUT  
THE SUPPLY OF THESE TWO COMMODITIES IS PARTICULARLY SCARCE AT  
PRESENT. WHEAT FLOUR HAS RECENTLY BEEN OUT OF STOCK, AND RICE  
HAS BEEN UTTERLY UNOBTAINABLE SINCE OCTOBER 1967. THE COAL  
YARDS ARE OFTEN EMPTY, TOO. AS TO COTTON CLOTH, NO COUPONS HAVE  
BEEN ISSUED THIS YEAR AND THERE IS NO NEWS ABOUT THE DATE OF  
ISSUE.

[REDACTED]

1.5(c)  
3.4(b)(1)

THOUGH POWER SUPPLY HAS BEEN RESTORED, PRODUCTION HAS  
NOT BEEN RESUMED; AS THERE IS NO LEADERSHIP STRUCTURE OR PER-  
SONNEL, THERE IS NO WAY TO REVIVE WORK IN ANY RESPECT. THE  
WORKERS, AS WELL AS THE STAFF MEMBERS, ARE FAR FROM BEING UNITED  
IN VIEWS OR IN THINKING, AND LABOR DISCIPLINE IS LOOSE AND  
SLOPPY. ON THE WHOLE, IT IS INDEED A TYPICAL STATE OF LIBERALISM AND ANARCHY

3. [REDACTED] DISSEM: STATE CINCPAC PACFLT ARPAC PACAF [REDACTED]

1.5(c)  
3.4(b)(1)

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